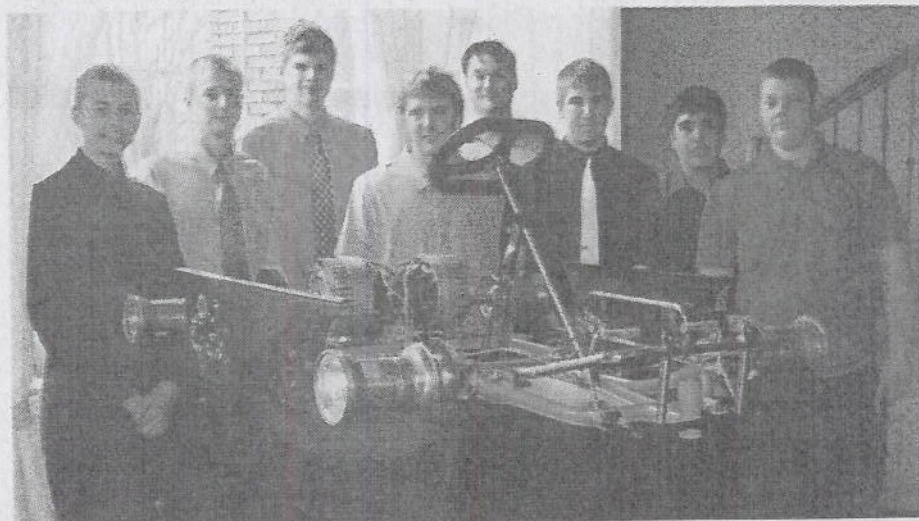
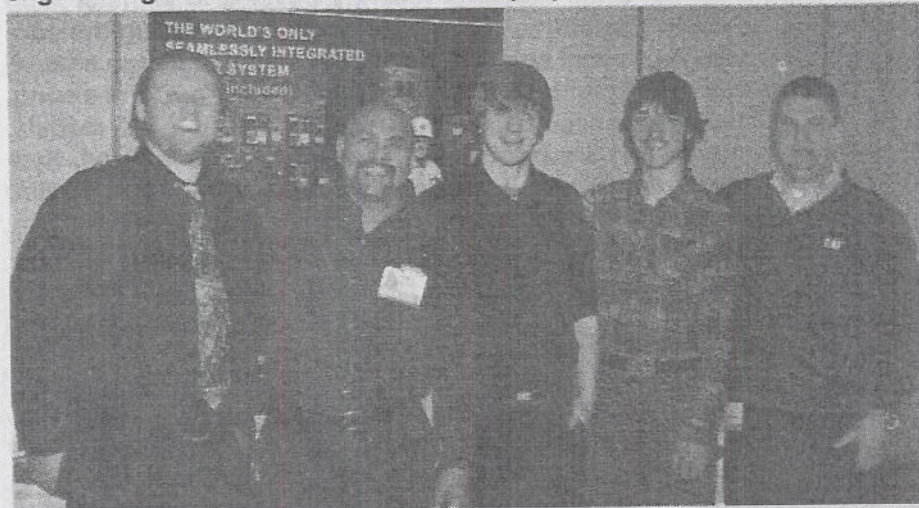


LHS Students Attend Clean Energy Seminar



LHS automotive students get a good look at the Purdue North Central engineering students' electric race cart project.



LHS automotive students Devin Schnelle, Jeremiah Jordan and Tyler Kozinski meet with representatives of the Patten Cat Corporation to discuss internship opportunities.

By Scott Forrester

Sixteen members of Leon Simon's automotive class recently attended the South Shore Clean Cities meeting held at Avalon Manor in Merrillville on February 12. The LHS students attended the formal business like seminar compliments of Legacy Environmental of Crown Point, which paid for the students' entrance fee and lunch.

The South Shore Clean Cities program was founded in the early 1990's before clean energy was popular. South Shore Clean Cities is the regional branch of a national organization, which promotes clean energy technologies like electrical vehicles, bio diesel, compressed natural gas, propane and the use of wind turbines. The organization has worked with numerous NW Indiana cities and companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with much success.

All of the students expressed surprise

at how widespread the alternative fuel movement is as well as how many large corporations are involved.

Lowell School Corporation is among the many school districts that have worked with the Clean Cities program to find ways of improving emissions of school buses. Clean Cities also has been working with Ozinga Ready Mix Concrete Company, helping them to convert 30 trucks to compressed natural gas. With their help Ozinga now boasts the first privately owned compressed natural gas refueling station. These accomplishments are just a few of the ways Clean Cities has helped to reduce air pollution in NW Indiana.

Clean Cities has also had a more direct impact on LHS automotive students by providing educational materials to supplement the LHS automotive and technical program course work on alternative fuels, emissions and pollution.