



The Launchpad to Success 

## Homestead Robotics Team Ranked Best in the World

MEQUON, Wis. — The Homestead High School varsity robotics team is currently ranked first in the world out of more than 6,000 teams, according to [FTCstats.org](https://FTCstats.org).

The team, named 8680 Kraken Pinion, has won three straight regional matches and has a total record of 26-2 in match play. It went 9-0 in the January 14 Northwestern Indiana Regional, taking home both the Connect Award and the Community Outreach Award at the event.

“We are extremely proud of the entire team, whose hard work and dedication have paid off in an incredible way,” said David Peterson, robotics club coach. “At one point in Indiana, another competitor told one of our team members that the Kraken Pinion robot scared him. That was a big compliment. Our varsity students are now hard at work on their seventh robot of the season.”

The team competes in the [FIRST Tech Challenge](https://www.firstinspires.org/first-tech-challenge) (FTC), a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program through which teams design, build, program, and operate robots that compete in head-to-head challenges. Students are guided by coaches and mentors as they develop their STEM skills and learn principles of engineering.

FTCstats.org maintains a constantly updated list of the top high school robotics teams in the world. The site uses several metrics to rank teams, including average match scores, average margin of victory and offensive power rating.

Next up for Kraken Pinion is the Wisconsin FTC High School State Championship on February 10 at UW-Milwaukee’s Student Union. If the team advances, it will go on to Super Regionals in Iowa, followed by a chance to participate in the World Championships in Detroit, Michigan.

Two other Homestead teams — 4116 Volta Robotics and 7974 Great Scott! — also qualified for state at the recent Lake Country Qualifier in Hartland. About 40 total students compete in Homestead’s robotics club, with the 13 making up Kraken Pinion considered the school’s varsity team.

###