

## KSTP.com - 5 EYEWITNESS NEWS

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### **St. Peter team takes the top when it comes to Legos**

A southern Minnesota team has beaten competitors from all over the state, proving they are the best at putting together tiny pieces of colored plastic.

"In kindergarten I really enjoyed Legos but I didn't want to just build little houses, I wanted to make stuff move," said Hans Johnson of St. Peter.

Four years ago, Johnson and his mother Deb decided to coach a team of gifted youth to compete in a nationwide competition called the First Lego League. They've since named themselves the 'Techno Travelers.'

They call themselves the "Techno Travelers".

The seven members are among the best and they have the trophies to prove it—made of Lego of course.

To compete, they have built a pre-programmed, self-contained robot that will perform a complex variety of tasks on a standard obstacle course. It's not as easy as it looks.

"It needs to come out and solve these challenges in two and a half minutes," explained Deb Johnson.

Every move of the homemade machine, that functions like a forklift, has to be carefully programmed, fed into the on board computer and tested.

They are already the best in the state, but the Techno Travelers have to keep working. In April they'll travel to Atlanta to take on the best in the world in an international competition.