

School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc.



SBPLI INC LI FIRST

Summer 2008 Annual Report and Newsletter

Long Island FIRST Regional Robotics Competition March 28-29



Robotics Competition was in **OVERDRIVE**

Thousands of spectators were watching in March as 46 teams of high school students battled for technological supremacy at the SBPLI-LI FIRST Regional Robotics competition, presented by the School Business Partnerships of Long Island at Hofstra University in Hempstead. The teams competed for a spot in the FIRST USA Championship, held in April at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, GA.

Teams received honors and recognition that rewarded design excellence, competitive play, sportsmanship and high-impact partnerships between schools, businesses and communities.

"All teams demonstrated tremendous teamwork, professionalism and strategic

thinking, but these winners went above and beyond to overcome the challenges of the competition," said Fred Breithut, Founder & Chairman of School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, sponsors of the Long Island Regional FIRST Competition. Breithut went on to say, "The fun and excitement of the competition was evident as many students, professional mentors, school groups and community members caught the spirit and came to cheer on their favorite teams as engineering and technology at work surpassed the excitement of a championship athletic event."

With the hope of winning one of several coveted awards, high school students worked with professional mentors to design

and build a 130 lb. robot over a six-week timeframe that solves a problem using a kit of parts and a standard set of rules. The students gathered to compete with their robots in this year's game, "Overdrive." "Overdrive" is played by two three-team alliances. The object of "Overdrive" is for the robots to race around a track in a counter-clockwise direction manipulating trackballs to earn points. The points are determined within two scoring periods; Hybrid - where digital signals are sent to the robots by robo-coaches in the first 15 seconds of play, and Teleoperated-where the robots are radio controlled by team operators during the next 2 minutes of play.

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Younger Students Explore Robot Design and Research

4th Annual Lego League Competition | January 21

In September, children from Long Island were tasked with the challenge and excitement of designing and building an original robot in the SBPLI-LI FIRST LEGO League program.

Eight weeks of research and design culminated in January at the SBPLI - LI FIRST LEGO League Championship Tournament where teams of children and mentors demonstrated their problem-solving skills, creative thinking, teamwork, competitive play, sportsmanship and sense of community. Among the participants were 9- to 14-year-old children from 50 elementary and middle schools on Long Island.

With missions exploring solar panels on houses, hydro-dams, wind turbines and planting trees, teams had to program their robots to find sustainable options to meet our planet's growing energy needs in environmentally sound ways.

FIRST collaborated with organizations including the Gulf Coast Combined Heat and Power Application Center, the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of South Carolina and the Second Hill Group, an independent consultant that specializes in issues including energy, environment and green design, to create a theme and Challenge missions that are reflective of today's real-world issues.

The FLL competition was judged in four areas: project presentation; robot performance; technical design and programming of the robot; and teamwork. The highest honor went to the team that best exemplified the spirit and values of the program.

"The environment is a huge concern for everyone, including kids," said Dean

Kamen, FIRST founder. "Giving them a hands-on experience that allows them to use their imaginations and creativity in combination with science and technology to solve a real-world problem is empowering. It captures the true spirit of FIRST LEGO League and unleashes the creative problem-solving skills today's kids need for building a better tomorrow."

Founded by inventor Dean Kamen, FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was created to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. First LEGO League is an international program for 9 to 14 year-old children created in a partnership between FIRST and The LEGO Group in 1998 based on their common belief that fun and learning go hand-in-hand, and that an inspired mind can accomplish anything. Each September, FIRST LEGO League announces the annual Challenge to teams, engaging them in authentic scientific research and hands-on robotics design. Using LEGO MIND-STORMS® technologies and LEGO play materials, children work alongside adult mentors to design, build, and program robots to complete missions based on real-world challenges. After eight intense weeks, the competition season culminates at high-energy, sports-like tournaments.

"FIRST LEGO League so brilliantly captures the natural curiosity and creativity of youth, and combines it with real-world issues and research and teamwork activities that put children in a position of identifying and creating innovative solutions to big problems," said Jens Maibom, vice president,



Participants compete in the 2008 FIRST LEGO League Championship Tournament.



Berner Middle School's Team Elite 1337 of Massapequa was the winner of the Champion's Award.

LEGO Group. "In this manner, FIRST LEGO League inspires children around the world to realize the power of their creative thinking skills in making a real difference, which naturally makes them feel good and motivates them to continue learning by doing."

Currently in its tenth year, FIRST LEGO League anticipates its biggest season ever, with more than 10,000 teams in 38 countries competing in hundreds of qualifying events and Championship Tournaments.

Champion's Award:
Team Elite 1337, Massapequa

Robot Design Award:
1st The Robophantoms, Bayport/Blue Point, N.Y.
2nd Rice Krispies, Southold

Research Quality Award:
Salk Robohawks, Levittown

Programming Award:
1st Beta Pobots, Plainview/Old Bethpage
2nd Stonybots, Stony Brook

Robot Performance Award:
1st LEGO Chicks, Hicksville
2nd Stonybots, Stony Brook

Innovative Solution Award:
SPBoyled Bots, Port Jefferson Station

Creative Presentation Award: LEGO Lions, Middle Island

Rising Star Award:
Chirobots, Riverhead

Teamwork Award:
1st Power Panthers, Miller Place
2nd G'PO Geniuses, Greenport

Judge's Award:
Stobognoc, Port Washington

Team Spirit Award:
LEGO Chicks, Hicksville

Participating Schools

Suffolk County

Bay Shore Pierson
Comsewogue Port Jefferson
Copiague Sachem
Deer Park Sayville
Hauppauge Smithtown
Lindenhurst Southold
Longwood West Babylon
Miller Place West Islip
Mount Sinai William Floyd
Pat-Medford

Nassau County

Baldwin Oceanside
Carle Place Plainedge
Division Ave. Plainview-OBP
Freeport Port Washington
Glen Cove Roosevelt
Great Neck S. Sewanhaka
Hicksville Uniondale
Island Trees Walt Whitman
MacArthur Westbury
Malverne W. T. Clarke

Teams From Other Regions

Brearly & Chapin, New York, N.Y.
Champion, Warren, O.H.
Curtis, Staten Island, N.Y.
Mckee Vocational, Staten Island, N.Y.
Port Richmond, Staten Island, N.Y.
Somerville, N.J.
Staten Island Technical, N.Y.

Major Sponsors

BAE Systems
BDS Solutions
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Brookhaven National Laboratory
CEMS
DeVry University
Eastern Construction Management
EDO Corporation
Farmingdale State College
FESTO Corporation
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JP Morgan Chase
Leard Environmental Services
Long Island Fiber Exchange
Moore Stephens
Municipal Testing Labs
Nassau Educators Federal Credit Union
Netsmart
Northrop Grumman
North Atlantic Industries
School Construction Consultants
Senator Owen Johnson
South Oaks Hospital
SUNY Stony Brook
Suffolk County National Bank
Teachers Federal Credit Union
WaMu
Ziehm Medical



Patchogue-Medford wins the Regional Chairman's Award.



William Floyd students and supporters cheer their team.



SBPLI judges greet competitors after the matches.



Southold students pose with their robot.

Robotics Competition Results & Awards

Regional Chairman's Award*

Patchogue-Medford High School

Regional Engineering Inspiration Award

Brearly High School
Chapin High School

Regional Winners Alliance

Sayville High School
Champion High School
Somerville High School

Regional Finalists Alliance

Hauppauge High School
Lindenhurst Senior High School
Paul D. Schreiber High School

Chrysler Team Spirit Award

William Floyd High School

Delphi 'Driving Tomorrow's Technology' Award

Comsewogue High School

General Motors Industrial Design Award

Bay Shore High School

Johnson & Johnson Gracious Professionalism

Hicksville High School

Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers Entrepreneurship Award

Somerville High School

Motorola Quality Award

Lindenhurst Senior High School

Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control Award

Staten Island Technical High School

Xerox Creativity Award

Southold High School

Highest Rookie Seed Award

Sayville High School

Imagery Award

Mckee Vocational High School

Underwriters Laboratory Industrial Safety Award

Champion High School

Rookie All Star Award

Great Neck South High School

Rookie Inspiration Award

Sayville High School

Web Site Design Award

Sayville High School

Judge's Award

Glen Cove High School
MacArthur High School

Musical Theme

Hauppauge High School

Greening Award

West Islip High School

Fred Breithut Award

In addition to the awards distributed by FIRST, SBPLI also recognized **Michael Lang** of the Great Neck South team as the recipient of the Fred Breithut Regional Most Valuable Participant Award.

*The Chairman's Award is the most prestigious award of the event and recognizes the team that embodies the goals and purpose of FIRST and best represents a model for other teams to emulate.

Robotics Competition Scholarships

Michael Delph

Comsewogue High School
\$135,000 (Full Tuition)
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Anthony Giovannelli

Baldwin High School
\$10,000/year for 4 years
University of Delaware

Jonathan Kriss

Plainview High School
\$6,000/year for 4 years
Rochester Institute of Technology

Nicholas Joniak

West Babylon High School
\$1,500/year for 4 years
Hofstra University

Hector Flores

Great Neck South High School
\$9,000 over 3 years
Devry College of New York

Wayne Young

Comsewogue High School
\$9,000 over 3 years
Devry University in Phoenix

With additional scholarships yet to be announced, the amount of scholarships awarded to Long Island high school students is likely to grow. As a source of scholarships, this program surpasses Intel's International Science and Engineering Fair.

School-Business Partnerships Reach New Level

In an effort to facilitate networking opportunities for its alumni, the School - Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. launched a system on its Web site that allows technology and engineering college graduates who have participated in SBPLI's regional robotics competition to contact sponsor companies.

By submitting contact information at www.sbpli-lifirst.org/alumni, alumni can opt to have their information reviewed by the human resources departments at these companies should internship or full-time positions become available. The Web site also provides company profiles and links to their Web sites. The goal is to encourage and provide direct communication with sponsor companies.

"This really completes SBPLI's program and brings its mission full circle," said Fred Breithut, founder and president of SBPLI. "By connecting graduates with Long Island's technology companies, we can keep our bright engineering and technology students here on Long Island and advance local competition at the same time."

Companies such as JPMorgan Chase, BAE Systems, FESTO, Northrop Grumman, and Stony Brook University have all supported SBPLI's mission and Long Island's FIRST robotics competition, which takes place each March at Hofstra University.



Comsewogue students with their robot.



Bay Shore students fine tune their robot.

About School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, Inc. (SBPLI)

SBPLI was founded in 1984 by Fred Breithut with the goal of developing partnerships between local high schools and businesses that would provide students with practical experience and curriculum development, while helping the business community develop its future workforce. More than 70 partnerships have been formed. In 1999, Long Island FIRST was formed for the purpose of developing a Long Island Regional First Competition. In 1999, 8 high school teams participated. The Long Island Regional has since grown with 41 teams participating in 2007.

ABOUT U.S. FIRST

Accomplished inventor Dean Kamen founded FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., FIRST designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology and engineering. With the support of many of the world's most well known companies, the non-profit organization hosts the FIRST Robotics Competition for high school students and the FIRST LEGO League for children 9 to 14 years old. To learn more about FIRST, go to www.usfirst.org.

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