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Science Notes - National School Science Safety Competition Launched

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Earth Day Teleconference

The Iowa Conservation Education Council, in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Iowa State University Cooperative Extension, is sponsoring a teleconference in celebration of the 20th anniversary of Earth Day.

Scheduled for April 6, 1990, the conference will originate from satellite uplink facilities at Iowa State University. The purpose of the program is to acquaint viewers with some basic, global environmental issues. Iowa teachers and students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to view the program (which airs from 9-10 a.m.) at any downlink site statewide. A portion of the on-air time will be devoted to questions telephoned in from the downlink sites.

Packets of pre- and post-conference activities will be provided to teachers free of charge upon request. To obtain activity packets or information regarding the locales of Iowa downlink sites, contact Jim Pease, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension, Science II, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011, ph. (515) 294-7429.

National School Science Safety Competition Launched

The best secondary school laboratory safety program will be recognized by the Curry College Laboratory Safety Workshop, Fisher Scientific's Education Materials Division and UVEX Winter Optical following a nationwide competition. The winning school will receive a \$1000 prize for its science department's safety program.

The awards program is described as part of the Laboratory Safety Workshop's efforts to make health and safety an integral and important part of the science curriculum. The project directors hope that this awards program will focus attention on safety in academic laboratories and help cut the accident rate in school labs nationwide. Statistics report that the accident rate in school and college labs may be from ten to one hundred times greater than in the chemical industry.

Entries for the competition, which will be held annually, must be received by August 31. The winner will be selected by a panel of judges by December 31 and publicly announced in the spring 1991 issue of the Laboratory Safety Workshop's newsletter, *Speaking of Safety*.

For more information about the awards program and application materials, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Laboratory Safety Workshop, Curry College, Milton, MA 02186 or call (617) 333-0500 (ext. 2220).