



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 1, 2011

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**MORRISS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAMS TAKE TOP AWARDS
DURING REGIONAL FIRST LEGO LEAGUE TOURNAMENT**

Texarkana, TX – The Morriss Elementary School Robotics Team keeps bringing in the awards for their efforts. During the recent First Lego League Robotics Regional Tournament, three of the six teams took top awards.

This year's North Texas Regional Tournament hosted fifty-five teams of students representing 4th – 8th grade.

The 5th Grade Lego Lightninz Team of Colt Bradford, Gracson Byrd, Kate-Lynn Harmon, Gage McDonald, Anna Morgan and Sara Ottinger earned Third Place Overall Grand Champion.



Robo Claws 4th Grade Team of Chandler Bursley-Reece, Briley Court, Braylee Hagan, Dalton McBride and Mya Reid took home 1st Place in Project Research.



And, the Robo Rulers, 4th Grade Team of Makenzie Blasé, Craig Crawford, Nick Graves, Riley Hamilton, Abbott Lawrence and Davis Sutton garnered the 2nd Place Teamwork Division.



Coaches for the teams were: Melanie Allen, Tonja Blasé, Erin Davis, Amy Frierson, Meredith Hale, Lisa Hunter, Kristi Kendrick, Shannon Kirkland and Jessica Kline.

Teams participating in the 2010 Body Forward Challenge explored the cutting-edge world of Biomedical Engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions and maximize the body's potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives. Each First Lego League Challenge has two parts – the Robot Game and the Project.

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For the Robot Game, teams build and program an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS technology to score points in 2.5-minute matches on a themed playing field. For Project, teams explore an actual problem that today's scientists and engineers are trying to solve. They then, develop an innovative solution to the problem, either by creating something that doesn't exist or building upon something that does, and share their findings.

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PHOTO IDENTIFICATION:

Morriss Lego Lightninz Team

Front Row: Anna Morgan, Sara Ottinger, Gage McDonald, Kate-Lynn Harmon

Back Row: Colt Bradford, Gracson Byrd and Tonya Blasé, Robotics Coach

Morriss Robo Claws Team

Left to Right: Chandler Bursey-Reece, Mya Reid, Dalton McBride,

Briley Court, and Braylee Hagan

Morriss Robo Rulers Team

**Left to Right: Riley Hamilton, Abbott Lawrence, Nick Graves,
Makenzie Blasé, Davis Sutton and Craig Crawford**

Back Row: Erin Davis, Robotics Coach