## **OPINION**

THE CHAPEL HILL NEWS

# Roses & raspberries



Roses to the Chapel Hill "Nano Heels," a team of six local children aged 9 to 12 that won first place in the North Carolina First Lego League robotics competition.

According to the team's coaches, the squad won for its research on nanotechnology — specifically, for three months of work on its "proposed use of carbon nanotubes for electrical power transmission."

In case you missed it on the first pass, these are 9- to 12-year-old kids. The only research some of us can remember doing at that age was dedicated to answering the question of who would win in a fight between Spiderman and the Incredible Hulk.

But this is Chapel Hill, and it's the 21st century. And at the competition in Greensboro last week, the Nano Heels — Marcus Cooper of Scroggs Elementary and homeschoolers Avery Dart, Marlow Durbin, James McMahan, Bobby McMahan and Jon Rosoff — were among 40 teams challenged to design, engineer, test and compete in nine robotics missions with their Lego Mindstorms robots.

The research was part of the 2006 Nanoquest robotics competitionsponsored by First Lego League to promote the importance of science and technology to children ages 9 to 14.

Kids, you lost some of us at "carbon nanotubes." But congratulations on a great job. Just one thing we still want to know. Suppose Spiderman got in a fight with a Lego Mindstorm robot...



Roses to the UNC women's soccer team, which on Sunday downed Notre Dame 2-1 to win its 18th NCAA championship.

The Tar Heels put the clamps on the nation's topscoring offense and handed the Irish their only defeat of the year. The game, at SAS Soccer Park in Cary, featured a display of classic Carolina soccer; it's hard for the other team to get much going when it's constantly fighting for its life against the Tar Heels' relentless pressure.

#### worth

'Attitude determines your altitude — if you ha attitude. you'll rise above."

John R. Manley Jr.

talking about a lesson he learned from his father the Rev JR Manley, pastor o



#### VO

good work

### Activist group has a violent history

Having read the news and your editorial about the revived "Students for a Democratic Society" and their protest against the new Army reauiting station, I think your readers who are too young to remember the '60s and '70s ought to know a little more about this gang.

How many remember such names as Kathy Boudin, Bernardine Dohm and Mike Klonsky? They were among the more active members of

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Chapel Hill News welcomes letters and columns from readers Lettersshould be limited to 300 words, columns to 550. Writers are limited to one letter a month and one column every three months.

Mail: Letters to the ediior should be typed and sent to Editor, The Chapel Hill News, 505 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill, NC 27516

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