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Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School of Coventry robotics team members William Studley (from left), Joe Erickson, Andrew Wolf (crown), Ben Skov, Joe Williams, Ben Steele, Richard Zoglio, David Gorry and Aaron Colaiacomo took first place in the Programming portion of the First Lego League competition.

Cov. team wins at robotics meet

The "Power Pros" robotics team from Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School of Coventry recently competed in the First Lego League competition at Roger Williams University in Bristol.

In the morning, according to robotics teacher Rebecca Horton, the team went through three sessions of training — technical, research and teamwork. The students were excited about how well they did in the training, she said, and knew they

had worked hard.

The team next got ready for the robotics aspect of the competition, Horton said. The students headed back to the "pit area" and started to work on their robot to get it to complete challenges.

At this time, Horton said, the team heard an announcement for a "call back" — meaning the judges wanted to re-interview the team and watch its skit/slideshow again to get a better understanding of its presentation.

The team knew this was a good thing, Horton said, and, although it wasn't really sure what to expect, it was ready.

The team spent the rest of the afternoon taking three turns on the competition board with its robot, Horton said. This was a great learning experience for the team, she said, with a lot of teamwork and students trying their hardest.

The team, a mix of sixth through eighth graders, shared ideas, taught one another new things and learned from one another, Horton said.

In the end, she said, the team won first place in the Programming Award.

Members of the team are Aaron Colaiacomo, Andrew Wolfe, Ben Skov, Devin Bane, Richard Zoglio, Joe Erickson, David Gorry, William Studley, Ben Steele and Joe Williams.