

Inaugural egg drop...

First year experiment proves a success

By Morgan Tripp

Taking teaching to a whole new level, Antioch Community High School (ACHS) Physics teacher Jim McKay uses an experiment to make the complicated concepts and equations of Physics come to life.

The experiment was an egg drop, it took place on Thursday Oct. 25. It was designed to help McKay's students come up with and truly understand equations using

acceleration and velocity. "The lesson was designed to help the students understand the concepts and figure out, when they would have to drop the egg in a certain time frame in order to hit me, the moving target," said McKay.

With little help from McKay the students figured out the equations, get into groups of three or four people and then let the experiment begin.

The egg drop took place in the front foyer, each group got three tries

to hit McKay. The goal was to get the egg to crack over McKay's head.

"My group had three people in it and we hit him all three tries," said Heidi Soder ACHS senior.

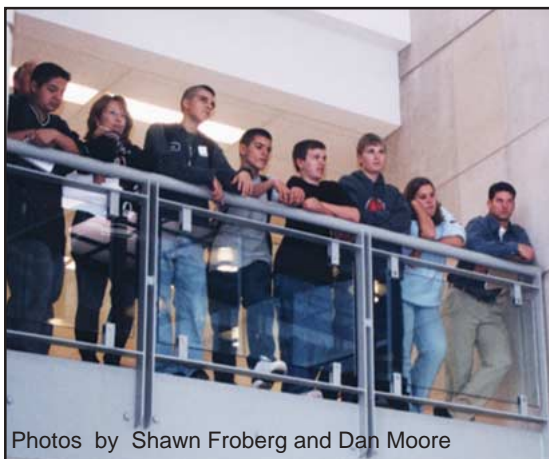
This was McKay's first year doing the egg drop at ACHS although McKay had done this experiment when he taught in Boston.

McKay had all four of his Physics classes participate in the egg drop. McKay expressed that seventy-five percent of his students were successful in hitting him.

"I promised each class that if two people from that class hit me on the head twice then they would get a pizza party," stated McKay.

Senior Mike Wheeler truly believed that it was helpful because you could calculate it and then see it in action.

EGGSPERIMENTING: ACHS physics students look on during the egg drop (left). Students drop eggs as Jim McKay walks under them in the front school foyer (right).



Photos by Shawn Froberg and Dan Moore

Young musicians display talent throughout world

By Andy Pruski

Midwest Young Artists (MYA) is the largest most complete Youth Music Ensemble Program in the Chicago area. MYA attracts students from a variety of areas, reaching as far north as Appleton WI, and as far south as Bourbonnais IL. Students from 64 cities are involved in MYA.

"It doesn't matter if you live in downtown Chicago or in the 'middle of no where', the need to be creative can be overwhelming," said MYA musical director Dr. Allan Dennis.

Last summer MYA took it's students on a trip to Europe where they performed in various locations such as Vienna, Budapest and Prague

Antioch Community High School senior and member of the MYA Symphony Orchestra Nathan Sackschewsky said, "It was great to play 11 concerts in 18 days."

MYA's efforts have not gone unnoticed; they have won numerous awards, including the 2001 Heidi Castleman Award for Excellence in Chamber Music Teaching, and the 2000 Music Director of the Year

Award. "We are committed to education and offering the best opportunities for our students, the best anywhere in the world!" said Dennis

Dennis's accomplishments include conducting with the Cedar Rapids Symphony, and the Albany Symphony. In addition to conducting and teaching, Dennis has performed with many non-classical artists, including Bob Hope, Liberace and John Denver. For those interested in learning, MYA also offers students a class in Theory, which is taught by Patricia Black every Saturday. As a result of being the largest, most complete Youth Music Ensemble Program in the area; MYA has alumni who are currently playing with the top U.S. orchestras and studying in music schools and conservatories worldwide.

"We have won many honors, however the biggest honor I have is when the students and adults I work with come back each week because they 'got something' from me/us when they were here the last time," said Dennis.



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