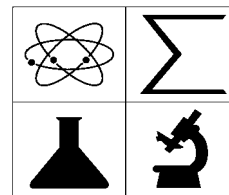


MESA DAY CONTEST RULES

Balloon Powered Watercraft



LEVEL:	Middle/Junior High School
TYPE OF CONTEST:	Individual/Team
COMPOSITION OF TEAMS:	1 - 2 students per team
NUMBER OF TEAMS:	3 teams per Center
SPONSOR:	Louie Lopez, Academic Coordinator, CSU Fullerton MSP Center

OVERVIEW: To design and construct a watercraft which will travel the farthest distance without sinking or taking on water while carrying a load.

MATERIALS: The following will be provided by the Host Center:

- Ten (10) regular drinking straws
- One 5 inch by 5 inch piece of aluminum foil
- One piece of masking tape (10 inch)
- One (1) standard size water balloon
- Two (2) small rubber bands (1/16" width)
- Scissors
- One foot of string (thread)
- Two (2) small paperclips
- Four (4) Quarters
- Inflatable Swimming pool (at least 2 feet by 5 feet)
- Stop watch

RULES:

- 1) Each team will have 30 minutes to build their balloon-powered watercraft. Any modifications made after the time allowed will result in disqualification.
- 2) Only the above listed materials are allowed.
- 3) Straws and/or aluminum foil may be cut with scissors provided.
- 4) Upon completion of building their watercraft, each team will be called upon to test their watercraft. Each team will have two runs with the best score counted.

- 5) At the beginning of each run, the rear of the watercraft will be on the starting line of the designated track area.
- 6) The watercraft track must have the dimensions of 2 feet by 5 feet.
- 7) One member of the team may hold their watercraft at the starting line but may not push their watercraft in any way or disqualification will result.
- 8) No additional devices may be used to propel or assist the watercraft's movement down the official track.
- 9) The watercraft must not take on any water (i.e. the payload may not take on any water) at any time during each run.
- 10) The watercraft must hold the weight of 4 U.S. quarters during the entire run or the run will not be recorded.

JUDGING:

- 1) The distance traveled will be measured from the starting point to where the watercraft ceases to make forward progress, along a straight horizontal line perpendicular to the starting line.
- 2) If the watercraft veers off the designated track, the distance measured will be from the rear portion of the watercraft that veered off the track perpendicular to the starting line.
- 3) The team with the farthest distance is the winner.
- 4) In the event of a tie, an additional run will be conducted with two (2) additional U.S. quarters. This step will be repeated if the tiebreaker "run" results in another tie.

AWARDS: Awards are given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

ATTACHMENTS: none