

Trumbull Freshman Compete at UConn Physics Olympics

Twelve THS freshmen, making up two teams, rode up to Storrs on May 25 to compete against other schools' teams from throughout the state in the UConn Physics Olympiad.

The Olympiad events included:

1. Brick stacking for maximum overhang
2. Water balloon targeting
3. Paper bridge building
4. Balloon Stuffing with Rice Krispies
5. Electromagnet lift maximization

The teams included Emily Wu Naomi Wald, Alex Rich, Doug Bostick, , KC Csehak, Lisa Kasiewicz, Neha Pasnoori, Anthiny Bui, Richard Shi, Sean Freeland, Andrew Freeburg, and Jackson Wynne.. While the teams did not take the top honors, the accompanying photos show their engagement in the challenges in the areas of construction, projectile motion, electromagnetism, civil engineering and packaging.

The competition was a great learning experience and the competitors thank the Trumbull Academic Challenge for Excellence (ACE) Foundation and the Trumbull Public Schools Transportation Department for providing the buses to get them to UConn.

For further information, contact the team's advisor, Science Teacher Hans Drenkard, Trumbull High School ("Hans Drenkard" <thsphys@optonline.com>).

Several photos with captions follow below.



Left to right: Lisa Kasiewicz, Jackson Wynne, Emily Wu, Doug Bostick and Neha Pasnoori prepare to compete in electromagnet competition.



Trumbull Physics Olympians hone their water balloon targeting techniques on a game UConn Physics grad student



Left to right: KC Csehak, Richard Shi, Sean Freeland, Alex Rich and Naomi Wald work the bricks to maximize the cantilever.



Anthony Bui sets the tones as the Physics Olympians bridge the gap with paper to support a maximum load.



Physics Olympians investigate packaging Rice Krispies in balloons. This one is about to pop Rice Krispies all over the group