



RIVER CITY ROBOTS

1368 Village View Ct., St. Paul, MO 63366

"To create a world where science and technology are celebrated"

– Dean Kamen, FIRST® Founder



RCR November 2006 News

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Achievements

2003
FRC St Louis Regional
Participants

2004
FRC St Louis Regional
Semi-finalists
One FLL Team

2005
FRC St Louis Regional
Participants
FRC Nat'l Championships
Participants
Three FLL Teams
FLL Presentation Award
FLL Coach's Award

2006
FRC St Louis Regional
Quarter-finalists,
Imagery Award Winner,
UL Safety Award Winner
IRI Participant
Seven FLL Teams

Major 2006/07 Sponsors

Bill Davis Inc
Cuivre River Electric Coop
Emerson Engineers Club
EPC Inc.
Missouri Doodles
Pfizer Inc

Channel Cats Gearing Up

The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team is getting ready for the 2007 season. The team of about 15 students is meeting on Thursday evenings to develop the skills needed to successfully design this year's robot.



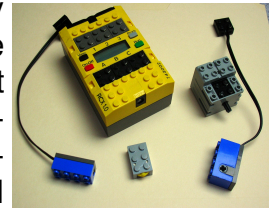
Mentors are presenting lessons in structural design, electrical systems, pneumatics, controls, prototyping, software and engineering design processes. The older robots are being modified to test new sensors and new controls concepts. Our new team captain, Robin, thinks that driving skills are very important. We are trying to set aside some time at some meetings just to have all the students drive a robot.

FIRST Lego League Teams in Full Swing

The River City Robots organization is sponsoring, in part, seven FLL teams involving sixty-five 9 to 14 years in our area. This year's theme is Nano-Quest. Students are required to prepare a research project where a problem of their choice is solved using nano-technology. Each team also will build a



computer-controlled robot made from Legos. The robot will automatically perform nano-technology related tasks on the official 4 by 8 foot playing field. An informal St Charles regional competition will take place on 18 November at EPC Inc. and the official FIRST Missouri state tournament on 9 December at Florissant Valley Community College.



Appearances Galore

The RCR Channel Cats and our stable of old robots have been busy this summer spreading the word about FIRST and robotics. Our Channel Cats float in the O'Fallon 4th of July parade won first place in the Future of O'Fallon category. Our robots were a big hit at the BLAST in New Town, Hansen's Tree Service benefit and the St Peters Garden Show.



STUDENT TEAM CAPTAIN NAMED

Each year the Channel Cats name a student as the team leader. This year Robin, a senior at Washington HS, is in her third year on the team and the stu-

dent captain. As a sophomore, Robin began driving her brother to the meetings and sitting in the corner reading a book. She was coaxed into working on the website and at the end of last season she began to get more involved. Now Robin is knee deep in building floats and repairing the robots. She has declared that we are going to take it all at the St Louis Regional this year. She insists on precision building and driver training.



Hunter Travels To Nap Town

The Channel Cats and their 2006 robot, Hunter, participated in a 65 team non-sanctioned off-season event in Indianapolis in July. The Indiana Robotics Invitational (IRI) is a great event for students and mentors alike. There were teams from many states and



Canada. We finished in the middle of the pack at 39th out of 65 and were able to witness some incredible robots in some awesome matches. The event was held at Lawrence High School on the Northeast side of Indy. The school had several large gymnasiums with robot pits in just one corner of one and the competition field and stands in another. Someone

brought a miniature sized version of the AIM HIGH game field for use with the small VEX robots. Dinner was served by one of the host teams one evening. There was a talent show one night followed by a band playing in the school theater. Our team's entry in the talent show, the Heumphreus Three, featured Troy and Aaron on unicycles and younger brother Carson sporting the team's fish head. The act was an audience favorite with the judges wearing the fish head and making fish comments all evening. Adam says the overall experience was



fun and he and the rest of the team hope to get there again next summer.

New Mentor Welcomed

Chris, a recent Mechanical Engineering graduate from St Louis University, is now a part of the Channel Cats team. Welcome Aboard!

Laughing for Dollars

Bill Davis of Bill Davis Inc. has arranged a comedy show for the benefit of the River City Robots organization. Bill has invited some of his comedian friends to join him at the Comedy Forum on Cloverdale in St Peters on 28 November from 7:30 pm to 9:15 pm for what promises to be a side splitting show. Information about advanced purchase tickets for the adult (18 and older) comedy show can be obtained by calling Bill at 636-949-0680. The tickets are \$10 each and all proceeds go to River City Robots.