

Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ASSABET VALLEY AZTECHS ENTERTAIN CROWD AT
PROVIDENCE BRUINS**

AREA. When Assabet Valley FIRST Robotics Student Liaison, Amy Fowler, was asked by Dan Chizmar, the Sales Director for the Providence Bruins, to demonstrate the school's 2013 robot during intermission for a Providence Bruins game, she eagerly approached the team. "What a great way to have a morale event to pull together members of our team that attend other schools (AMSA, Marlborough High, and Hudson High), and to spread the word about the FIRST robotics challenge," Fowler said. FIRST is an acronym meaning For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, and is the brainchild of renowned inventor Dean Kamen. With short notice, 10 students and 3 mentors packed up the school van with the robot and headed for Providence, RI. The students demonstrated the disk-shooting capability of the robot in the main lobby of the Dunkin Donuts Center during the first intermission. Spectators of all ages stood in line to catch the flying Frisbees. "A few younger spectators were so excited to catch one that they almost walked off with the disks," laughed Fowler.

Team members explained to the crowd of onlookers that high school students built the moving, Frisbee-shooting robot in only 6 weeks before competing with it, and shared the FIRST premise that students are encouraged to pursue careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The crowd appeared to really enjoy engaging with the robot and with the friendly student representation from the Assabet Valley team.

Each team member received a free Providence Bruins ball cap for participating. The Providence Bruins Sales staff was so impressed with the friendliness and professionalism of the AZTECHS 157 Team, they invited the team back to do a demonstration with the 2014 robot next year.

Tagline: Members of the Assabet Valley FIRST Robotics team enjoyed demonstrating their disk-shooting robot at a recent Providence Bruins game in Rhode Island.

Pictured with the robot are the following members:

Left to Right and Front to Back

1st Row:

Delaney Spring, Leicester

Kayleigh Stevens, Marlborough

2nd Row:

Elizabeth Lowe, West Boylston

Amy Fowler, Mentor

Jennifer Moore, Hudson

3rd Row:

Peter Marsh, West Boylston

Ryan Pantridge, Marlborough

Michael Villani, Shrewsbury

Zakeria Alex (AMSA), Marlborough

Nick Hackett, Boylston

4th Row:

Mason Bradford, Marlborough

Marcus Fletcher, AZTECHS Project Manager

Jeff Marsh, Mentor