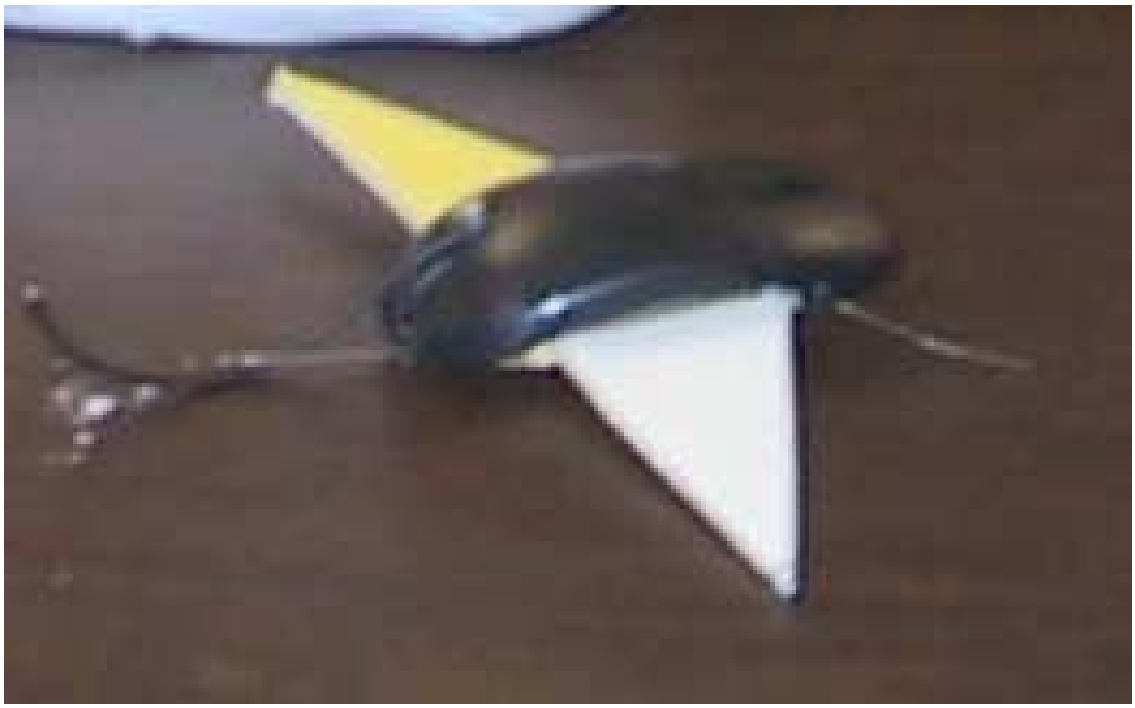

E-4 Sean Korhummel (S.P.K)

"Mouse Trap Flight Post Contest Report"

Contestant: Plan "B"
Build and Design Team: Me. My-Self, and I (S.P.K)
Best Legal Distance "Flown": -3 feet
Bonus Point Listings: Computer mouse Used, Yuba College Sponsorship, clever design (or cleaver Cheating, which ever works best), Humor (I was the First Up and made a Huge fool out of my-self in front of local newspapers and Staff ☺, its hard being a rule hacker..) Highest take-off?, I can't think of anyone that went actually higher then mine due to the design of mine verses everyone else's they all just kind of rolled…
Future Design Projections: The nature of my design does allow for a lot of improvements. In all fairness many designs were tested and attempted, but other designs had little or no improvement in point value to the Plan "B" design. One attempted was a *Duel Propeller Design*
-with one pushing from behind and one pulling from the front. Unfortunately the gears were not behaving as intended and the plan was scrapped. The light weight wood was also not behaving as expected, and allowed way too much slippage in anything that was attached to it, thus preventing the rotation of most drive axels and the gears could not stay in place.
It seems that the wheel propulsion idea is the way to go for initial take off. As I tested and also witnessed the propeller taxi/take-off did not have nearly enough speed/torque to get anything moving fast enough for a good distance. A light weight wheel base and some very large light weight wings made of a light wood frame and paper would have surly taken the contest title for distance. But under this design the contest would have been won but a chance at actual lift and flight would have not been possible, and where is the fun in that ☺.

Material Run down and Price list:

Computer mouse: Old Junk from Dell PC	Free
One 2 inch long screw	.05 cents
One Victor Brand mouse Trap	.50 cents
Foam-Core Poster Board	.50 cents
Knife to Carve Yuba College in Mouse	18.95 + TAX (just Kidding, I stole the knife from another contestant)

Rule Changes and Specifications for Next Year: Ahhh my Bread and Butter!
FIRST: Define WHICH end of the table the contraption must leave from, remember you can't be too specific about placement of things.
SECOND: In order to get more of a "flight"/ "glide" competition I would NOT have had a "runway". If the edge of the table is all that is allowed a little drag racer could not win by getting enough speed and simply rolling off of the end. It would force gliding, but then this also does throw out the chance of having actual "Flight" due to lift occur. It is a hard choice to make because nearly every student went all out and tried to get a "true take off".
And that's all I got, Good Luck for next year…I really hope they do Catapults, or walking things would be cool too.