



# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**THS T-BOTS RECOGNIZED AS QUARTER-FINALIST  
AND EARN CREATIVITY AWARD  
DURING FIRST ROBOTICS DALLAS REGIONAL COMPETITION**

**Texarkana, TX** – Texas High School T-BOTS (Tigers Building Outstanding Technology Systems) earned the Creativity Award during the FIRST Robotics Dallas Regional Competition at the Dallas Convention Center in Dallas, TX on April 7 – 9.



The *LogoMotion* challenge featured specially designed and programmed robots that would hang tubes onto scoring racks to form logos. The finale of the game was played with minirobots, deployed from the main robot, to race to the top of the poles.

Texas High School T-BOTS members worked on their creative design during the first two months of the year and premiered their creation at the FIRST Robotics Challenge Bayou Regional Competition in New Orleans, LA during Spring Break.

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Entering into the Regional Competition, the T-BOTS were pleased with their innovative design featuring a wooden linear lift which both accomplished the challenge and attracted the eyes of the judges. After nine games played in match results, the T-BOTS were recognized as a Quarter-Finalist and honored with the prestigious Creativity Award sponsored by Xerox. FIRST Founder and inventor of the Segway, Dean Kamen, presented the award. The team also earned the Phunky's Phavorites Award given by FRC Team 418.

Over 700 students representing fifty-two teams from Texas, Louisiana, New Jersey, Oklahoma and Mexico participated in the event in an effort to design, build, program and drive their robots using the best success strategy to meet the challenge.

The THS T-BOTS were sponsored through funding from the Texas High School Project Fund of the Communities Foundation of Texas, JC Penney, and AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company.

FIRST was founded in 1989 to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication and leadership.

Team members for the Texas High School T-BOTS Robotics Team are: Gabriella Bermea (Design & Strategy, Safety Captain, VIP Ambassador); Kasandra Langworthy (Mechanical Engineer, Scout, Spirit Leader, VIP Ambassador); Brian Lee (Electrical Engineer); Jonathan Luna (Programmer, Driver); Clay Miller (Electrical Engineer, Minibot Designer); Robert Montgomery (Mechanical Engineer); Ryan Peavy (Electrical Engineer); Clifton Petty (Programmer, Minibot Deployment); Krista Petty (Design & Strategy, Team Photographer, Battery Captain, Scout); Logan Porter (Design & Strategy, Safety Captain, Communications, Scout, Coach); Grant Ryden (Lead Designer, Game Strategist, Driver); Desiree Smith (Communications Director, Mechanical Engineer); Caleb Strutton (Programmer, Game Specialist, Human Player); Robert Tidwell (Design & Strategy, Scout); Jordan Towery (Team Captain, Electrical Engineer, Game Strategist, Coach); Alex Walker (Mechanical Engineer); Breagan White (Design & Strategy).

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**PHOTO IDENTIFICATION:**

**Front Row:** Gabriella Bermea, Ryan Peavy, Grant Ryden, Dean Kamen (Founder of FIRST, Inventor of Segway), Kasandra Langworthy, Jordan Towery, Krista Petty

**Back Row:** Mark Patrick (Coach), Caleb Strutton, Amber Patrick (Mentor), Robert Tidwell, Logan Porter, Clifton Petty, Clay Miller, Brandon Burnett (Coach), Jonathan Luna