

# NEWS RELEASE



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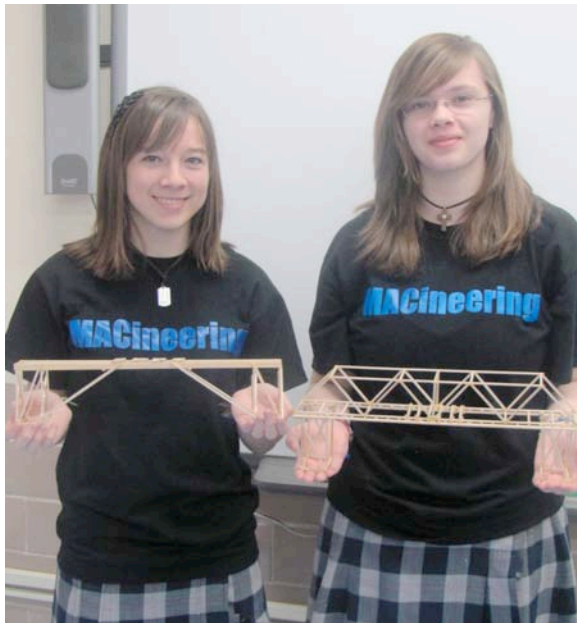
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## MCAULEY STUDENTS BUILD BRIDGES



*Mother McAuley seniors Angelina Crispo (left) and Tara Patrick (right) designed and constructed model bridges to enter into the 2011 Chicago Regional Bridge Building Competition.*

Two seniors from Mother McAuley High School participated in the 2011 Chicago Regional Bridge Building Competition held at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Seniors Angelina Crispo of Beverly and Tara Patrick of Mt. Greenwood each designed and constructed a bridge, with Angelina finishing 20th and Tara finishing 25th in the city competition. The competition was divided into three regions —Chicago City Regional, Chicago North Suburban Regional and Chicago South Suburban Regional — with nearly 150 students competing overall.

The object of the contest is for students to design, build and test efficient bridge construction given predetermined

specifications. Model bridges are intended to be simplified versions of real-world bridges, which are designed to accept a load in any position and permit the load to travel across the entire bridge. Competition loading stopped at 50 kg. The bridge with the highest structural efficiency was declared the winner.

The competition is designed to promote the study and application of fundamental principles of physics and help high school students develop “hands on” skills through bridge construction. By participating in the Bridge Building Competition students get a flavor of what it is to be an Engineer, designing structures to a set of specifications and then seeing them perform their function. They are also provided with an academically-oriented extracurricular activity which is recognized school-wide.

Angelina and Tara are both members of Mother McAuley’s Engineering Club.

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