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Area Students to Compete in Trebuchet Hurling April 21

 APRIL 17, 2009 BY [ADMIN](#)



OXFORD, Miss. — Students in high school and middle school will compete in the third annual **Gravity-Driven Catapult (Trebuchet)** Hurling Competition Tuesday (April 21) at the University of Mississippi.

The competition begins at 9 a.m. in Vaught-Hemingway Stadium and features more than 15 trebuchet teams from nine schools around the state. The event is sponsored by the UM School of Engineering and the Mississippi Junior Academy of Science. The public, including school groups, are welcome to watch the competition.

Teams within individual schools will begin hurling at 9 a.m. to determine the two trebuchet teams that will represent their school in the final competition. After all trebuchets have been officially weighed and measured, the final competition will begin between 1 and 1:30 p.m.

"Engineers from FedEx in Memphis will be talking with students and judging the trebuchet designs," said Maxine Woolsey, educational outreach specialist in the School of Engineering and coordinator of the event. "Every student on every trebuchet team will have an opportunity to talk with engineers about their trebuchet design and construction."

Activities are planned throughout the day for the expected 182 visiting students and teachers. They will have the opportunity to visit UM's science, engineering and mathematics departments for tours and lab demonstrations. Upon registration, the students will receive T-shirts and be enrolled as members of MJAS.

An awards program is scheduled at 4 p.m., with winners chosen based on hurling distance and accuracy, as well as the trebuchet's height and design.

Past competitions were so successful that the activities have been moved outside this year to provide opportunities for students to design and construct even larger catapults, Woolsey said. The trebuchets can be up to 7-feet long in the rest position and can weigh up to 90 pounds.

"Much of the success of the events has been the interaction between the high school students and the (UM) engineering students," Woolsey said. "The engineering students will facilitate the competition and record the scores."

For additional information on the competition, contact Maxine Woolsey at mwoolsey@olemiss.edu or 662-915-1849. To request assistance related to a disability, contact the School of Engineering at 662-915-7407. For more information on the School of Engineering, go to <http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/engineering?school/>.

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Students Learn 'Real Politics' in Washington, D.C., Winter Session

OXFORD, Miss. — Eleven University of Mississippi students spent their winter break learning about the people who work behind the scenes of the American government in Washington, D.C. Lead by Jonathan Klingler, assistant professor of political science, the students of Pol 391: Applied Politics met not with candidates, but with the people who make candidates'

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OXFORD, Miss. — Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy's new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying "thank you." "It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK — The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to abate. The Federal Reserve's

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