

2003-2004 Long-Term Problem Synopses

ENVIROVER

The team's problem is to build and drive a human-powered Envirover vehicle that will collect trash and deliver it to a Factory, where it will be used to manufacture a product of the team's design. The team will present an original prototype of the product then use the trash to produce five samples of the product. The team will also create and present a humorous sales pitch for its product that takes place in a store setting.

Divisions: I, II, III & IV Cost limit: \$135

STRATEGY SPHERE

This technical problem requires teams to design and build two devices that will mechanically propel balls through a circular hoop. The location of the devices will determine the value of the points scored when the ball passes through the hoop. Teams will also create a device to retrieve the balls after they are launched. All aspects of the problem solution will be integrated into a theme about how a change in the Earth's geosphere affects the Earth's atmosphere.



This problem is sponsored by NASA.

Divisions: II, III & IV Cost limit: \$135

Classics . . . FANTASTIC ART

In this problem, teams will create and present a performance that includes works of art that come alive when no one can see them and return to their original state when others are around. The team will make four works of art: two will be replicas of works by artists from a list, and two will be original works created by the team. The performance will include at least one scene where the works of art come to life and interact with each other. The performance will also include a character that is not part of the works of art.

Divisions: I, II, III & IV Cost limit: \$125

BALANCING ACT

This problem calls for the team to design, build and test an asymmetrical structure made of balsa wood and glue. The structure will be wider at its top than at its base. The structure will be tested by balancing and supporting as much weight as possible. The team will also create a container that will transport the structure a maximum distance of 20 feet. The container and structure may not be touched while they are traveling.

Divisions: I, II, III & IV Cost limit: \$135

FEATURED CREATURE

The problem is to create and present an original performance about mythological creatures. The team will choose a mythological creature from a list and make the audience aware of its characteristics. The team will also create its own "mythological" creature and present a legend that includes that creature and its unique physical characteristics and special power. The performance will include a stage set that changes.

Divisions: I, II & III Cost limit: \$125

REWIND WITH HUMOR

The team will create a performance that tells a story in reverse -- from the end to the beginning. The story will have a beginning, a middle, and an end, but the team will present it backwards. Therefore, the performance will start out with the ending of the story, then show the middle, and end with the beginning. The team will tell at least three jokes during its performance.

Primary: Grades K-2 Cost limit: \$50