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## Science Notes - American Agri-Women Sponsor Science Fair Project Competition

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## SCIENCE NOTES

### Duracell Competition Offers Scholarships

Students wishing to compete for \$30,000 dollars in scholarships may enter the 1987 Duracell Scholarship Competition. Each year, Duracell sponsors the contest that asks students to create a device using Duracell batteries that is both practical and portable. Student inventions may be used to educate, entertain, warn, provide sound and/or light or simply make life easier in some way.

Students in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to compete. Each entry must be the entrant's own creation and be built solely by the student. Inventions may run only on Duracell alkaline batteries (sizes AAA, AA, D, C, 9-volt and lantern are acceptable, but only one size may be used and the total power supply must not exceed 12 volts or no more than 12 volts in each separate function of the device).

Representatives of the National Science Teachers Association and a panel of distinguished scientists and science educators will judge the projects, and winners will receive scholarships ranging from \$10,000 for first place to \$3,000 for second and \$500 for third. Twenty-five students will receive fourth place prizes of \$100 each. All entrants will receive a Duracell tee-shirt.

Last year's winners included Melvin Holmquist (Grand Rapids, Minnesota) and his Photovoltaic Bird Scale that weighs birds as they feed, Richard Fleming (Pocahontas County, West Virginia) and his Lighted Electronic Level and Becky Conrad (Akron, Ohio) and her Celestial Viewer.

Entry blanks and further information may be obtained by writing to Duracell Scholarship Competition, National Science Teachers Association, 1742 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D.C., 20009. Entries must be *received* by February 16, 1987.

— S.A.A.

### American Agri-Women Sponsor Science Fair Project Competition

The American Agri-Women, a coalition of farm, ranch and agri-business women, is sponsoring a competition for students interested in industrial agriculture. "Ag in the Classroom" has been designed to encourage junior and senior high school students to choose and complete a science fair project based on the production or use of an industrial crop.

The project was developed to encourage the investigation of industrial crops as an alternative to food production. The American Agri-Women feel that farmers in the heartland have been over-producing the traditional crops and, rather than searching for new food crops, should investigate the possibilities in raising crops for industrial purposes.

Among the prizes offered in the contest is an opportunity to apply for an apprenticeship at a local USDA Agricultural Research Station. A limited number of entry kits are available on a first-come-first-served basis. Interested students should contact Jean Ibendahl, Route One, Box 12, Tamaroa, Illinois, 62888 for more information. A teacher must co-sign the request for entry materials.

— S.A.A.