Dr. Gerard Putz Receives National Award

Dr. Gerard J. Putz has been named the recipient of the prestigious 2001 Outstanding Science Supervisor Award. Dr. Putz is a Science Coordinator and Director of the Macomb Science, Math and Technology Center for the Macomb County in Michigan. Gerard was presented with the award on March 21, 2001, at a reception of the National Science Educators Leadership Association (NSELA) in St. Louis and was honored again at a luncheon at the same conference.

This award is given annually to the one science supervisor in our nation’s schools that has made significant contributions to the supervision of science education. The awards program is administered by the National Science Education Leadership Association and sponsored by the Prentice Hall publishing company.

Begun in 1979 by NSELA, the awards program is designed to recognize an outstanding science supervisor each year. Dr. Putz received a plaque and a $1,000 check from Prentice Hall. Prentice Hall has sponsored the program since its inception.

Dr. Putz has made many contributions to science education at the local, state and national levels. His service to science education has been long term and outstanding. His colleagues recognize him as a leader in both science supervision and education. Gerard Putz was co-founder of the National Science Olympiad. Through his efforts, hard work, and many positive attributes, he has been a leader in the development of science curriculum and trained thousands of teachers.

The exemplary nature of Dr. Putz’s contributions to science education is due to his integrity and commitment to the students and teachers of Macomb County. He has demonstrated his vision of what science education should be – connecting the content and the process of what science education is to the real world. His colleagues speak highly of him as a leader and a teacher.

Gerard has published numerous articles and has made presentations at a variety of professional gatherings of local, state, regional and national organizations. Dr. Putz is the recipient of many awards locally and in the state of Michigan. At the national level, Dr. Putz was awarded the Presidential Award from President George Bush for the Science Olympiad.

Putz Responds: Stay Out of the Trees

I am delighted to receive this award and I want to thank the NSELA Leadership, Prentice Hall and all the people in this room that I have been associated with. I am at the
same time honored and humbled by this award. I am honored because it is but a dream to be recognized by your peers and colleagues. I am humbled because I know all of the wonderful projects that all the wonderful people in this audience have accomplished that have far exceeded anything I feel I have done.

I am proud of two major accomplishments: getting all 21 districts, 300 schools and 7000 educators in Macomb County on the same sheet of music by aligning their instructional benchmarks, units and assessments so we can plan effective integrated hands-on/minds-on professional development for the whole county.

And I am especially proud of helping to create a passion for learning by co-founding the Science Olympiad Program that now serves thousands of schools and millions of students throughout all of North America.

Of course I was able to make such contributions only because of much inspiration, help, encouragement and guidance from literally thousands of friends and colleagues like Jack Cairns, my partner and friend from Delaware, Sharon, my life partner, best friend and the wind beneath my tattered wings and from wonderful University leaders like Drs. Siegel and Dandapani and business leaders like Peggy Vavalla from DuPont.

My basic educational philosophy is summed up by a Chinese fortune cookie that says, “You tend to draw out the talent of others.” Early in my career, I learned that in order to be successful as a consultant that you could not be “Jack of all Trades” and that to get the hundreds of things done that needed to be accomplished you had to build capacity in others. You know that you have reached your goal when people begin to accuse you of doing nothing and that everyone else is doing all the work!

But I take all this too seriously. Sharon gave me this headline a few weeks ago while in Colorado Springs. Also while listening to the Globe awards they reminded of us of another proverb that stated, “The higher a monkey climbs in a tree, the more that he shows his butt! So my advice to you as supervisors and consultants is to help others find their hidden talents but stay out of the trees!”

United States Olympic Committee

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) is headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Science Olympiad has worked closely with the USOC since the latter part of the 80’s. And we have been in communication with that group for a number of years. The Science Olympiad has had their blessing for some years, but all that suddenly changed last fall. The Michigan office of the Science Olympiad received a letter from the USOC asking us to desist from using the term Olympiad or face the consequences.

After recovering from the mild shock, the officers of the Science Olympiad wrote back to the USOC indicating that we had the blessing of the USOC since the early part of our history! And further have had meetings with the education committee of the USOC and that the chair of that official USOC committee spoke at two of our national tournaments. We provided the lawyers of the USOC with some considerable correspondence between the United States Olympic Committee and the Science Olympiad. Like many large organizations, turnover at the top may mean loss of institutional memory thus the Science Olympiad asked the United States Olympic Committee to check their files for our correspondence. They had no record of those actions. Thus the national office copied the correspondence and sent a newsletter article on the subject to their lawyers. The case is now closed. But to avoid future issues the Science Olympiad to
agreed to use the entire term, Science Olympiad and not just the term Olympiad. Our Code of Conduct has been amended to reflect the concerns of the USOC.

The Code of Conduct now states, “No clothing, flags, or other items displaying the old five hexagons logo will be permitted at any Science Olympiad event, tournament or ceremony”. This is to include local, regional, invitational, state or national activities. Complete Code of Conduct is found elsewhere in this newsletter. The Science Olympiad and the USOC article from August 1990 is also found below.

**Olympiad and the USOC**

During the past year Jack Cairns has been working closely with Dr. Wayne Osness, chairman of the United States Olympics Committee on Education in an attempt to get the two organizations to work closely together. According to Cairns, the USOC has its goal as striving for excellence on the athletic field whereas the Science Olympiad is striving in excellence in the academic science classrooms. “We are both pursuing the ideal, we have a natural common interest.”

Dr. Osness is a former chemistry teacher and football coach at Madison West High School in Madison, Wisconsin. Madison West has represented that state for the past several years at the National Tournament of the Olympiad. Dr. Osness has a Ph.D. in Chemistry and has taught at the college level in that area. Presently, Wayne is chairperson of the Sports Medicine Department at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Dr. Osness attended the national tournament in Clarion as the guest of the Olympiad and spoke at the opening ceremony about his desire, “To see us work together towards a common end.” In private conversation with Jack and Gerard Putz, Dr. Osness expressed his delight at the concept of the Science Olympiad and suggested a number of avenues for us to explore in our quest for recognition and mutual support.

As a result of this dramatic meeting, Cairns was invited to a full USOC Education Committee meeting in Atlanta for the purpose of educating the fifteen (15) member body about the Science Olympiad and to present a formal proposal to the group.

The reaction of the committee was very positive. Cairns presented a proposal to work together on a project. The USOC Education Committee has an ongoing project to motivate academic learning in our elementary schools. The project distributes materials to schools on an Olympic theme to teach math, reading, writing, science, and other basic skills. Cairns’ proposal suggested that the committee use one or two of our elementary activities next year. It will take months to grind through the bureaucracy of the USOC before decision will be reached, but as Cairns said, “We have begun a historic process. Let us hope that it will end as positively as it has been received over the past few months.”

[Editors note, Madison West did in fact represent Wisconsin for several years at the national tournament in the late 80’s and early 90’s.]

**Center for Disease Control**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is a co-sponsor of the Science Olympiad and provides national supervisors for two events; the Division C event, “Disease Detectives,” and the Division B event, “Science of Fitness.” In
September 2000, CDC welcomed to its Atlanta headquarters two students from Yankton (South Dakota) High School. The two students received an award from CDC’s Director for winning the Disease Detectives event at the national competition held in Cheney, Washington, in May 2000 (see: www.cdc.gov/excite/top2000). The students were accompanied by their Science Olympiad coach from Yankton High School, and were joined by Dr. Gerald Putz, President of the National Science Olympiad, and Ms. Barbara Neureither, Chairperson of the Science Olympiad’s Biology Committee. Together, the group was recognized by CDC’s senior executive staff and also met with several epidemiologists (real-live “Disease Detectives”) and other CDC public health scientists, including some of those involved in the investigation of the Nipah virus encephalitis outbreak, the focus of the 2000 competition for Disease Detectives.

For the second year, the winners of Disease Detectives and their coach will visit CDC headquarters in Atlanta, courtesy of CDC, to receive an award from the CDC Director, meet with epidemiologists, and to discuss the topic of this year’s national problem, potential health hazards associated with use of cellular telephones. The 2001 national Disease Detectives event in Colorado Springs was won by two students from Troy High School in California. As noted by CDC's Dr. Paul Garbe, a veterinarian and epidemiologist who recognized the winners during the award ceremony in Colorado Springs, “The level of sophistication in the work done today during the event by all the medalists is remarkable, and on par with graduate students in schools of public health.” The medalists’ achievements exemplifies the close relation between the study of science and math, and to applications of science through careers in public health – especially in ensuring a healthy population through safe communities and healthy environment.

**WATER QUALITY**

**Dr. Bill Hall, Graduate College of Marine Science University of Delaware**

Science is discovering the why, what and how of the natural world and developing hypotheses, theories, and laws that formulate our understanding. Science is about change as our depth of knowledge doubles every 18 months or so. However, the more we learn about life on earth the more one fact appears to be a constant - no water no life, at least as we currently understand life. Perhaps, that is the reason why the Science Olympiad Board, state representatives and coaches continue to support the Water Quality event as water is the common denominator for life and quality of life on earth.

Many might consider Water Quality as a model event because it is one of the few Olympiad events that models how the sciences are truly integrated.

Water clearly has physical and chemical properties like freezing point and polarity that contributes to its other name, the universal solvent. The impact of water on geology and atmospheric sciences are easily demonstrated through groundwater and the water cycle. Life began in water and continues in water as the vast majority of the world’s plants and animals live in fresh or salt water and no organism can live with out water. In fact, year after year the rules committee continues with an ongoing struggle of inclusion for Water Quality, as the event is so broad, encompassing many sciences, technologies, and quality of life issues.

In fact, this broadness and depth of knowledge needed by students for water quality has always been a concern to a few coaches because as coaches, they need to give their students what they believe is the best opportunity to win. Of course, in theory that would be broad rules but with restricted content. The reality is that the broadness of the event serves the student well in that the competition is more open.
and grading is less restrictive, thus giving more teams the opportunity to bring home the gold.

As all coaches know the event currently consists of three parts: (1) multiple choice/short answer; (2) macroinvertebrate/biotic indicator; and (3) water monitoring/analysis. The multiple-choice section requires a broad knowledge of the water sciences, quality of life issues and water treatment. Because of the need for a rigorous test, one that measures true understanding, and a test that grades all teams fairly, the test at the national level typically includes multiple answers in many questions, all of which count equally. This approach comes from years of event supervision and has been found to be an effective method of making the scoring process more objective and less subjective. This combined with the associated tie-breakers makes for a section that is a true measure of the students knowledge of water.

The macroinvertebrate section gives credence to the event name, as many animals are indicative of the quality of the body of water. However, the variety of species also indicates water quality so there are reasons to include more species than just those that are currently utilized as biotic indicators. Those macroinvertebrates currently used may change as we learn more about habitats and it serves students as they see a larger picture of the ecosystem and the relationships between the macroinvertebrates. Additionally, there is a need to add aquatic plants and particularly exotic flora and fauna as these species are changing aquatic ecosystems across our country. These alien invaders are taking over entire drainage systems, costing all millions in economic loses and will change ecosystems as we know them. Our budding scientists need some understanding of yet another facet of global change - exotic invasive species.

Our last section, Water Monitoring and Analysis, offers students yet a second opportunity to demonstrate hands-on, practical application of their knowledge of testing for water quality. Oxygen like temperatures are obvious tests, however, it is impossible to guarantee their stability. This is true of several other tests as well, so the reality is that there are but a limited number of parameters you can test for in a staged situation. That said, this section challenges students as it is an unknown quantity and all have an equal opportunity to score points towards the gold. Many times this section is used for a second round of tie-breakers if the competition is close and they tied in the first round tie-breakers.

Some may look at Water Quality as a “tough” event because it is an integrated event requiring not only academic knowledge of science and technology but also the ability to do the associated practical hands-on of real world science. Don’t think of Water Quality as a “tough” event, but rather as a model event, where all the skills needed to be a working scientist are both needed and applied. We all hear and use the clichés, “The next frontier; the last
frontier”; or whatever, the reality is that water holds our destiny, always has and always will. Name a civilization that did not originate around a water source. Better yet name some that have died when the water was gone. Do the names Mayan, Anasazi, or Sumerians mean anything to you? Do you think we need more water scientists?

Distinguished Service Awards

The Distinguished Service Awards were established during the early history of the Science Olympiad to honor those that had given an extra measure of time, energy, and talent to the organization. Their peers recognized event supervisors, state and regional directors, and others who have made significant contributions to the Science Olympiad and its goals. Over the years we have continued the practice of recognition of these persons, but we have not written about them in the newsletter. Beginning with this edition, the editors will begin to give you short biographies of the honorees. To set the record straight, since 1997 the following individuals have been so honored at ceremonies at the National Tournament. Each received a plaque and the thanks of the Science Olympiad Board of Directors. Those honored were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Charles Hoyt</td>
<td>AZ</td>
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<td>Vicky Boyd</td>
<td>DE</td>
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<td>Lynn Dewey</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Harold Miller</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Allan Jacobs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tim Taylor</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Barbara Neureither</td>
<td>MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Ervin Zimmerman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carolyn Zimmerman</td>
<td>MI</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Philip Dail</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Mark Van Hecke</td>
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Contributions of these honorees will be found in the next few newsletters.

Erv & Carolyn Zimmerman

This all started when our oldest daughter, Amanda, came home from her first Science Olympiad meeting in the 6th grade (1987) with a note requesting volunteers to help with the team. Just as most parents, we promptly threw the note away and forgot about it. A couple of weeks later she brought home another note thanking us for volunteering to help with the astrolabe for “Reach for the Stars”, so we went to the next meeting to find out what it was all about. We were soon spending most of our free time researching background information for several events at every library we could find within a 20 mile radius.

We complained one too many times that the elementary school, where our youngest daughter Keri attended, did not have a team and found ourselves organizing and coaching the team there. Working with those kids and seeing the excitement in their eyes with each new discovery was one of our most rewarding experiences.

In 1990 the middle school team’s students and coaches, except for our daughter, Allison, were transferred when the district opened another school. We were “elected” to carry the torch, by default. From that time forward things just seemed to “happen” and we found ourselves involved more and more. Science Olympiad has been a wonderful experience for us, and our three daughters.

Editors note:

Erv and Carolyn Zimmerman have an outstanding list of Olympiad accomplishments. Since 1989 they have been event supervisors for four different elementary Olympiad events, coaches at their
elementary schools and have been, and currently are on the Elementary Board.

They have coached middle school teams for several years and were event supervisors for six different middle school/high school events. They have also held offices on the Michigan State Science Olympiad Board for nearly ten years. They have both served as national event supervisors, co-chaired the Technology Committee, and have assisted the entire organization by acting as webmasters for the National Science Olympiad web page. Both Erv and Carolyn have worked for the Michigan and National Boards since 1972. And they are nice people!

**Bill and Penney Hall**

The Science Olympiad has had a number of husband and wife teams that have been honored with the Distinguished Service Awards. Dr. Bill and Penney Hall are two of our most recent.

Bill is on the staff of the Graduate College of Marine Studies of the University of Delaware and a nationally recognized expert on the Delaware River/Bay watershed particularly with respect to the horseshoe crab populations and the migrating bird species that feed on their eggs. Penney is a seventh grade life science teacher and department chair in the Indian River School District. Bill has a Bachelors degree from Bloomsburg State University (PA), a Masters degree from University of the Pacific (CA) and a terminal degree from the University of Delaware. Penny has a Bachelors degree from the same institution and a Masters degree from Delaware State University.

Bill is avid sportsman. He has hunted successfully in all over the United States and Canada. Bill and Penney recently returned from a safari in Southern Africa. Both Bill and Penney have been Delaware and national event supervisors for over 20 years. Penny is past president of Delta Kappa Gamma and Bill is the outgoing president of the Delaware Teachers of Science.

They have two sons, Will, a student at Delaware Technical and Community College and Wyatt, a senior at Sussex Central High School. Wyatt has the dubious distinction of having to decide to take a soccer scholarship or one in wrestling!

**Becky Litherland**

Dr. Litherland’s education is all from the University of Missouri, Columbia. She has been a teacher of mathematics, reading and life science at several schools as well as department chair of science at Oakland Junior High School in Columbia. She was the Outstanding Junior High Science Educator in the Columbia public schools in 1983. Becky is adjunct to her alma mater as well as Columbia College in the same community.

Dr. Becky Litherland has written for and been successful at procuring a number of competitive grants during the past few years to assist her district with improving problem solving in the physical sciences and promoting women to study the same sciences. Dr. Litherland has been president of the Missouri Science Teachers and the National Science Education Leadership Association.
Becky has been the co-director of the Missouri State Science Olympiad for 10 plus years and has supervised at regional, state, and national tournaments. Weather or Not, Earth Science Lab, Dynamic Planet, and Experimental Design are but a few of the competitions that Becky Litherland has supervised. Becky has also chaired the Earth Science committee following the national tournament.

Dr. Becky Litherland has also started a Missouri Science Olympiad Coaching Clinic and will be celebrating its third anniversary this fall. Congratulations to Becky Litherland!

**Mark A. Van Hecke**

Mark Van Hecke first began his work in Science Olympiad in 1985 as a middle school science teacher and coach in Macomb County Michigan. He began supervising the Road Scholars event at the Macomb County Regional in 1992, and is now the Michigan Region 7 Tournament Director, which includes Macomb and St. Clair counties.

Mark also supervised the event “What are You Trying to Tell Me?” in the Michigan State Tournament in 1995. He also supervised the event at the National level from 1996-1998, and has also supervised Road Scholars at the National Tournaments in 1999 and 2000.

He is presently developing the new Earth Science event “From a Distance”. He is also a certified Microsoft Office User Specialist, and a candidate for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification in 2003.

**Harold Miller**

Harold Miller is “Mister Science Education” in the State of New York. Mr. Miller taught for 34 for years on Long Island in the Central Islip school system and during that time was the convention chair for STANYS (Science Teacher Affiliate of the State of New York) for 27 years. If you were involved in science education in that state, you would have to know Harold! If you ever spoke at the New York science teacher’s convention, you have to know Harold. In addition he was liaison to NSTA for 15 years and was able to attend every national convention of that body for many, many years.

In addition to these accomplishments, Harold is State Director of the Olympiad and has been so for 10+ years. He has also served as event supervisor at the state and national level in Wright Stuff, Metric Estimation and Practical Data Gathering. Mr. Miller also developed the model for score counseling for the national tournament.

Harold has made it a priority to attend one summer training seminar each summer to learn first hand the “ins and outs” of the rules of the Olympiad. “He has worked tirelessly on behalf of the children of New York and the teachers from the same state and is most deserving of the honor.” said Dr. Gerard Putz in presenting Harold’s plaque.

**Barbara Neureither**

Mrs. Barbara Neureither taught biology at Holt High School in suburban East Lansing, Michigan for 29 years. While teaching at that school, Barb was the Science Olympiad coach for 12 years. She and her team were featured on the Peter Graves’ videotape filmed prior to the national tournament at the University of Colorado in 1990. (You can still see Barb and her team on the Discovery channel at various times in the middle of the night.)

Mrs. Neureither was then kicked upstairs for a one-year term as State Director of the Olympiad organization in Michigan. She has been on the State board for that organization for 14 years and this year is completing her second term of 5 years as State Director. Michigan, as you know, is one of our largest states and Barbara coordinates the efforts of 300 middle school teams, 300 high school teams in 16 regional and one state tournament.

In her spare time Barb has been national co-supervisor of Cell Biology for 3 years, national
Barbara Neureither was an outstanding high school science teacher and coach and I know that she will do the same kind of job for MSU. Barb will continue in her role as State Director and will help with the coordination of the State tournament in Michigan.

**Kathy Melvin**

With a bachelors degree in Education and Biology from the University of Delaware, Kathleen Melvin went on to earn her masters degree in General Science at Shippensburg State University in 1978. Kathy has held several positions on the East Coast. She taught biology and life science at Middletown High School and New Oxford Junior/Senior High those respective communities. She teaches methods classes at Delaware State University.

Kathy is presently working as an Education Specialist at the Delaware Department of Education. Professional Leadership is one of her strong points. She has served as the Event Supervisor and Rules Committee for the National Science Olympiad since 1985. She was the State Director, Workshop Presenter and Event Supervisor for the Delaware Science Olympiad as well.

Kathy has several publications including co-author of over 20 computer/probe inquiry activates for the Delaware Department of Education. Kathy has been awarded numerous of awards. Kathy was District Teacher of the Year for the Polytech School District and Appoquinimink District. She is a winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Secondary Science Teaching and Delaware Biology Teacher of the Year.

In her spare time, Kathy enjoys playing her bassoon in the Dover Symphony, Mid-Atlantic Symphony and the Papillons Woodwind Quintet.

**Vicky Boyd**

Born in Eastern Suffolk County, New York, Victoria Boyd was born into a well-known family. Her father, Charles was elected several times as sheriff and town supervisor.

She received a bachelor’s degree in Science Education at the Cornell University. She then attended the State University of New York at Stonybrook to earn her Masters degree in Liberal Studies. After being certified, Vicky went on to teach at the South Dorchester Junior/Senior High School in Church Creek, Maryland for two years before going to Lake Forest High School (DE) where she taught Physical Science and Biology for 24 years. She recently moved to Dover to work for the
Delaware State Education Association (DSEA).

While at Lake Forest, she coached the Science Olympiad Team. She was an Olympiad official at the State Tournament for 16 years helping to run the Science Bowl, Pentathlon, and Cantilever over the years. She also officiated at the National Science Olympiad from 1986-2001.

Besides being involved with the Science Olympiad, Vicky was very active in her professional group, serving as president of the Lake Forest Education Association. She became the State Treasurer from 1990-1992 as well as 1996-2000.

Vicky has two daughters Courtney, 16 and Jessica, 20.

U of D Hosts National Science Olympiad

The University of Delaware is proud to host the National Science Olympiad in 2002. We believe that our cutting-edge facilities combined with fine faculty and volunteers from the Delaware science community and DuPont Corporation will make this the best Olympiad yet! Science can be found in many of our 124+ majors and our six undergraduate colleges – Arts & Science; Agriculture & Natural Resources; Business & Economics; Engineering; Health & Nursing Sciences; and Human Services, Education & Public Policy – as well as our graduate College of Marine Studies. This year’s participants will benefit from our vast resources and expertise while enjoying their time at one of the most beautiful college campuses on the East Coast. Read on for some of the many reasons why we believe the best science students from around the globe choose UD for their futures.

To drive us into the 21st century and beyond, a strong science education is necessary. Many top students select us for our commitment to academic excellence, with undergraduates composing 80% of our population. It is here that they find smaller classes, faculty members who teach as well as perform world-class research, and technologically-advanced facilities (Yahoo! consistently ranks us in their top 10 -- #2 in 2000 -- of “Most Wired Colleges”). Our brightest students choose the University Honors Program as a community within our community, in which their intellectual curiosity can be even more fully challenged.

Many of our young scholars make their mark in the University’s Undergraduate Research Program, working alongside award-winning faculty. At the University of Delaware, biology, chemistry, computing, geology, and engineering, cross traditional academic boundaries to create unlimited discoveries in our own lifetimes. A signature of the vigor of research at UD is the doubling of our annual research expenditures in engineering to nearly $25 million.

Our commitment to science and the education of future scientists remains strong. From the recently created Delaware Biotechnology Institute to the finishing touches of DuPont Hall on the mall (opening just in time for the National Science Olympiad), we continue to provide the most technologically sophisticated facilities and outstanding resources. Our academic programs are nationally recognized, with chemical engineering consistently appearing in the top 10 of numerous lists. Perhaps the highest compliment is paid in the swiftness with which our students are hired by the nation’s leading companies. “Delaware” – both the University and the state – has a strong legacy of science and engineering with industry leaders such
as DuPont, W.L. Gore & Associates, Chrysler, AstraZeneca, and General Motors having notable influence here. Our students, as well as our graduates, benefit from such excellent relationships. We look forward to seeing you at the National Science Olympiad on May 17-18, 2002. In preparation for this event, we will host an Invitational on January 25-26, 2002. We hope to see you there! For more details on the Science Olympiads, visit online at www.udel.edu/scienceolympiad. Additional information about the University of Delaware may also be found online at www.udel.edu.

**Letter to the Editor**

Editor:

Excuse this lovely writing paper, but it is all I could find on my desk. I saw the surface of my desk one day about a week ago — then we became Junior Division State Champs and I don’t expect to see it or much of the rest of my counters for at least 3 weeks. Once again, it was a totally unexpected victory, which belongs almost solely to the kids. My senior team is the best and worked tirelessly preparing my little guys. I’m bringing 32 of them — I had to fight and I haven’t slept much for weeks, but 32 of more than 60 original team members are coming.

This letter isn’t just to brag about my kids, it is to thank you again for the original idea and your continued efforts to make it a success. It has made such a difference in the lives of some of my students. Until recently I wasn’t sure — I knew, but I had nothing tangible. One young man is now a sophomore at George Washington University. He decided to interview for a fellowship at NASA as a freshman. He figured that he had no chance with all the graduate students and upperclassmen that were interviewing but wanted to try. He won the fellowship and was told that it was because of the Science Olympiad! Another student is receiving a research scholarship along with reduced tuition, etc. which covers all costs of her schooling at Cornell University (in excess of $3,000/yr.). The third student is receiving a research scholarship of $15,000 plus another $5,000 academic scholarship to the University of Rochester, and so it goes. Thank you, Patty Sherman.

**Science Olympiad Fever**

Patty Sherman, Goshin, New York

Sixteen years ago, two very ambitious science teachers decided to create a competition meant to increase interest in science and replace typical science fairs. What they started was the beginning of a monster that can take over the lives of all that are involved. They call it the Science Olympiad, but it is known better as Science Olympiad Fever* and there is no known cure.

Students begin to work nonstop building unbelievably complex machines that are capable of little more than moving a few marbles a few inches or launching a nerf ball and driving anyone who becomes involved incredibly mad. Or, they begin building airplanes like automatons; spending hours analyzing the flight, the tilt, and the placement of the wing, the balance of the propeller, and the number of winds of the rubber motor until perfection has been reached. Other students have been known to sit for hours studying birds, rocks, the circulatory system, the elements, weather, animal tracks, and animal anatomy. Some students have been spotted chasing down cars to obtain tire patterns, fingerprinting everyone in sight, sitting for hours analyzing the chemical composition of substances or designing the perfect experiment, or answering...
endless questions about maps, maps, and more maps.

Yes, it’s a fever, but a fever that leaves you feeling good. The fever-pitch reached just before competition puts students on a level they have never reached before—it’s approaching perfection, but far enough away to make perfection appear intangible. They know they have reached a level of excellence they have never forced themselves to achieve before and which they may never achieve again. They share this feeling with at least fourteen other students, the other members of the competitive team, and their student and adult coaches. There is a familiarity they share with these other people that they have never had the opportunity to share before. They are more than a team—yet they are all individuals. It is a thrill to observe and to be a part of Science Olympiad. The words can make you shake with the fear of commitment that must be made to make it work and tremble with the anticipation of what is to come, but it can also elicit such warmth, satisfaction, and excitement that the fear is smothered and the anticipation is kindled by the fever that begins to build into a fire that burns within.

Movies: Competition, Interview & Interview

Movies: Observers, Competition & Competition

Movie: Competition and Competition
The Science Olympiad established a “Code of Conduct” for student competitors many years ago. Many States have adopted/adapted this code as their own. Others rely upon a loose set of regulations set up by the state or regional boards.

Any code is generally set up to make the situation fair. This is certainly the case with the Science Olympiad Code of Conduct. The organization wants fairness, no we demand fairness. Fairness for student competitors, fairness for judges, fairness for event supervisors, fairness for coaches and teachers as well as fairness for parents.

Our Code of Conduct is a set of simple regulations that “levels the playing field” between students and competing teams. It is very difficult, for example, to define every infraction of any rule or parameter of the Science Olympiad regulations. Can a student use some new (or old) technology to enhance their score on a test? Yes, it the rules specifically allow it, but no if the student uses that technology to gain information concerning the event from outside sources that are not sanctioned. Can a student competitor “phone a friend”? No! No! No! Can a student use a palm pilot, computer, calculator, or other unauthorized device to gain an edge during a Science Olympiad event? No! Simply, can a student cheat? The answer is NO!

The examples stated above are outside the “spirit or the intent” of the rules. The Science Olympiad forbids cheating!

As noted in another article in this newsletter, there are a few other legal matters and/or elements of civility that make up the entire Code.

In compliance with our agreement with the USOC, no clothing, flags, or other items may display our original logo of five (5)-interlocking hexagons. The reasons are obvious; we may be treading upon the
copyright of the USOC. The use of another’s copyrighted logo is illegal. If your team has any of these items, please put them away or better yet get rid of them. Do not under any circumstance bring them to any regional, state, or national tournament or ceremony.

Items of civility include:

1. Use of inappropriate language, conduct, or dress.
2. Students at Science Olympiad may sell no items sponsored “swap meets”. Swap meets are for swapping and trading items that represent your school, town, or State. It is not an opportunity for young businesspersons to begin their careers.
3. No inflatable items of any kind may be displayed at any tournament, swap meet, opening or closing Science Olympiad ceremony(s)

The items of civility are just that. The Science Olympiad done not condone the use of profanity in any form and inappropriate language either oral or written will not be tolerated.

**Summer Science Olympiad Seminars**

For nearly twenty years the Science Olympiad has been holding summer training for teachers, administrators, and interested parents. Seminars have been held all over the United States in such locals as California (Asilomar Conference Center & Stockton), Arizona (Hilton Conference Center at Tapitio Cliffs), Colorado (The Nature Place), Michigan (Leelanau School), Pennsylvania (Lake Wallenpaupack, Johnstown, & PEEC), New York (Nevele Catskills Resort), Delaware (Lewes and Rehoboth Beach).

The programs center upon learning about new events and strategies to assist coaches with some of the mature events. Conferences run from three to five days and frequently feature classes taught by the national event supervisors.

Comments from teachers and coaches at recent workshops include:

“I had no idea that I would learn so much.”

“Great conference, please do it again in New York next year.”

“I’ve attended two of these seminars and they continue to be the best staff development that I get.”

“Mike Kobe can really help you if you’re interested in learning more about the building events.”

“These sessions had excellent, immediately useable ideas for me to use in the classroom as well as for helping me organize and train the Olympiad team.”

“This seminar was overflowing with practical information that I can use in my classroom.”

“Patty Sherman must be an excellent teacher. She helped me understand the music event and I’m tone deaf”.

“Linder (Winter of CO) really knows his astronomy!”
Evaluations of the sessions are always outstanding. These comments are a fair cross-section of the data we have been getting since the beginning of these projects.

If you haven’t attended in the past, consider doing so. We have two currently organized for next summer in California and Michigan. Others may also be considered! Contact the editors if you are interested in an Olympiad seminar in your town.

Movie: Competition
SECONDARY SCIENCE OLYMPIAD SUMMER INSTITUTES
LEELANAU ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, GLEN ARBOR, MI JULY 8-13, 2002
ASILOMAR CONF. CENTER, MONTEREY, CA JULY 20-24, 2002

Or, get together 24 coaches and we will customize an institute for your area! (need 6 months notice)

Educators are eligible to use Eisenhower funds to attend Science Olympiad Summer Institutes designed for Teachers, Coaches, Supervisors and Administrators grades 6-12. Classes will cover events such as Bridge Building, Road Scholar, Experimental Design, Physical Sci. Lab, Scrambler, Bottle Rocket, Rocks & Minerals, Crime Busters, Chem. Lab, Mission Possible, Wright Stuff, Water Quality, Dynamic Planet and more plus New Events for 2002. Also learn how to build a team and gain support for your science program. Registration fee includes all instruction, rules manuals, changes for next year, classroom materials and activities that will help you meet your state's core curriculum science benchmarks and standards. Commuters must pay a facility and meals fee, which is included in the housing fee. Many Science Olympiad coaches at State & National finals attribute their success to concepts learned at the SO Summer Institutes. Over 95% rate the institutes as good or excellent and say that their batteries are recharged, that they learn so much and are glad to be with other educators that are passionate about learning science!

The Leelanau Environmental School, Michigan is located in the famous resort area of Traverse City along the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park nestled among the hills of northern Michigan with dorms a short walk away from the sandy shoreline of Lake Michigan. The grounds include tennis courts, astronomical observatory and canoeing on the Crystal River. Housing is in single or double occupancy dorm rooms (2 twin beds) that share a bath. Linens and towels are provided. Meals are served cafeteria style from dinner on Monday to lunch on Saturday. Leisure activities may include field trips for Petosky Stone fossils, dunes ecology and beach volleyball.

The Asilomar Conference Center, California is situated on the tip of the Monterey Peninsula overlooking the Pacific Ocean, occupying 105 secluded acres of forest and dunes near Monterey and Carmel. Housing is in double occupancy motel style rooms with private baths. Bed and bath linens are provided. All meals are served semi-cafeteria style in Crocker Dining Hall. Facilities include swimming pool, recreation hall and forested pathways through the grounds and boardwalks along the dunes to the ocean.

A $200 deposit will hold a place at the Institute of your choice.

REGISTRATION FORM DRAFT SUBJECT TO CHANGE
(Register early as space is limited!)

NAME ___________________________________ M/F___ SCHOOL __________________________ DIV _____
HOME ADDRESS _________________________________ CITY __________________ ST. _____ ZIP _________
SCHOOL PHONE _______/_______/__________________ HOME PHONE _______/______/__________________

REGISTRATION FOR COURSE: $320 $320
MI HOUSING: Fee covers room, all meals, breaks and facility use.
_ LEELANAU: DOUBLE OCCUPANCY (per person) $345
(6 Days/5 Nights) SINGLE OCCUPANCY $420
COMMUTER** $190

CA HOUSING: Fee covers room, all meals, breaks and facility use.
_ ASILOMAR: DOUBLE OCCUPANCY (per person) $375
(5 Days/4 Nights) SINGLE $585
COMMUTER** $200

**Commuter fee for off-site occupancy is not optional and covers facilities/equipment use and meals as noted.

TOTAL ____________

DEPOSIT (due with registration & non-refundable 30 days before institute) 200.00
TOTAL DUE 30 DAYS BEFORE INSTITUTE ____________
($25 Bank fee for returned checks)

Return Form to: Science Olympiad  Phone: 248-651-4013
5955 Little Pine Lane  Fax: 248-651-7835
Rochester, MI 48306
2001 National Science Olympiad
Division B
Top Ten

1  Booth Middle School, GA
2  Parrott Academy, NC
3  Thomas Jefferson Middle School, IN
4  Magsig Middle School, OH
5  Jenison Jr. High School, MI
6  Piqua Junior High School, OH
7  Arthur W. Coolidge Middle School, MA
8  South Middle School, IL
9  Bearden Middle School, TN
10 Maine-Endwell Middle School, NY
2001 National Science Olympiad
Division C
Top Ten

1  Harriton High School, PA
2  Troy High School, CA
3  Centerville High School, OH
4  Fayetteville-Manlius High School, NY
5  Oak Park High School, IL
6  McIntosh High School, GA
7  Solon High School, OH
8  Maine-Endwell High School, NY
9  Grand Haven High School, MI
10 State College High School, PA
ATTENTION!  TEACHING GUIDES, STUDENT MANUALS AND SAMPLE TEST PACKET

If you haven't ordered yet, you should do it soon!  All school districts are eligible to use Eisenhower funds to purchase instructional materials that are used for professional development or to attend Science Olympiad Summer Institutes (see SOSI info in this manual).  Although teams have improved their placement at state and national tournaments, not all teams can attend a Summer Institutes, so coaches like you have created an alternative—the Science Olympiad Teaching Guides:

1. ROAD SCHOLARS will systematically guide your understanding of USGS Topographic and U.S. Highway maps.  Includes most knowledge and skills required for mastery of the Road Scholar Event and one USGS Topographic map, one Highway map, plus copies of both a state and a National Road Rally test.  This revised edition also includes lessons on the American Legal Land Survey and the proper use of azimuths and bearings.  $20.00

2. SCIENCE CRIME BUSTERS, GET YOUR BEARING/COMPASS AND REACH FOR THE STARS introduce a systematic approach to solving crimes through active laboratory investigation.  which may be used for either small or large group instruction.  Skills include identifying mystery powders and substances, separating inks through chromatography, and matching fingerprints.  This revised edition also includes a sample practice test.  Reduced -$12.00

3. AUDUBON ROCK & MINERAL GUIDE An excellent guide to R&M characteristics and identification.  $15.00

4. LIFE-PROCESS LAB includes lessons to help you master this event.  Revised for 2002  $16.00

5. BOTTLE ROCKET includes lesson plans and diagrams to guide you in preparing the bottle rocket with fins and parachute, help building a launcher and data collection procedures.  $16.00

6. SCIENCE OLYMPIAD SAMPLE TEST PACKETS from various regional, state & national tournaments includes questions and answers from Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Earth, Life and Physical Sciences.  New2002  $18.00

7. AUDUBON AMPHIBIAN & REPTILES An excellent guide to A&R characteristics and identification.  $15.00

8. AUDUBON NIGHT SKY An excellent guide to constellations characteristics and identification.  $15.00

9. AUDUBON EASTERN BIRDS An excellent guide to bird characteristics and identification.  $15.00

10. AUDUBON WESTERN BIRD An excellent guide to bird characteristics and identification.  $15.00

11. AUDUBON WEATHER (METEOROLOGY) An excellent guide to meteorology.  $15.00

12. ROCK, MINERAL & FOSSIL GUIDE:  a good introduction to rock and mineral identification with lessons and flow charts to help understand the properties of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and minerals.  $20.00

13. WRIGHT STUFF(former Propeller Propulsion):  Lessons include tips on adjustments for maximum flight time such as how to trim the propeller, when and how to adjust the trim tabs, tips for ROG and an excellent trouble shooting chart.  $16.00

14. FROM-A-DISTANCE:  includes hands-on activities related to remote sensing images, sources of aerial photographs and uses of remote sensing imagery as well as a sample tournament test.  New2002  $15.00
ORDER FORM

NAME______________________________________SCHOOL_______________________________________
ADDRESS___________________________________CITY/STATE/ZIP________________________________

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Sub-total: _________

NO RETURNS AFTER 30 DAY

Add 15% for shipping and handling $________

TOTAL INCLUDED: $________

($25 Bank fee for returned checks)

ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENT MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD*5955 LITTLE PINE LANE*ROCHESTER HILLS, MI 48306
Movies: Battery Buggie and Rocks & Minerals
SCIENCE OLYMPIAD VIDEO TAPE ORDER FORM

Name _______________________________________ School ____________________________________________
District _____________________________ Street Address _______________________________________________
City/State/Zip _____________________________/_______/__________ Phone # (______) _______-__________

Tapes are COPYRIGHTED and may not be reproduced. AMOUNT

1. NSO finals, Boulder CO -1989-includes Scrambler BONUS $25 ________
2. Elementary Science Olympiad (Grades 3-6 Student Narrated) - 1988 $25 ________
3. **Elementary Science Olympiad (Grades 3-6) - 1999** $30 ________
4. Elementary Science Olympiad FUN DAY (K-3) -1989 $25 ________
5. Orienteering Tape-How to use a compass for Get your Bearing $20 ________
6. TOWERS FROM 94-98 NAT. FINALS (out for 2001) $30 ________
7. WINNING BRIDGES FROM NAT. FINALS *(updated 2001)* $30 ________
8. WINNING BOOMILEVERS FROM NAT. FINALS *(updated 2001)* $30 ________
9. SCIENCE OLYMPIAD DOCUMENTARY-AUBURN, AL-1992 $30 ________
10. TRAJECTORY VIDEO (out for 2001) $30 ________
11. NSO FINALS INDIANA UNIVERSITY-95 $30 ________
12. MISSION POS. FROM 94-98 NAT.FINALS $30 ________
13. NSO FINALS GEORGIA TECH-96 $30 ________
14. NSO FINALS NORTH CAROLINA STATE-97 $30 ________
15. PROPELLER PROPULSION/WRIGHT STUFF (96-98) $30 ________
16. BOTTLE ROCKET (95-98) $30 ________
17. NSO FINALS GVSU MICHIGAN-98 $30 ________
18. NSO FINALS CHICAGO-99 $30 ________
19. NSO FINALS WASHINGTON-2000 $30 ________
20. BATTERY BUGGY FROM NAT. FINALS *(updated 2001)* $30 ________
21. **NEW!-NSO FINALS COLORADO SPRINGS 2001** $35 ________

SUB-TOTAL ____________
(Add 15% for shipping & handling) ____________

TOTAL ____________

All Purchase orders must be accompanied by payment. ($25 Bank Fee for returned checks)

Make Checks payable to: Science Olympiad
5955 Little Pine Lane
Rochester, MI 48306

Because of contractual arrangements we have with the originators of these tapes, we cannot authorize copying of the tapes. This also helps maintain the quality of the tapes being distributed. We have kept the cost down to preparation, reproduction, handling, and mailing expense, so the tapes are affordable to all schools.
Movies: Dynamic Planet and Chem Lab
QUIZ

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade’s worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, rarely do we remember the headliners of yesterday. These are not second-raters. They are the best in their fields. But the applause died. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here’s another quiz. See how you do on this one.

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
3. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
4. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
5. Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Easier? The lesson?

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

Movies: Bungie Egg and Nature Quest
DuPont Celebrates 200 Years

DuPont will reach a milestone in 2002 when we recognize our 200th anniversary as a science company and we are delighted to be co-sponsors of the 2002 National Science Olympiad as part of our year long celebration. DuPont began their long, proud tradition of supporting education in 1918 when we addressed the issue of a shortage of chemists and we have remained committed to science and the education of future scientists and engineers. Since that time, we have continued to invest in education and DuPont proudly supports a large number of science, math, environmental and technology initiatives that impact kindergarten through high school, many colleges and universities and a large number of minority programs around the country.

The first Science Olympiad was held in Delaware approximately 25 years ago and DuPont and the University of Delaware are eagerly looking forward to the return of the Tournament to our home state. We believe the National Science Olympiad will be a wonderful addition to our 200th anniversary festivities and we look forward to sharing it with you and your teams!