

CWSF 2009 - Winnipeg, Manitoba



Claire Longcroft

Driven to Distraction - The Effect of Talking and Texting on

Division: Life Sciences / Automotive

Category: Junior

Region: Greater Vancouver

City: West Vancouver, BC

School: Collingwood School

Abstract: My experiment tested the effect on a driver's responsiveness of talking and text messaging on a cellular phone. I had 200 subjects perform 800 driving simulations under various conditions: no distractions; responding to questions through a hands-free device; through a cellular-phone; and through text messaging. I analyzed the data. I also designed, in concept, a cell-phone jammer to be installed in automobiles.

Biography

My name is Claire Longcroft and I am a student in Grade 8 at Collingwood School in West Vancouver. This is my second time attending the Canada Wide Science Fair and I am extremely excited to be involved again. My school life is very active as I am involved in both the basketball and volleyball teams. I also have been a successful member of the debate team, finishing 2nd in B.C. this year. I have put my oration skills to use as an ambassador for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation sharing my personal experience of living with Juvenile Diabetes. This has provided me the opportunity to meet Prime Minister Harper in 2007 on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. In my free time, I keep myself busy by volunteering at the local community center teaching small children gymnastics and supervising day camps. I also help out at the local Arts Festival in the summer. Being only in Grade 8, I am not sure what my future will hold, but I know that Science Fairs have taught me to strive for excellence wherever my life takes me.

Awards

Value

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| The Actuarial Foundation of Canada Award - Junior | \$500 |
| The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$1500 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario | \$1 500 |
| The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario | \$1 000 |
| Bronze Medal - Health Sciences - Junior Sponsor: Canadian Institutes of Health Research | \$300 |
| Silver Medal - Automotive - Junior Sponsor: AUTO21 | \$700 |
| Total | \$4 000 |