The Fly-off for the 1997/98 Cessna/ONR Student Design/Build/Fly competition was completed Saturday 25 April at Westport Airport in Wichita Kansas. The conditions were very challenging due to high and gusting winds but several teams were able to complete the specified mission profile, and many others made noteworthy attempts.

All 17 teams who completed the written report phase of the contest also made the Fly-off and all contestants made at least one flight attempt. This is twice as many teams as made the Fly-off for last year, and is a great sign for the future of the competition. Rules for the 1998/99 competition will be up on the contest web site, and e-mailed to all of this years participants, in a few weeks.

A further sign that the contest has a good future is the press and TV coverage we have obtained for this years competition. The event was noted on the local Channel 3 news, and will be reported in RC Report and Radio Control Modeler.

I would like to personally thank and commend all the students who participated in the contest this year for their efforts. Although the contest was developed by the AIAA Technical Committees, it is for the students. We are very glad to see that you find it to be worth while. I also want to thank our financial
supporters, Cessna and ONR, with a special thanks to our hosts, Cessna Aircraft and the Wichita RC Club, for making this competition possible.

So, without further ramblings, here are the scores for the 1997/98 competition.

1. Univ. of Southern California 1042.8 12 Laps x 86.9 Written
2. Texas A&M 516 6 Laps x 86.0 Written
3. Syracuse University 162.2 2 Laps x 81.1 Written
4. Univ. of Texas, Austin 138.8 2 Laps x 69.4 Written
5. Utah State University 91.9 Written
6. University of Illinois, UC 90.1 Written (6 laps best attempt)
7. Washington State Univ. 87.0 Written
8. Queens University, Canada 85.6 Written
9. Oklahoma State Univ. 82.5 Written
10. West Virginia 81.5 Written (5 laps best attempt)
11. MIT 79.8 Written (3 laps best attempt)
12. University of Alabama 69.5 Written
13. Virginia Polytechnic Univ. 67.2 Written (6 laps best attempt)
14. University of Arizona 64.1 Written
15. Univ. of Central Florida 58.3 Written
16. Univ. of California, Los Angeles 55.5 Written
17. San Diego State University 47.0 Written

(Laps noted as "best attempt" are flights which failed to meet the required criteria for a scored landing.)

Congratulations to all the participants, and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

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