



# 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 December 2006 News

### Board of Directors

President –  
LeAnn Heumphreus

Vice President –  
DeAnna Cottrell

Treasurer –  
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Craig Cottrell

Director at Large –  
Mary Jo Everhart

### 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

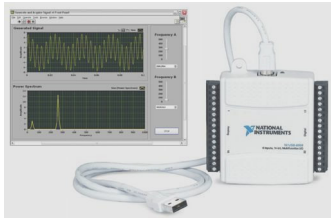
2006  
FRC St Louis Regional  
Quarter-finalists,  
Imagery Award Winner,  
UL Safety Award Winner  
IRI Participant  
Seven FLL Teams

### Major 2006/07 Sponsors

Bill Davis Inc  
Cuivre River Electric  
Emerson Engineers Club  
EPC Inc.  
ITT Technical Institute  
Missouri Doodles  
Pfizer Inc

## CHANNEL CATS AWARDED NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS EQUIPMENT

The RCR Channel Cats were among the FIRST Robotics Competition teams selected by National Instruments to receive the NI USB-6009 Data Acquisition device and NI LabVIEW programming software for use during the 2007 season. The Channel Cats will use this equipment to capture real time control system data to aid in the development of the 2007 robot.



## FIRST Lego League State Tournament

Seven FLL teams supported in part by the RCR organization participated in the 39-team field of 9 to 14 year olds on 9 Dec 2006 at Florissant Valley Community College. The RCR organization was awarded a mentor trophy for this accomplishment. These seven teams garnered several awards. The RoboMasters won the Innovative Programming award, the NanoKnights the Teamwork award and



the M.I.B. (Molecules in Black) the Spirit award. All participants had a good time, learned a lot and are eager for next year's competition.

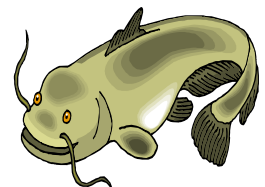
## Comedy Forum Benefit a High Success

Bill Davis of Bill Davis Inc., who is now letting us make use of space in one of his many warehouses in the area, organized a comedy show with four of his comedian buddies for the benefit of the River City Robots organization. Mr. Davis not only organized the show, but also arranged for the free use of the Comedy Forum and sold the tickets to many of his acquaintances. The RCR organization is grateful to Mr. Davis and to the many who graciously purchased over 500 tickets. We thank you all.



## Fresh Channel Cats

The RCR FIRST Robots Competition (FRC) team for high schoolers, the Channel Cats, has a number of new students in its creel. We now have 16 students from Fort Zumwalt



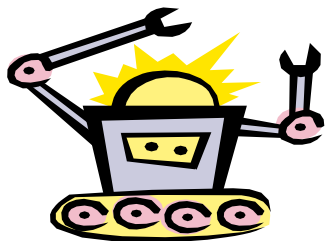
North, West & South; Orchard Farm; Washington; St Dominic and home school. There are several more students who have indicated interest. Any student in the St Charles county and surrounding areas, regardless of school affiliation, is welcome to come aboard. We hope some of the 65 students involved in our FLL effort will join us in the next couple of years.

## **Channel Cats Preparing for the 2007 Season**

The Channel Cats high school robotics team is getting ready for 2007 season that is about to kickoff. The students have been getting instruction on robot structures; electrical, pneumatic and control systems; the engineering design process and software development. They have been designing and building a new battery carrier/charging station for use during our competitions and demos.

## **FRC Competition Season About to Kickoff**

The 2007 FRC game and robot construction rules will be revealed by FIRST to over 1000 teams and over 30,000 high



school aged students and their volunteer mentors from around the world on 6 Jan 2007. The Channel Cats will be at the St Louis Science

Center bright and early in the morning to get a glimpse of the game presentation and the sample game pieces and to pick up the basic kit of parts for the robot. That will begin a 6-week effort resulting in the

shipment of a 130-pound robot on 20 Feb 2007. We will provide updates on our progress along the way.

## ***Channels Cats to Test the Waters***

The Channel Cats team plans to participate in the St Louis FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Regional on 1-3 Mar 2007 at the Family Arena in St Charles with 40 other teams from seven states. After we pay the \$6000 entry fee for the St Louis Regional and buy parts for the 2007 robot, we hope to have enough funds left to enter the National Championships (\$5000) in Atlanta on 12-14 April 2007 with over 350 other robots in the Georgia Dome. The team last participated in the National Championships in 2005.

## **Channel Cats Reception**

Our weekly meeting at 7pm on 4 January 2007 will be a reception, as we've had a number of new members joining the RCR organization. Our goal is to introduce our new and prospective members and their families to the exciting world of robotics at RCR. We will have a season overview that will go through "what to expect" in the upcoming season and competition(s). We will also touch on fundraising, our sponsors, FIRST awards (ones we have & ones we want), opportunities for volunteer help, and all the wonderful opportunities FIRST and RCR are offering area hi-tech kids. All members and their families (veterans and rookies) and friends are encouraged to join us for the evening. Visit our website at [www.rivercityrobots.org](http://www.rivercityrobots.org) for directions!