



**MEDIA INFORMATION  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 19, 2013**

## **Career Center FIRST Robotics Team heads to state competition**

JACKSON, Mich. – The Jackson Area Career Center’s FIRST Robotics team will head to state competition April 11-13 after finishing in the quarterfinals and semifinals in regional competition at Gull Lake and St. Joseph high schools.

The Jacktown Vectors have a record 46 students participating with over 3,000 hours of build time by students and volunteers.

“This year’s game is named the ‘Ultimate Ascent’,” said William Farrant, Career Center FIRST Robotics mentor. “The robots shoot standard Frisbee discs into goals at the each end of the field to score. At the end of the match, they climb ‘jungle-gym’ like pyramids to earn bonus points.”

A demonstration can be seen at: <http://youtu.be/itHNW2OFr4Y>.

This year’s team includes students from 11 local districts plus home-schooled students. The 2013 team members are: **Kyle Fouty, Boyd Boehlke, Aaron Heath, Ty Schiller, James Stanley, Gavin Miller, Logan Carley, Hannah Butler, Holly Schittenhelm, Bobby Corser, Duncan Farrant, Braden Weidner, Robert Hashley, Wyatt Kidder, Thomas Brunt, Zack Backes, Kris Marshall, Mitch Anderson, Nathan Howell, Rosalia Cancelada, Trevor Heath, Dalton Hickey, Ariel Rie, Ryann Allison, Isacc Moody, Jon Taylor, Zach Kathrens, Joshua Stauffer, Travis Hill, Chris Defrancesco, James Deboe, Lorenzo Arce, Gage Lammers, Julia Rickabaugh, Alex Long, Austin Hampton, Lindsay Rasmussen, Spencer Seybold, Devon Bosam, Max Szeles, Marcus Doll, Austin Copeland, Zack Hockaday, Yayri Rich, Austin Macomter and Chandler Messer.**

“Great things are happening at the Career Center and our team, the Jacktown Vectors, wants to extend our appreciation for all the community support we’ve received in the effort of integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), with teamwork, leadership, and communication in an environment that not only encourages gracious professionalism, but expects it,” said Farrant.

Team mentors, William Farrant and John Riedeman, give high praise for their volunteer coaches, **Damian Kahn, Nate Jones, and Jon Huntoon**, as well as to their event volunteers, **Cindy Farrant and Katie Laverty**.

This year’s Vector team sponsors are **Orbitform, South Central Michigan Works, Alro Steel, Jackson County Intermediate School District, Michigan Automotive Compressor, Inc., Consumers Energy, and Pentar Stamping**.

The Vectors were proud to participate in regional competition with East Jackson FIRST Robotics Team 4216 Blue Ops and were impressed with the sophistication of their robot and the gracious professionalism of their team.

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**FIRST Robotics**

More specific information about FIRST Robotics can be found online at <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/default.aspx?id=966> .

**Photo & Caption:**



*The Jackson Area Career Center 2013 FIRST Robotics Team 2611 Vectors.*

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