## **ROBOTICS CHALLENGE**



Don Campbell / HP staff

From left to right, junior Eric Maddix, senior Melissa Wendel, sophomore Parker Wendel, members of the Average Joes 3620 Robotics Team from St. Joseph High School, brainstorm ways to move their robot around an obstacle course and score points Saturday at Lake Michigan College. Area high school teams gathered Saturday for the FIRST(For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Challenge Kick-off, where game rules, objectives and challenges were revealed for the first time. Teams will design and assemble robots over six weeks and be judged in regional, state and global competition. The FIRST organization encourages students development in areas such as math, science, and technology, a chance to learn from professional engineers, and qualify for nearly \$14.8 million in college scholarships.