



News Release

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**WARRENTON STUDENTS TO REPRESENT VIRGINIA IN
 NATIONWIDE FORD/AAA STUDENT AUTO SKILLS COMPETITION**

Fauquier High School duo will compete against students from across the country at Ford World Headquarters in Michigan

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va., (May 6, 2013) – Samuel J. Eleazer and Matthew L. Jacobs, students from Fauquier High School in Warrenton, Virginia, will compete for millions in scholarship dollars, the opportunity to earn a job shadow experience with a NASCAR race team and the possibility of being crowned “America’s Best Student Auto Technicians,” at the 2013 National Finals of the Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills competition.

Mr. Eleazer and Mr. Jacobs, led by instructor Scott Freeman, will represent Virginia against pairs of students from all 50 states at Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn, Mich., from June 9–12. “Each year, the Ford/AAA Auto Skills competition brings together the best of the country’s future top automotive technicians,” noted Adan Rangel, Director of Automotive Services for AAA Tidewater Virginia. “The competition is just one of the ways in which AAA and Ford demonstrate their commitment to the community and builds awareness of career opportunities in the automotive service industry.”

It was a tight race between Fauquier High and Gloucester High in the hands-on competition. The teams from each competing school finished within minutes of each other. Both teams had received a perfect score in the final inspection. The scores in the written exam became the tie breaker in a close and hard earned race for the state title. At the end, Fauquier High School won with unsurpassed scores in both written and hands-on portion of the competition. Fauquier High School students, Mr. Eleazer and Mr. Jacobs, were also awarded 1st place in the highest scores on the written exam in addition to the 1st place award in the hands-on portion of the challenge.

At the National Finals, Mr. Eleazer and Mr. Jacobs will have their automotive skills tested with a written exam and timed event during which they will be required to diagnose and repair intentionally installed “bugs” on a Ford vehicle.

Other teams competing in the Virginia finals included:

School	Placed	Instructor	Student
Fauquier High School		Scott Freeman	Samuel J. Eleazer
	1st place		Matthew L. Jacobs
Gloucester High School		Toby Calloway	Robert Cain
	2nd Place		Thomas Priddy
Spotsylvania Career & Technology		Frank Eberhardt	William Richardson
	3rd Place		Tanner Hairfield

Chesapeake Center for Science & Technology		Ray Hollowell	William E. Corl IV
	4th Place		Joshua Mcarter
Virginia Beach Technology & Career Education Center		Wayne Champigny	Frank J. Dennis
	5th Place		Brian D. Clavert
Franklin County High School		Daniel T. Atkinson	Daniel T. Atkinson
	6th Place	Jeff Heinbaugh	Kurt A. Austin
Colonial Heights High School		Roy Parham	David Shirley
	7th Place		Steven Plucinik
Spotsylvania Career & Technology Center		Wally Hunt	Nathan Affedt
	8th Place		Kyle J. Embrey
Charlottesville-Albemarle Technical Education Center		Paul Johnson	Samuel M. Gilliam
	9th Place		Christopher C. Youhess
New Horizons Reg Educational Center		Dennis Young	Patrick Stotler
	10th Place		Carlton Post

About Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills

The Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills is a nationwide automotive technology competition that offers millions in scholarships and prizes to high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing careers as automotive service technicians. More than 13,000 students from across the U.S. compete for the chance to represent their school and state in the National Finals. The competition tests students' automotive knowledge, workmanship and problem-solving abilities. For additional information on the competition, visit <http://autoskills.aaa.com/>.

As part of North America's largest motoring and leisure travel organization, AAA Tidewater Virginia provides its more than 325,000 members with travel, insurance, financial and automotive-related services. Since its founding AAA Tidewater Virginia has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers. For more information, visit AAA.com and follow us on Twitter at [Twitter.com/AAATidewaterVA](https://twitter.com/AAATidewaterVA).

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