

Mark Shinn
5-2-2005

Post Race Report

"Falling With Style"

Chief Engineer: Cliff Rockenstein
Slave Labor: Mark Shinn



Vehicle: "Falling With Style"

Team Members: Mark Shinn, Cliff Rockenstein

Stats:

Distance Flown: -2.5 Feet, no flight.

- Bonus Points:
- School Spirit, "Yuba Tech" written across propeller.
 - Maximum Height, Our second vehicle "mousetrap" gained maximum altitude throughout the contest.
 - Pity, it barely moved! And we tried so hard!!!
 - Cool See through wing design!
 - Big Wing!

Price:

Balsa Wood-	\$6.00
Silk Span- \$.50/ sheet X 4 sheets =	\$2.00
<u>Mouse Traps- \$1.50/4 X 2 =</u>	<u>\$0.75</u>
Total=	\$8.75

Upon completion of this years mousetrap races our design did not fly. It moved nearly 6 inches and fell over once. If given another week of testing and alterations our mousetrap plane could have left the table. The biggest flaw in our design was the power supply, it did not spin the propeller long enough to move the plane a considerable distance, or even to the end of the table. With more time, and observations of other designs a wheel powered vehicle would have gotten the most potential out of the mousetraps. I believe that had our design been wheel powered it would have reached the end of the table and then glided for a maximum distance farther than any other vehicle currently in the contest.

Although challenging, I don't believe that this contest was practical. In the years to follow I believe that flight should be avoided as it does not produce many working vehicles. I suggest a 4x4 competition in the years to follow as it would be more fun! Flying vehicles are complicated, as proved this year, meaning that few, if any vehicles will actually achieve the desired outcome of flight. Simplicity is the key in mousetrap competitions. As the vehicles and competition get simpler, the distances, and number of working mousetrap designs increases. More working contraptions means a more competitive, exciting competition.