

## A Tortoise Wins the Race

Cars jumping barriers, a broken gearbox, and fierce competition were all part of the fourth annual Model Design Competition at ASEE's 2002 annual conference in Montreal. Held by ASEE's Two-year College Division (TYCD), the contest featured nine battery-powered vehicles created from scratch by teams of enthusiastic engineering students from two-year colleges, as well as freshmen and sophomores from four-year colleges. With remote con-

trols prohibited, a \$300 price limit, and a maximum size of 5 X 7 X 15 inches, each vehicle had to navigate a maze-like track as quickly as possible without input from team members.

For the second year in a row, Cedarville narrowly defeated second place finisher Illinois Central College, whose car was also designed to drive over the barriers. Tidewater Community College's third place "Car Team" chose precision over power and used optical sensors to guide its car around barriers by following the path of black electrical tape placed the length of the track. For Tidewater's other competing vehicle, "Team Tank," a broken gear-

box and bad timing proved too much to overcome, as the only tank of the competition got stuck on a barrier during its run. Other schools that participated in the competition were Purdue University, Monroe Community College, Broome Community College, and Central Carolina Community College.

the 2002 model competition, as well as additional guidelines for the 2003 competition in Nashville, visit [www.tcc.vccs.edu/studorgs/vbeng/aseecar/](http://www.tcc.vccs.edu/studorgs/vbeng/aseecar/) or contact Paul Gordy, ASEE TYCD vice chair at [pgordy@tcc.vccs.edu](mailto:pgordy@tcc.vccs.edu).

The winning teams of the 2002 TYCD National Design Competition are:

### First Place Team

**COLLEGE:** Cedarville University (Cedarville, Ohio)

**STUDENT TEAM MEMBERS:** Michael Walker (captain), Dave Bartlett, Silas Gibbs, and Tim Linden

**FACULTY ADVISOR:** Dr. Clint Kohl

### Second Place Team

**COLLEGE:** Illinois Central College (East Peoria, Ill.)

**STUDENT TEAM MEMBERS:** Robert Warden (captain), Dale Johnson, Bryan McIntosh, and Shaun Woolard

**FACULTY ADVISOR:** Robert Bloompott

### Third Place Team

**COLLEGE:** Tidewater Community College (Virginia Beach, Va.)

**STUDENT TEAM MEMBERS:** Craig Byl (captain), Robert Sereno, Michael French, Jennifer Martin, Josh Dart, Jayson Humrich, and Brett Byers

**FACULTY ADVISORS:** Paul Gordy and Steve Ezzell.



THE CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY TEAM POSES WITH THEIR 1ST PLACE CAR, "THE TORTOISE".

First place finisher Cedarville University's "Tortoise" bypassed the track's maze altogether and successfully climbed over the separating barriers of the maze with a microprocessor-controlled car that utilized ramps to climb over barriers. Victorious

controls prohibited, a \$300 price limit, and a maximum size of 5 X 7 X 15 inches, each vehicle had to navigate a maze-like track as quickly as possible without input from team members.

Next year's competition will feature a rectangular track layout with numerous shortcuts. For photos, videos, and rules of