

School Highlights

SMITHTOWN SCHOOLS

Robotics Team Does it Again

Members of The Mechanical Bulls, Smithtown High School's award-winning Robotics Team, now entering their third year of competition, took part in St. James Day on Sunday, September 21st, to raise money for the team. They raffled an 18-speed mountain bicycle donated by Bike Discounters of St. James, and raised more than \$250 in the process.

FIRST Robotics Competition (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an annual nationwide design contest that brings young people and professionals together in teams to solve an engineering design problem. The competition is made possible through a partnership between the schools and local businesses, corporations and organizations with the help of the School Business Partnership of Long Island.

All student teams in the competition are given the same materials and the same task, which is to create a robot that can perform a predetermined task. The school teams are given just six weeks to complete their radio-controlled robots. The competition begins with the delivery of parts to each par-

ticipating team and ends with the national championships in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Mechanical Bulls have won several awards, including the "Highest Rookie Seed" award at the Long Island regional, the "Rookie All-Star" award at the New York City regional, and competed in the National Championships in Orlando, Florida, where they received the tournament's prestigious "Top Rookie" award.

Michelle Ciotta of Smithtown won the bicycle, and the Bulls thank everyone who participated in the raffle. The Bulls are looking forward to another successful year.

Smithtown Freshman Campus teacher Chuck Dennis with Michelle Ciotta, the winner of the bicycle.

