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Church Leaders Convene at Andrews University for Spring Meeting

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John Chen

Forty-two teams participated in the Lake Union regional 5th annual Adventist Robotics League in Benton Harbor, Mich. Three teams advanced to the national challenge, held on May 12.

Lake Union regional event held for Adventist Robotics League Challenge

Three teams invited back for national invitational

Forty-two teams of Seventh-day Adventist students from across the Lake Union, including four teams from public schools in Berrien County, explored the fun side of math, physics, engineering and computing at the 5th annual Adventist Robotics League Challenge in Benton Harbor, Mich., on Mon., Apr. 7. Students exercised their teamwork muscles by taking on this year's challenge: Power Puzzle.

Each team, with names like Geek Squad, Robo Giddys and Positive Power Negative Energy, designed, built and programmed a robot. Judges from the Lake Union Conference, Andrews University and the community evaluated each team on research, presentation, teamwork, design and programming, and the success of their robot performing a complex task.

But competition wasn't the main focus: conquering

the challenge was.

"We did a practice round with our robot, and now we get a chance to try re-programming it to make it work better in the final round," said Lyndon Bradfield, an eighth-grade student on the Robo Giddys team from Village Adventist Elementary School in Berrien Springs, Mich.

Three teams, Cloud Nine-2 and

Fusion both of Greater Lansing Adventist School, and Green Electriciers of Holland Adventist Elementary School, were invited to participate in the national challenge of the North American Division Adventist Robotics League Invitational on May 12 at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University. This event brings the top teams from across the North America Division together.

Bill Wolfer, chair of the engineering and computer science department at Andrews University and director of the Adventist Robotics League, says he hopes to get kids excited about science now, in hopes that they will one day "use robots to solve problems and build tools to solve other needs."

Keri Suarez, public relations specialist, University Relations

Church leaders convene at Andrews University for spring meeting

More than 150 administrators of the Seventh-day Adventist world church visited the Andrews University campus Apr. 4-7 for the 2008 Spring Meeting of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, a semi-annual business meeting. The committee members included officers from the 13 world divisions and administrators from the church headquarters, who together serve the 15 million members of the Adventist Church worldwide.

Jan Paulsen, president of the Seventh-day Adventist world church, was interviewed by Dwight K. Nelson, pastor of Pioneer Memorial Church, during services on Sabbath. Paulsen invited members of the community to watch the church business in action and shared one aspect of his work that brings him great personal joy.

"As I relate to the global family—including children, there are some 25 million Adventists around the world—I am amazed at the dynamics which binds this family together," said Paulsen.

Committee members spent four days on campus. During their stay, some met with members of their division and many guests—some of whom had never before visited Andrews

University. Guests took advantage of some of the things the campus has to offer, including the Horn Archaeological Museum, the Natural History Museum and the Center for Adventist Research.

Keri Suarez, public relations specialist, University Relations



Sarah Lee

Dwight K. Nelson (right) interviews Jan Paulsen during Sabbath services.