

Students strut their stuff at Science Olympiad

Clark College hosts 180 participants in five-event contest

The Columbian

Elementary school students spent Saturday flinging paper airplanes, bouncing balls of gunk and dropping raw eggs ensconced in protective baskets to demonstrate their scientific know-how at the Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament.

About 180 students, mostly third- through fifth-graders, participated in the tournament at Clark College, both as school-wide teams and as smaller groups

of a few students.

The competitions and their winners included:

Aerodynamics. Build two paper airplanes to be flown a distance of at least five meters, landing on a predetermined target.

1st: Union Ridge Elementary School (Ridgefield); 2nd: Dorothy M. Fox Elementary School, Black (Camas); 3rd: Maple Grove Primary School, Green (Battle Ground). The top small group was Maple Grove, Yellow.

Gunk: Design and test a ball of gunk (Elmer's glue, liquid starch and salt) that will bounce a certain height.

1st: Captain Strong Elementary School (Battle Ground);

2nd: Helen Baller Elementary School (Camas); 3rd: Hockinson Heights Intermediate School. The top small group was J.D. Zellerbach Elementary School, Black (Camas).

Metric Mastery: Estimate and measure mass, volume, distance, time and temperature using metric units.

1st: Hockinson Intermediate; 2nd: Maple Grove, Green; 3rd: Captain Strong. The top small group was Hockinson Heights Intermediate.

Mystery Architecture: Prove your ability to think on your feet by taking a bag of materials and building a freestanding tower as high as possible that supports a

tennis ball at its top,

1st: Helen Baller; 2nd: Lacamas Heights Elementary School (Camas); 3rd: Captain Strong. The top small group was Lacamas Heights, Yellow.

Straw Egg Drop: Make a device of straws and masking tape to hold a large, raw egg. The device containing the egg was dropped from a fixed height to a target. Devices whose eggs were unbroken and closest to the target scored the highest.

1st: Union Ridge; 2nd: J.D. Zellerbach, White; 3rd: Junior CAM (a home-school group from the Ridgefield area). The top small group was Hockinson.