

Student athlete loves his shop rotation

At first, Leonardy Batista's mom wasn't happy about his choice to major in Auto Body at Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School.



"I've had to convince her that I am good at it and it will make me successful," said the sophomore. His case recently got a boost when he was selected Whittier's Student of the Month for February.

"It's a great honor," he said. "I am glad that my hard work has paid off." He was nominated by his guidance counselor Joseph Boland.

Leonardy is a student athlete who played freshmen football, basketball and baseball and also participates in community service by delivering bread with his mom.

His favorite thing about Whittier is the rotation between class and shop week. "That way you don't have the stress of being in shop every day," he said.

In his free time, he enjoys reading about sports, drawing and playing ball with his younger brother. Leonardy lives in Haverhill with his mother Hilaria Baptista. He plans to attend college and major in his trade.