

ISLANDWIDE

Qualifying tournament

Several Long Island teams were among the winners at the FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifying Tournament.

The tourney last month gave 20 metro-area teams a chance to secure a spot in the NYC/Long Island Regional Championship next month at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University. FIRST stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology."

The event challenged two-team alliances to program robots to place plastic blocks on goals during matches of 2½ minutes, as well as perform tasks such as hoisting a flag and elevating robots using a pullup bar. It was presented by New York City FIRST and the School-Business Partnerships of Long Island.

Long Island winners and their awards were: Droid Bots Team #4487 of New Hyde Park, Motivate Award and Inspire Award second place; Icebreakers Team #4183 of Merrick, Connect Award; Roboboogie Team #3540 of Hewlett, Think Award; Innovo Team #5477 of Hewlett, Alliance Award winner and Inspire Award first place; Islandbots Team #4137 of Stony Brook, Alliance Award winner; Control Alt Win Team #8196 of Lynbrook, Alliance Award finalist.

The Droid Bots, Roboboogie, Islandbots and Innovo teams are among those advancing to the regional level on

March 8.

— MICHAEL R. EBERT