2006 Physics Olympics

The Department of Physics and Astronomy is inviting each high school in the region to send one or more teams of four to compete in the Western Kentucky Physics Olympics. This year’s event will be held Saturday, February 25 from 8:30 a.m. until about 2:00 p.m. in the Thompson Center, Central Wing on WKU’s Bowling Green campus. The theme will be centered around “Star Wars”. The event will consist of five different activities.

The competition will commence with two activities that involve competitors arriving at the event ready to compete with devices they have designed, constructed, and tested. The Do-Ahead Project is currently being titled “Hans Solo in Carbonite”, and the Plan-Ahead Project is called “Evacuation of the Rebel Base”. The Calculation / Communication Challenge, requiring two members of the team to make a series of measurements and the other two members to use that data to calculate the desired result is still being planned. The final two events - the On-the-Spot Activity, a mostly hands-on, impromptu challenge, and the Order-of-Magnitude Quiz, a brain teaser which asks contestants to quickly estimate answers for extreme situations - will remain cloaked in secrecy until those events actually begin.

Additional details about the 2006 event will be announced soon. Registration: http://physics.wku.edu/olympics/