



FULL ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

**Fox Chapel brothers named
Lego robotics champions.**

BY JENNIFER BROZAK

Like many kids, Arvind and Sanjay Seshan of Fox Chapel received their first Lego sets as toddlers. Now, at just 10 and 12 years old, the Seshan brothers have already become champions and entrepreneurs in the field of Lego robotics.

Arvind and Sanjay, who are homeschooled, won the First Place Champion's Award and Second Place Robot Performance at the FIRST Lego League Razorback Invitational, which took place at the University of Arkansas in May.

The boys received their first Lego Mindstorms set, called the NXT, when they were just six and eight years old. They used the set to learn programming, but quickly outgrew the basic tutorials. Soon, they began experimenting on their own. They're now versed in some of the same programming languages that high school or college students are currently learning.

"I love programming, and robotics lets me do what I like to do most," says Sanjay. "Over the last four years, we've visited many

Pittsburgh-based robotics companies and have seen how robotics is changing the world. Robotics and programming are going to be part of our future and I'm glad that I'm already working on both skills."

"Robotics lets you be creative and learn while having fun," Arvind adds. "The contests we've entered let you build and program robots, but also teach you presentation skills, interviewing skills, confidence and teamwork. We have had to work with deadlines and work on many different components at the same time, just like you would have to in a real research lab. So, robotics is a way to learn life skills, too."

The boys formed their team, named Not the Droids You Are Looking For, in the fall of 2011 so that they could compete in FIRST Lego League Contests. The team was comprised of 10 students, aged 6 to 11, from schools in the North Hills. At the time, Arvind was only six years old, and Sanjay, eight. The name stems from the boys' love of "Star Wars" culture.