PB & J

Representing New England (New Hampshire) and the Seacoast Region

Our SeaPerch is unique because:  
Team PB&J originates from across New Hampshire and Maine. We are all homeschoolers and attend robotic classes at Rice Academy. At Team PB&J the ROV build is the second most important thing, behind a good sandwich. Instead of sulking behind our losses last year, we got right to work on fixing why it didn’t compete well. We have six members and a coach on our team; two pilots, Patrick and Benjamin, two linemen, Eli and Logan, and two engineers, Peter and Joseph. Hope to “sea” everyone at Nationals.

SeaPerch Design Overview:  
Design became very important after a tough loss. For starters, our old ROV was flat and would constantly tip. The motors and weight were in the back so it would do loop de loops. Since this wasn’t an air show, we decided to fix our ROV, eliminating loops and barrel rolls. Fixing that problem included another layer of PVC, increasing stability, and moving the center of mass forward by repositioning the vertical motor to the middle of the ROV. We also added a PVC pipe, for a hook, to complete the mission course.

Our biggest takeaway this season is:  
Maneuverability is the most important thing to be competitive in the Mission course. Other teams focus on speed or stability, but there are other keys to winning. Unlike previous SeaPerch Mission courses, this year’s isn’t fully open. There’s an "elevator" which takes up half of the second platform. If you don't have dexterity, you won’t be able to get all 100 points, which is the main goal. Even though our bot, Beacher, may not look that maneuverable, trust me when I say, "It is." After months of practice, we are excited to put our driving to the test!