



# FIRST Robotics and Technology Team of Newport County

## High Schools:

Middletown, Portsmouth, Tiverton, Mt. Hope

## Partnerships:

**NAVSEA Undersea Warfare Center, Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems, EFD Inc. Nordson Corporation, OSHEAN, Tech Collective, RI Economic Development Corporation, CVS Caremark Charitable Trust, and Senate Legislative Grant- Senator June Gibbs**

## BAE New Hampshire Regional Championship

Can you design, prototype, and construct a 120-pound robot that can race around a track, pick up a 40-inch ball & send it on its way down an overpass? Oh, and you only have two minutes, and are against five other robots.

Team 121, the Rhode Warriors of Newport County did just that and won the New Hampshire BAE Regional on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2008. After winning the qualification rounds, Team 121 chose two teams from New Hampshire, Pembroke Academy and Trinity High, to complete their championship alliance. Working together, they swept through the quarters, semis, and finals.

The Rhode Warriors also won the Judge's Award for the robot design that best accomplishes the objectives of the game. They were also recognized for posting on the internet a video of the design and completed aspects of the robot during the building season This was done during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the 6 week build

season, when new teams could copy or design their own robot parts with Team 121's ideas. Showing gracious professionalism, FIRST teams always help each other whether with tools, materials, mentoring or sharing ideas with each other. FIRST has a chat board, [www.ChiefDelphi.com](http://www.ChiefDelphi.com) sponsored by Delphi Automotives that all FIRST teams can communicate with each other.

Team 121 has qualified for the FIRST National Championship in April at the Georgia Dome. The Rhode Warrior robot has been shipped to Atlanta awaiting the team's arrival. In order to go, the team must raise over \$13,000 for the registration fee and bus transportation for students and mentors. Due to the generosity of many, they are well on their way. If any businesses or individuals are interested in becoming sponsors or donating simple funds, please contact Liana Fenton @ 401-846-7938.

## **TEAM 121 The Rhode Warriors of Newport County**

### **Internships and Apprenticeships:**

High School students and University mentors have opportunities for summer internships and apprenticeships with our business partners, NAVSEA Undersea Warfare Center, Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems, and Stanley Bostitch. Our university mentors have opportunities to apply for jobs with our business partners in the engineering and computer science fields after graduation. After 13 years as a team, the Rhode Warriors are a pipeline for future engineers, and

computer specialists within Newport County and in the state of Rhode Island.

### **Innovation and Team 121:**

The Team encourages innovative thinking among students and mentors. The team members use collaborative thinking, problem solving abilities, critical thinking skills, strategic thinking, communication skills, and reflective thinking in everyday work. These are skills that our students will take into the workforce, no matter which career path they choose to follow. How else could a group of 70 people (30 students, 20 university mentors and 20 engineers) design and build a robot in 6 weeks, create a 30 second animation, coordinate competitions, and guide each other to a New England Championship.

### **Scholarships:**

High School students and university mentors are able to apply for more than 9 million dollars of scholarship money for their participation in the FIRST Robotics Team. One of our former teammates was awarded a 5 year scholarship to Northeastern University.

### **Team 121 Accomplishments:**

1. Team 121 and its Coordinator has initiated and expanded the interest of math, science, technology

and engineering at the state level. Governor Carcieri, businesses, education and government agencies have adopted a statewide emphasis on K-16 STEM Programs. RI Economic Development Corporation implemented a VEX Tech Challenge Team in every high school and Tech Collective is raising funds to sustain all FIRST and STEM programs in Rhode Island. The Governor has created a STEM Council, Science and Technology Advisory Council and placed an emphasis on the improvements of STEM programs K-16 .

2. Tech Collective and RI Economic Development Corporation recognized the Coordinator of Team 121 for the passion and dedication for the advancement of technology for youth in Rhode Island at their annual awards ceremony at Hasbro
3. Team 121 was selected by a committee in the first edition of Vince Wilcrynski and Stephanie Slezcki's book, **FIRST Robots: Aim High, Behind the Design.**

For more information and pictures about the FIRST programs, please visit:

1. [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org)
2. [www.rhodewarrior.org](http://www.rhodewarrior.org)

For more information please call or email:

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