



# Newsletter

## Odyssey of the Mind

VOLUME 14

NUMBER 5

FALL 1992


### Odyssey of the Mind European Organizing Committee

**A** new organization that supports the international expansion of the Odyssey of the Mind school program has formed. At its first organized meeting in Potsdam, Germany, Dr. Karl Plagemann, Germany OM Director, was elected to direct this committee.

This body is called the OM European Organizing Committee (OMEOC for short) and consists of European countries that participate in the Odyssey of the Mind program and are interested in furthering the program in Europe.


This committee formed with a desire to accomplish three goals: first, increase public awareness of the OM program in Europe; second, obtain funding for European team participation in World Finals; third, provide teams with the opportunity to participate in a European Odyssey of the Mind festival.

The festival will have many of the same components as an Odyssey of the Mind competition. However, the purpose will be to provide teams with the *experience* of competing. Although teams will be judged, they will not be ranked or eliminated from possible participation in World Finals.

With this program, teams that have no opportunity to compete unless they come to World Finals, will be able to experience the thrill of an OM competition right in their backyard! 

### Germany Forms OM Association

**L**ast winter, Dr. Micklus travelled internationally to increase OM expansion in Europe. His trip brought him on a whirlwind tour of Belgium, England and Germany and was sponsored by DoDDs (Department of Defense Schools, Atlantic Region). The purpose was to increase awareness of the OM program to folks native to these countries.

This initial work late in 1991 led to the 1992 formation of a chartered OM Association in Germany. Led by Dr. Karl Ernst Plagemann, this association combines member schools from the US Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Germany and native schools in Germany. 

### WAYNE KEHRLI JOINS OM BOARD

**M**r. Wayne Kehrli joined the Board of Directors of OM Association, Inc. in June 1992. Wayne has a long-time relationship with the Odyssey of the Mind program. He and his wife Karen became pioneer coaches when their son Steven volunteered them in their Pleasant Valley, New York, community. Wayne went on to serve on the NY OM Board of Directors and became a state judges' trainer.

Many of you know Wayne from the *OM Judges' Training Videotapes*. He has served as the International Problem Captain for *Buggy Lite*, *Hybrid Relays* and this year's *Pit Stop*.

Wayne is employed by IBM at the Fishkill Plant in East Fishkill, New York. There he manages a group of programmers and engineers who develop electronic design automation software. He replaces Dr. Ron Todd, who has given many years of service to the OM organization. 




Wayne Kehrli

### Welcome!

### Rhode Island Joins OM

**R**hode Island became the 47th state to become an OM chartered association. Carol Shannon, association director, is based in Warwick, RI.

To initiate charter status, Carol contacted twenty Rhode Island schools in May and invited them to a June meeting. From that initial group, Carol formed the RI Board of Directors and they set out to write bylaws.

While Rhode Island's membership is currently small, Carol's plans are to increase awareness and to build membership in our newest domestic association. 

## A New Odyssey of the Mind Book is Now Available

Millions of people involved in the Odyssey of the Mind say that the program "gets in their blood." We call this condition OMermania! *OMermania!* is the title of Dr. Micklus' newest book. Readers will enjoy the foreword of this book, written by Dr. E. Paul Torrance. In the first chapter, entitled "A Good Sense of Humor" (something appreciated by all OMers), Betty Vogel, a long-time OM coach and curriculum writer, describes how to write a parody. The book includes 12 long-term problems, 40 spontaneous problems and 17 nonlinguistic spontaneous problems. It is 136 pages with a multicolor cover. The price is \$19.50 plus \$1.75 shipping and handling.

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *OMermania!* at \$19.50 each plus \$1.75 postage and handling for the first book and \$1.00 for each additional book. (Outside of North America shipping is \$4.00 per book.) Please ship to:

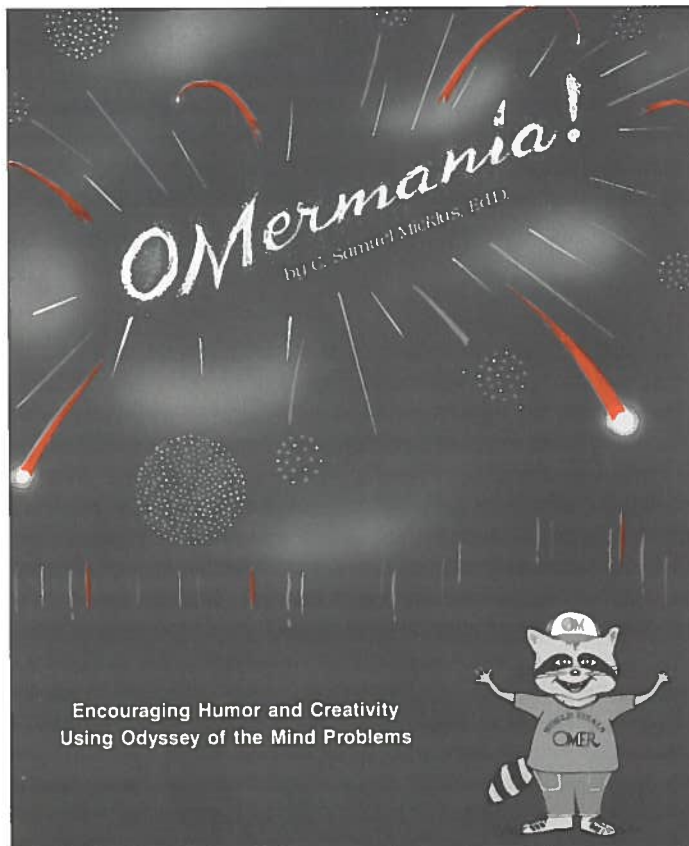
Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## OM NOTES

- \* Betty Schmidt, Association Director in Michigan asked last year's OMers, "What do you like about OM?" She published these pearls of wisdom in MIOM's summer newsletter:  
Elizabeth Brunink, 14, McBain Rural Agricultural School: *Failure isn't defeat until you stop trying.*  
Eric Davidson, 9, Dearborn Henry Haigh ES: *I can work better with a team than I can work for myself.*  
Kristie Keenon, 11, Mason Stelle Street ES: *Try when trying is the hardest.*  
Jeff Orleman, 10, Rochester Hills Musson ES: *Don't think the ordinary. Think EXTRAORDINARY.*  
Jonathan Pott, 17, Hamilton Jr/Sr HS: *Learning problem solving and learning to do it in an innovative way is a skill which will be highly prized in the community of tomorrow. New problems require new ways of thinking to solve them, and OM begins training for that.*  
Shane Waller, 13, Rochester Hills West MS: *We get a chance to really do whatever we want and not have the parents always telling us what we should do.*
- \* Sara (Hassell) Hakeem, a 1991-92 regional director in Tennessee, wrote to tell us that this was one unusual summer! In addition to marrying, she retired from her position as Supervisor of Instruction in Trenton, TN. Her own children, proud of her many accomplishments with her students, honored her by contributing resource materials to be used by Trenton Special School District OMers. Sara assures us she will not be spending idle time during her retirement. She intends to teach two courses at the University of Tennessee at Martin and plans to spend more time with OM and other activities that have given additional meaning to her life. In addition, she promises that new husband Phil will become a certified OM judge this year.
- \* Herb Sebren, professor emeritus at Old Dominion University in Virginia, passed away in August 1992. Herb was a teacher and a musician and worked for many years as an OM judge.
- \* Nebraska OM, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, has received both financial and in-kind support from First Data Resources, Inc. for the past three years. FDR has contributed monies, judges, tournament assistants and is now publishing and mailing a state-wide newsletter to all NOM'ers.
- \* It's never too early to start OM! Rebecca Else of Gothenberg, NE, started at three weeks of age when she went to the OM World Finals in Boulder, CO, to cheer on Nebraska teams.  
OM is a family affair for the Elses. Becca's mom, Trudy, coaches. Her dad, Dan, judges competitions. Sisters Kori and Sara—and brother Robbie—have competed in five different World Finals competitions among them.

(Continued on page 11)

## Dinosaur History Quiz

By Mary T. Kirk

How much do you know about dinosaurs? Test your dinosaur knowledge with the story below. Fill in the missing words from the list of answers.

During prehistoric times, the earth consisted of one continent in one ocean. The first creatures to evolve were sea creatures. Some evolved into amphibians, some amphibians evolved into reptiles and some reptiles evolved into dinosaurs. The word dinosaur means terrible \_\_\_\_\_.

The first dinosaur appeared on the earth about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago. The dinosaurs roamed the earth approximately 140 million years. They lived during three geologic periods: Triassic, followed by \_\_\_\_\_, and finally Cretaceous.

The earliest known dinosaur on earth was \_\_\_\_\_. This dinosaur was a two-legged, fast-running, meat eater. Later, during the Jurassic period, the largest dinosaur known to man today, \_\_\_\_\_, lived on earth. During the Cretaceous period, a wide variety of known dinosaurs existed such as the three-horned, \_\_\_\_\_; the armored \_\_\_\_\_; the large, fierce \_\_\_\_\_; the duckbilled \_\_\_\_\_; and the largest flying dinosaur \_\_\_\_\_.

The first recorded dinosaur \_\_\_\_\_ was found around 1820.

Many scientists believe that dinosaurs were warm-blooded like mammals and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Answers:**

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ultrasaurus       | 7. lizard          |
| 2. 200 million       | 8. Lambeosaurus    |
| 3. Ankylosaur        | 9. Triceratops     |
| 4. Fossil            | 10. Staurikosaurus |
| 5. Jurassic          | 11. birds          |
| 6. Tyrannosaurus Rex | 12. Quetalcoatlus  |

Answer Key to Dinosaur History Quiz on page 5.

## Briefly Speaking

The OM Board of Directors met on June 28, 1992. Highlights of the meeting follow:

- \* The membership report presented listed a total of 10, 269 members for 1991-92. Of this total, there were 9,863 members in the US; 186 Canadian memberships; 51 DoDDS members and 169 additional international memberships.
- \* Bob Purifico was reappointed for a three-year term.
- \* The Scholarship Committee reviewed and revised the scholarship selection process.
- \* The Board adopted a resolution that OM Association Board of Directors be organized into seven Standing Committees.
- \* The Board moved to accept the criteria for the Spirit of OM Award.
- \* The Board grandfathered memberships for all 1992-93 Community groups. It also agreed, for the 1992-93 year, to consider special exceptions for 1991-92 program members if they complied with the OM membership rules that governed that category.



## Setting the Record Straight: on the 1992 World Finals

### Hybrid Relays, Division III

Third-place team members from Urbandale HS in IA, were incorrectly listed in the 1992 summer issue of the *OM Newsletter*. Their names are correctly listed below:

**Coach:** Rich Safris

**Team Members:** Jenna Dunbar Darcy Murphy Mike Safris  
Steve Safris Eric Shields Julie Waggoner

### Delayed Reaction, Division III

The fourth place team members (3-way tie) in Delayed Reaction, Barnwell HS in SC also were not properly identified. Their names are:

**Coach:** Dennis Hutto

**Team Members:** Chuck Arbogast Lisa Bishop Laura Hardy  
Phillip Hutto Rebecca Pait Michelle Smith  
Zaneta Wright

### Ranatra Fusca Award

Hybrid Relay, Division II team members were incorrectly listed. The correct names are:

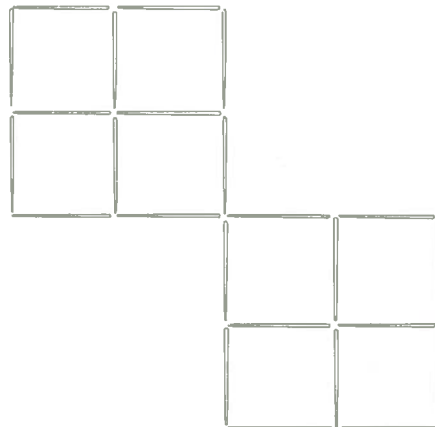
**Coach:** Mary James

**Team Members:** Amanda Cook Bridget DeName Erin Jones  
Amanda Littlejohn Brian Ochley Matt Rufli  
Ariane Williams

## Toothpick Territory

Courtesy of Provoking Thoughts Card Set—a set of 360 cards with critical-thinking exercises. Available from the Institute for the Development of Educational Alternatives, PO Box 1004, Austin, MN.

Many different constructions can be made from 24 toothpicks. Here is a way to form exactly 10 squares:

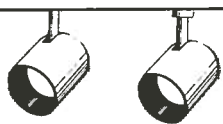


**Here is your challenge:** Using exactly 24 toothpicks each time, make constructions that have: *nine squares, eight squares, seven squares, six squares, five squares, four squares and three squares.*

Solutions to *Toothpick Territory*, page 5.



## SPOTLIGHT



### *Spotlight on Janet and Jimmie Jones...*

"OM has been a very prominent and special part of our lives for seven years," says Janet Jones, feature writer for the *OM Newsletter*. "It is so rewarding to watch the creative process at work, and even more wonderful to see children gain confidence in their own abilities."

Janet and husband Jim coached three Division III teams while their youngest son, Evan, was in high school.

Janet has served as regional Problem Captain and judged at regional, state and World Finals competitions.

She works full time as the office manager of an insurance and real estate office in Borger, Texas. Janet is also an independent cosmetics consultant and an OM advocate.

Jim Jones, a systems analyst who has worked for 28 years at Phillips [66] Petroleum, also does freelance computer consultation. Currently he serves OM as the International Scoring Problem Captain. His principal responsibility is setting up and overseeing the Score Room at the World Finals competition.

Jim began as a parent-coach, held the position of regional director for Northwest Texas OM, and served on the Texas OM Board. In more recent years, Jim assumed the responsibilities for Regional and Texas Association Finals Scoring Room operations. It began with a regional director asking him, "Do you by chance know anything about computers?" When he told her that's how he made his living, she said, "Come with me." As Jim said, "That was in 1986 and I haven't left the scoring room yet!"

Janet and Jimmie Jones have two sons, Jay Scott, 25, a disc jockey and production assistant at a radio station in Alabama, and Evan O'Conner, who is currently touring the US, Canada and Europe as a member of the performing group, *Up With People!* A five-year OMer, Evan was the recipient of an OM Honda Scholarship in 1990. He received several OM awards, including the (individual) Ranatra Fusca, and won the opportunity to go to World Finals three times.

OM thanks Janet and Jimmie Jones for their volunteer efforts! 

## Scholarship Update

Anna Gonowon was one of the 1992 recipients of an OM Chevron Scholarship. Anna was an OM participant for four years. Recently, she and an OM coach, Mylinda Nelson from Arkansas, presented a program about OM to a local Rotary Club. Anna told the members there that her experience in OM had helped her develop confidence and expression, as well as creativity. She credited her OM experience with helping her through the scholarship application process, which included both essays and personal interviews.

Anna was recently honored with another scholarship award. She was selected from among 475 applicants as the top recipient of the Designing Women Scholarship. As a result, she will receive a four-year scholarship of up to \$100,000 and the designation as the Designing Woman for 1992. Anna plans to attend Duke University this fall, where she will major in pre-med.

The Designing Woman Scholarships were established by Linda Bloodworth Thomason, creator of the popular television shows, *Designing Women* and *Evening Shade*. The scholarship program is administered by the Claudia Company and Educational Testing Service.

Anna, who also was ranked number one in her graduating class at Blytheville High School, received a Wal-Mart Scholarship and other local awards. We share in her pride as she moves on to college and a new phase in her young, rich life.

*Note: 1992-93 OM Scholarship applications are due to OM headquarters by January 4, 1993. Applications are included in each membership packet.*

### **How to Kick Off OM... in your Neighborhood!**

*(Courtesy of Nebraska OM's fall newsletter)*

A fun, creative and almost foolproof way to build an OM team is to hold a "Fall OM Kick-Off Party".

Select a one-hour warm-up activity from one of the OM books. Invite all interested participants to attend and ask each one to bring a parent—or any adult—that might want to participate. Divide attendees into teams. Then, give them one hour to solve the "problem." Later, allow five minutes for each performance.

Allow adults to participate—just this once—stressing that **real** OM team involvement is adult-free.

A sign-up sheet after the event—for both coaches and teams—can yield more than you bargained for!



### OMER's Memories of Colorado:

The excitement is over,  
I've had a good nap,  
And here I am sitting  
pins spread 'cross my lap.

Looking o'er my collection  
each pin brings to view  
Special smiles, special hugs,  
special memories of you.

You came to perform,  
to show off your stuff,  
Yet you cheered for each other  
winning was not enough.

You broke records with Atlas,  
Alice went on a trip,  
Built unusual OMnuments  
with never a slip.

Each reaction was planned,  
some successful, some not,  
And hybrid cars ran  
toward balloons for the pop!

You gave frOM your hearts  
and the world saw OM  
As working together  
hearts filled to the brim.

Our schedules were busy  
but still you found ways  
To save time for pictures  
of those super days.

Hold on to those memories,  
as you start the new year,  
Let them help you prepare  
for the time when you'll cheer

As we gather in Maryland,  
new solutions to show  
'Til then . . .

LET OM CREATIVITY FLOW!

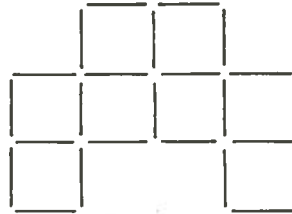


### Answer Key to Dinosaur Quiz on page 3

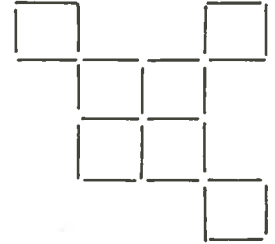
7, 2, 5, 10, 1, 9, 3, 6, 8, 12, 4, 11

### Answer Key to Toothpick Territory on page 3

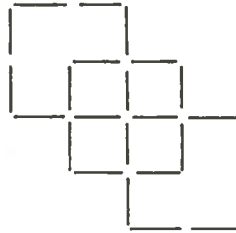
9 squares



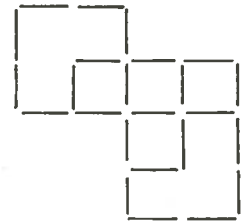
8 squares



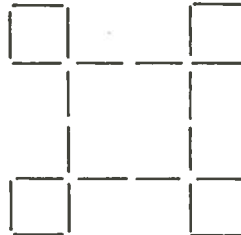
7 squares



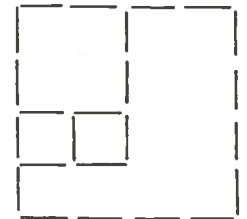
6 squares



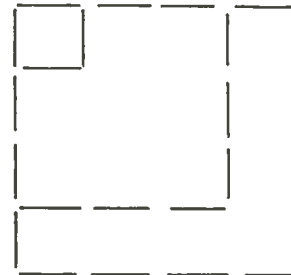
5 squares



4 squares



3 squares



## COACHES' CORNER

*"Remembering . . ."*

### Coaching an OM Team

by Judy Simons  
Nebraska OM Coach

September had come and school had started,  
With books in hand my sons departed.  
I was looking forward to a quiet fall,  
And then.....I got the call.

"We know you've coached OM before,"  
"Won't you do it just once more?"  
Such a good program is hard to resist,  
So once again OM topped my list.

October came and went,  
A set of problems I was sent,  
And, what may I ask is an "OMument"?

November saw the teams selected,  
Now those seven kids and I were permanently  
connected!

December was the month we all talked and planned,  
Not one single suggestion did we ban.

An "OMument" they decided to make,  
And the team said, "Should be a piece of cake!"  
January was a busy time:  
Script to write! Should it rhyme?

Scenery built by an assembly line,  
Remember to watch how we spend every dime!  
February came and the wheels were spinning,  
Do you think we have a chance of winning?

But that's not important to us now,  
Considering what we've accomplished . . . WOW!


All seven of us had a job to do,  
We made time for Spontaneous practice too.  
With March here we didn't miss a beat,  
Lots of rehearsing and tired feet.

Soon the big day had come,  
Our competition had begun.  
At Regionals our team was put to the test,  
And we were picked as one of the best.

We had no time to stop and worry,  
Our team was headed to the State Tourney  
The first week of April was the date,  
We were all excited and couldn't wait.

When the scores were counted we were first in the state!  
And so for the third year in a row,  
Off to World Finals we would go.

Those few days in May were the best of all,  
Our entire team had a ball!  
We watched others perform, made friends  
and traded pins,  
We didn't want it all to end.

All those days, weeks, and months had so  
quickly passed by,  
Was that a tear in our coach's eye?  
Our team had one final thing to say,  
"THANKS OM for letting us do it our way!!!!" 

*"Preparing . . ."*

### Lessons from Geese

by Milton Olson\*

1. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in a "v" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if the bird flew alone.

LESSON: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

2. Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into the formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird in front.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as the goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go (and be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to others).

3. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

LESSON: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and share leadership—with people as well as geese, we are interdependent on each other.

4. The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

LESSON: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging—and not something else.

5. When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, with another formation, or catch up with the flock.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as the geese, we too will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

\*Thanks to Jill Schoonmaker, NH OM Association Director, for passing this along. 

### Problem Clarifications

#### Which End is Up?

1. The structure may not have vertical pieces perpendicular to the base which go to the length of the structure.

2. One end of the structure must fit over and fully contact the surface supporting a 6" x 6" x 1" block, and one end of the structure must fit inside of and fully contact the surface supporting a 4" x 4" x 1" block. The structure may not touch either block.

#### Pit Stop

1. A JACK must produce a linear movement. Although the source of movement may be in any direction, the resultant movement of the JACK must be in a straight line (approximate—meaning not circular). All examples of a JACK is *Webster's Dictionary* meet this restriction. This prohibits a socket wrench, by itself, being used to directly turn a wheel.

*"Reminding . . ."*

**To:** Parents of children in *Odyssey of the Mind*

**From:** Tom Cairns, OM coach, Philadelphia, PA\*

We are all well into our *Odyssey of the Mind* preparation and are having a fun time. The kids are excited and having a good time, while learning critical thinking skills and creative problem solving. I'm writing this to tell you how you can help us and what we are doing.


Here's how you can help:

1. Take an interest in what your child is doing in OM. Ask what was done in each meeting, what was learned and how that is helping them prepare for regional competition. Encourage them in every way you can.


2. Do not give your child any ideas for our long-term problem. Our team can be disqualified or lose a large number of points for getting "outside assistance." When we go to competition, judges will be quizzing kids as to where they got their ideas, how they made the things they made, etc. If they find that anyone besides the team helped them, even by giving them one idea, we will be penalized or disqualified. Personally I find this a terrible temptation as a parent and as a coach, and you may too as a parent. I get into the project as much as they do and I have some great ideas they could use, but I keep all of them to myself. You CAN make comments to them to teach them how to think or to encourage them to be more creative.

3. The time may come when your child may start to get tired or bored with OM. Please encourage her/him to continue since this is part of the learning experience. Nothing good in life comes by quitting whenever something gets tiring, boring or difficult.

4. This is the first time I have coached a team, so I don't know what is "normal" for a team of this age (or any age). However, I do know that one of the most important problems our team faces every time we meet is how to cooperate, work together and come up with the best solutions that everybody agrees with. I hope the older teams are better at this (because they are more mature) because this is quite a challenge for seven fourth graders and their coach. If this were a sports team it would be easier because I would make them cooperate while I taught the skills and plays they needed. But with OM they have to learn to work together with their own ideas in their own way. They are learning some very valuable lessons that will serve them well the rest of their lives. They are learning things that will make them natural leaders with their peers and able to get along well with all kinds of people.

\*Thanks to Joy Kurtz, International Spontaneous Problem Captain, for passing this along. 

## *Dates set for 1993 OM World Finals*

This year's World Finals competition will be held at the University of Maryland, College Park. Teams can come to campus beginning June 1. Opening ceremonies will take place in the evening on June 2 with competition on June 3, 4 and 5, 1993. 

## **THE TORNADO THAT SWEEPED THROUGH OUR HOUSE...**

*by Janet Jones*

OM Judge, feature writer and (retired) OM Coach

*(Author's note: Heartfelt sympathy goes out to all the OMers and their families and friends that have suffered from the terrible damage done by the severe storms (or firestorms) this year in Florida, Texas, California and many other states.)*

'Tis the season! Not yet yuletide, it is nonetheless the time of the year when a frenzy of activity is soon to begin. It's not time for St. Nick, but it is a time of lists, hurried purchases and craft supplies. We may be in a hurricane season for another kind of phenomenon: the OM tornado.

If you have already experienced this remarkable time of year, you can skip to the next article without penalty. If you have not yet had the pleasure, let's talk.

An *Odyssey of the Mind* team is much more than it seems. After all, it involves only seven lovely, intelligent children. Bright and creative, they are also neat, obedient and self-disciplined, right? Yeah, right. (Can you see me wink?) These are kids. KIDS. And, as every TV commercial would remind you, kids make messes. An OM team's messes are different in one respect: they make a mess in someone else's house. If that house is going to be yours, as it once was mine, here's a survival guide:

- Expect it. Chuck the Supermom/Dad image for the duration. This is not going to look so great for several weeks. And that's okay. Trust me on this.
- Do require regular cleanup. Make the Cleanup Captain a leadership position! (Now, now, if you take it seriously, maybe, just maybe, the kids will too!) Corollary Rule: Everybody helps clean up even if only one or two made the mess. This is called teamwork.
- It is ok to spraypaint on grass. (They can make cool designs, and it will be mowed away in a few weeks anyway.) No exception to this rule.
- Inside, only let them create in rooms with dark colored carpet or better yet—no carpet at all. If all carpeting is light colored, it's ok to use tempera paint, without water.

One last point. Commit this to memory: Those are not paint stains on the garage floor, those are memories!

*(Author's note: A special thanks to my son Evan for the content of this article.)* 

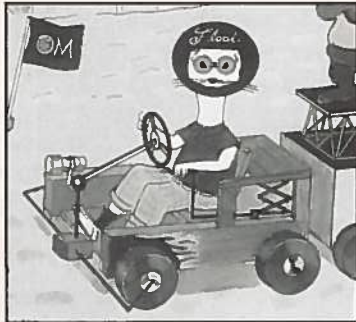
## PROBLEM PROCEDURES

### Problem #1 (Divisions II, III and IV)

#### Pit Stop

by Wayne R. Kehrl, International Problem Captain

Approximately 15 minutes before the team's scheduled competition time, a Staging Area Judge meets all team members and the coach(es). At that time, the Staging Area Judge directs them to enter the staging area with their vehicle, props, and membership sign.



The team presents all of the forms, including the Outside Assistance Form, two Style Forms, the Cost Form (Divisions II and III), and any Problem Clarifications. The Staging Area Judge inspects the membership sign. The team is then asked to review the vehicle with the judge who will check the propulsion system, safety, and the wheels. Additionally, the Staging Area Judge points out specific areas that relate to the course and answers any questions that the team may have. The judge will then direct the team to place the vehicle behind the start line. After the team returns to the staging area, the Staging Area Judge will dismiss the non-performing team members and the coaches. The Timekeeper is introduced to the team and then announces the team to the audience.

At the Timekeeper's signal, time begins and the team removes everything from the staging area (failure to do so within three minutes will result in a penalty) and proceeds with the problem solution, including any set-up required and Style.

The driver and/or operator will get on or into the vehicle. Other team members may also be on the vehicle. The vehicle will travel around a course and make one or more pit stops. At some point the vehicle must travel in reverse and come to rest in the area designated as the PIT. In the PIT, the team will change the vehicle's appearance and travel part of the journey in full glory. Scoring of the long-term solution includes: creativity of the vehicle's functional design; creativity of the theme; the effect of the full glory; traveling in reverse and stopping in the PIT; and completing the required laps.

This is a non-linguistic problem (Division IV may use language) and the style may proceed throughout the entire competition period. Either at the end of eight minutes or before if the team notifies the judges, the competition ends. Usually the judges will then meet with the team to discuss the solution.

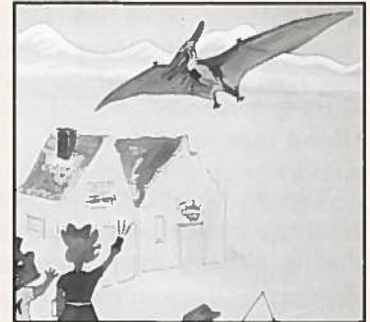
Unless otherwise indicated, the Head Judge reviews with the coach or Division III or IV team captain the team's long-term raw score including penalties, but not Style, as soon as it is compiled. The coach should inquire when and where this review takes place.

### Problem #2 (Divisions I, II, and III)

#### Dinosaurs

by Alice McRae, International Problem Captain

At some tournaments a pre-staging area may be designated outside the performance room. When the team is called by the Staging Area Judge, all team members and the coach will proceed to the designated pre-staging area with all problem solutions, props, back-



ground scenery, membership sign and any team-provided equipment. The team will present: two copies of its Style Form; a Cost Form; Outside Assistance Form; Problem Clarifications (if any); membership sign; picture with caption or description authenticating the real dinosaur; two copies of the list of tasks in B.4,d of the problem indicating which dinosaurs will complete which tasks and in what order. The Staging Area Judge will then check for the safety of any devices or special effects and answer team questions.

When the Staging Area Judge has completed his/her responsibilities and answered all team questions, the team and coach then will be given three minutes to clear the pre-staging area and proceed to the staging area adjacent to the 7' x 10' performance area. Anyone may assist in this movement.

At this time a judge, in most cases the Timekeeper, will give a final explanation about the performance area, answer any additional questions, and then ask the non-performing team members and coach to leave the staging area and sit in their designated seats, if provided by the tournament director. After this, no one may assist the five performing long-term team members in any way until the presentation is completed.

The Timekeeper will then introduce the team to the audience and signal for the time to begin. The team then has eight minutes for setup, style and presenting its solution. Time will **not** be called at the end of the eight minutes, but any team using more time will receive a penalty.

**If no pre-staging area is used**, after the time begins the team must clear the staging area within three minutes after time begins.

The team may use the panels provided by the Tournament Director or provide its own. If the team provides its own, the cost must be included on the Cost Form. The panels provided will be in the center rear of the competition area; they may be moved anywhere on the site once time begins, but must be returned to their original position by the team members at the end of their solution. In Division I, if the panels are determined to be too heavy for team members to move, the Staging Area Judge will explain the procedure that is being used for their movement, generally



by a judge prior to the performance. As soon as the team finishes its solution, it should tell the judges.

The judges may have questions or may wish to look at props, dinosaurs, or backdrops, so team members should leave their solution until the judges tell them they may leave. They should quickly clear and clean the area for the next team, and replace the two 4' x 5' panels to their original position (unless Division I and the judges moved them). Anyone may help the team with cleanup.

Unless otherwise indicated, the Head Judge reviews with the coach or Division III or IV team captain the team's long-term raw score including penalties, but **not** Style, as soon as it is compiled. The coach should inquire when and where this review takes place.

Problem #3 (Divisions I, II, III and IV)

**Classics . . . The Old Man and the Sea Analogy**  
by Rita Sleeman, International Problem Captain

At some tournaments a pre-staging area may be designated outside the performance room. When the team is called by the Staging Area Judge, all team members and the coach will proceed to the designated pre-staging area with all problem solutions, props, background scenery, membership sign and any team-provided equipment. The team will present two copies of its Style Form, a Cost Form, Outside Assistance Form and Problem Clarification(s), if any.



When the Staging Area Judge has completed his/her responsibilities and answered all team questions, the team and coach then will be given three minutes to clear the pre-staging area and proceed to the staging area adjacent to the 7' x 10' performance area. (Refer to C7 in the problem for further explanation.) Anyone may assist in this movement.

At this time a judge, in most cases the Timekeeper, will give a final explanation about the performance area, answer any additional questions, and then ask the non-performing team members and coach to leave the staging area and sit in their designated seats, if provided by the Tournament Director. After this, no one may assist the five performing long-term team members in any way until the presentation is completed.

At the Timekeeper's signal, the eight-minute-time limit will begin and the team will proceed with its set up, Style and long-term presentation. If a team wants the 4' x 5' panels moved or removed, the five long-term team members must do so during the eight-minute time limit. In Division I, if the panels are determined to be too heavy for team members to move, the Staging Area Judge will explain the procedure that is being used for their movement, generally by a judge prior to the performance. Plugging in an extension cord and, if possible at the facility, turning lights on and off are part of the time limit.

**If no pre-staging area is used**, after the time begins the team must clear the staging area within three minutes after time begins.

The team should be prepared to indicate to the judges when its performance is finished. If the team required more than eight minutes, judges will assess a penalty; however, time will not be called. The Timekeeper's time is the official time and no other time will be considered.

At the conclusion of the performance the judges may look at the background scenery, costumes, and/or props and ask the team questions about its solution. The judges will inform the team members when they may move out of the presentation area. The team must replace the two 4' x 5' panels to their original position (unless Division I and the judges moved them) and clean up all remaining debris. Unless otherwise indicated, the Head Judge reviews with the coach or Division III or IV team captain the team's long-term raw score including penalties, but **not** Style, as soon as it is compiled. The coach should inquire when and where this review takes place.

Problem #4 (Divisions I, II and III)

**Which End is UP?**

by Dr. Fred Bradley, International Problem Captain

Before their scheduled competition time, one or more team members bring their structure to the weigh-in site. A Weigh-in Judge weighs the structure, makes appropriate measurements, and notes any penalties. If appropriate, team members may make corrections to their structure at this time.



After completing the weigh-in sheet, the Weigh-in Judge may tag and store the structure until approximately fifteen minutes before the team's scheduled competition time. If structures are stored by the judges, only the team member(s) can pick up the structure and carry it to the staging area.

In the staging area, the Staging Area Judge will direct the team to remove its structure from the storage container and will identify the team members and coach(es) and will collect all necessary forms. The Staging Area Judge will give the Style Forms to the Style Judges and will inform the Style Judges if any portion of Style will be performed after the structure breaks. The Staging Area Judge then gives the team instructions regarding the competition and answers any questions the team may have. After this time, the Staging Area Judge asks the coach and non-performing team members to leave the staging area. If an adult assistant is to be used by a Division I team, he/she is to be identified in the staging area and should remain with the team throughout. The adult assistant must enter the competition site with the team, not before.

All props and audio-visual aids must be ready to move when the "BEGIN" signal is given. When all is ready, the Staging Area Judge will direct the team's attention to the Timekeeper. After the Timekeeper says, "Begin," the team will have eight minutes for site set-up, Style presentation and

weight placement. All props and other competition materials must be moved out of the staging area in the first three minutes of the competition time or a penalty will be assessed.

In Division I an adult assistant may help place weights of 25 pounds or more. However, at least one team member must be physically involved in placing these weights. Weights must be placed one at a time, but there is no restriction on how fast a team may place weights. Only weights held for three seconds or more count towards the official weight total.

The only people allowed inside the testing area during the competition are the five long-term team members, the judges, and, if needed in Division I, an adult assistant. There is to be no coaching or assistance of any kind, from any person, during the competition.

Style may be performed before, during, and/or after the structure breaks. Any "ceremony" for the structure must be acceptable to the Head Judge. No burning, exploding, or other dangerous act is permitted.

The crusher board must be placed first and is the first official weight. *Weight placement* will end if the weight stack comes to rest against the safety pipe; Style may continue. *Competition* will end when (1) Style has been completed and the structure has broken, or (2) the eight-minute time limit for competition has expired. Any structure that needs to be examined for artificial strengthening or wood other than balsa must be placed back into its container and returned to the weigh-in site. Penalty points may be assessed at this time. It is a penalty if the team intentionally stops the weight stack from swaying or rotating.

Unless otherwise indicated, the Head Judge reviews with the coach or Division III team captain the team's long-term raw score, including penalties but NOT Style, as soon as it is compiled. The coach should inquire when and where this review will take place.

#### Problem #5 (Divisions I and II)

##### Folk Tales

by Dr. Marietta Kehler, International Problem Captain

At some tournaments a pre-staging area may be designated outside the performance room. When the team is called by the Staging Area Judge, all team members and the coach will proceed to the designated pre-staging area with all problem solutions, props, background scenery, membership sign and any team-provided equipment. The team will present two copies of its Style Form, a Cost Form, Outside Assistance Form, Problem Clarification(s), if any, two copies of the list of team-originated legendary or mythological character(s), the two quotes, and the mood to be scored.



When the Staging Area Judge has completed his/her responsibilities and answered all team questions, the team and coach then will be given three minutes to clear the pre-staging area and proceed to the staging area adjacent to the 7' x 10' performance area. Anyone may assist in this movement.

At this time a judge, in most cases the Timekeeper, will give a final explanation about the performance area, answer any additional questions and then ask the non-performing team members and coach to leave the staging area and sit in their designated seats, if provided by the Tournament Director. After this, no one may assist the five performing long-term team members in any way until the presentation is completed.

The Timekeeper will then introduce the team to the audience and signal for the time to begin. The team then has eight minutes for setup, Style and presenting its solution. Time will **not** be called at the end of the eight minutes, but any team using more time will receive a penalty.

**If no pre-staging area is used**, after the time begins the team must clear the staging area within three minutes after time begins.

Two 4' x 5' panels will be provided by the Tournament Director. These panels will stand on a pre-taped spot at the center rear of the performance area. If the team chooses to use its own panels, it must move them during its eight-minute competition period. It will be the team's responsibility to complete the problem within the eight-minute time limit. Judges will not call time, but will assess an overtime penalty if the team takes more than eight minutes. Prop dissembling may be done after time ends, and adults may assist the team. The team must leave the area clean and the panels in their original position on the designated tape.

**NOTE:** Coaches should be aware that the problems may change somewhat as clarifications are issued. Thus they should regularly request clarifications as indicated in the *Odyssey of the Mind Program Handbook*.

#### Spontaneous Problems

by Joy Kurtz, International Problem Captain

##### Before Competition

**All** team members, accompanied by one adult (usually the coach), report ten to fifteen minutes before its scheduled competition time to the Spontaneous Holding Room, if one is being used. If the competition is not using a holding room, the team members should report to the spontaneous room ten minutes before the scheduled time. **Do not knock** on the door or enter the room. **Wait quietly!**

When the team is called, **all** team members may go to the Spontaneous Problem Room. Upon entering the Spontaneous Problem Room, a judge will tell the team members whether the problem is verbal, hands-on or a combination (verbal hands-on). The team members will be given one minute to decide which five team members will participate. (If there are only five, then all must participate.) The non-

participating team members may stay in special seats set aside for them in the room. If they choose to stay, they must remain quiet and serve as observers only.

Any interference from the non-participating team members will be penalized as follows:

**Minor Infraction** = -5 points (from raw spontaneous score) This will be given for inadvertent interference that does little or nothing to actually help the team. (This penalty may be given more than once.)

**Intermediate Infraction** = -15 points (from raw spontaneous score) This will be given one or more times for inadvertent interference that helps the team or one time for one instance of deliberate interference. If deliberate interference substantively helps the team or occurs more than once, a major penalty will be assessed in addition to this penalty.

**Major Infraction** = -35 points (from raw spontaneous score) or a spontaneous score of 0. (Cannot fall below 0.) This will be given for deliberate and repeated interference or for obvious help. (This penalty may be given more than once.)

These are all at the discretion of the judges.

**If a coach does not choose to send all team members to spontaneous (either to the holding room or to the problem room), it is perfectly acceptable. There will be NO PENALTY for not sending more than five team members. However, if a team has only five or fewer team members, all must report.**

## REMINDER

To avoid congestion, only one adult may accompany the team members to the holding room.

## During Competition

Team members should listen very carefully to directions. A copy of the problem will be placed in front of the team members for their reference during competition.

During a verbal or verbal hands-on problem the following terms will be used by the judges: 1) if students repeat an answer which was already given, the judge will say, "Duplicate, give another response." 2) if an answer is inappropriate or doesn't make sense to the judge, the judge will say, "Inappropriate. Clarify or give another response." and 3) if students can't be heard or mumble or can't be understood, the judge will say, "Unclear, say it again."

If the problem is hands-on, unless the problem specifically states you may, a taped or marked course may **not** be altered.


Timing devices which beep or make a sound signifying an elapse of time may **not** be brought into the competition room.

## REMINDER

**If the problem is verbal or verbal hands-on and the turning cards' procedure is used, the team member responding MAY NOT turn the card until he/she finishes responding. The judges will stop any team member who does so and make him/her repeat his/her answer. Repeated offenses may result in an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty.**

## After Competition

The team is to leave quickly and quietly. Team members are not permitted to discuss the problem with anyone, not even their coach, until all teams compete. Revealing the problem can cause the team to be penalized. Remember—all teams in a problem and a division receive the same spontaneous problem, thus secrecy is essential!

Concerns, which can only be expressed by revealing the spontaneous problem, should be addressed to the problem captain by one of the spontaneous team members. All other spontaneous problem concerns (generally procedural) should be addressed by the coach to the problem captain. In the absence of a Problem Captain, concerns should be addressed to the Tournament Director. Remember—judges' subjective decisions may not be challenged. 

## MEMBERSHIP CUTOFF DATES

*Need a second membership for your school or a membership for another school? If so, make sure you apply before your association cuts off membership opportunity.*

AB	12/15/92	MA	01/15/93	OH	01/15/93
AL	12/15/92	ME	02/01/93	OK	02/01/92
AR	12/18/92	MD	12/15/92	OR	01/04/93
BC	01/01/93	MI	02/01/93	PA	01/15/93
CA	01/10/93	MN	12/18/92	RI	12/01/92
CH	01/31/93	MO	01/15/93	SC	01/01/93
CO	02/15/93	MS	01/15/93	SD	12/31/92
DC	02/12/93	MT	01/15/93	TN	12/01/92
DE	12/08/92	NC	12/15/92	TX	01/15/93
FL	01/01/93	ND	01/08/93	UT	02/01/93
GA	12/18/92	NE	12/01/92	VA	02/01/93
IA	12/18/92	NH	02/15/93	VT	01/15/93
ID	02/01/93	NJ	12/31/92	WA	01/15/93
IN	01/15/93	NM	01/30/93	WI	12/21/92
KS	02/01/93	NV	03/01/93	WV	01/15/93
KY	01/29/93	NY	01/15/92	WY	01/15/93

## OM Notes (continued from page 6)

- \* Rosemary Bognar, regional director in Ohio, recently "retired" from her position as OM coordinator of North Olmsted Schools. The "position" was formed eight years ago, when Rosemary's daughter recruited her to coach an OM team.

With the single OM membership, North Olmsted put together two OM teams. Now, after eight years of building an Odyssey of the Mind program (that brags of World Finals winners), 20 North Olmsted teams will compete this year.

At the outset, Rosemary's goal was to recruit and train *parents* to coach the teams.

This parent-run program has been so effective that even parent-coaches have networked to form their own support group—helping one another learn successful coaching techniques.

- \* Rhea Gaunt, who co-directed with Rosemary Bognar also "retired" from the position of OM Regional director.



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## ASSOCIATION ROUND UP

Competition Dates as of October 1, 1992

AL	Regionals	03/20/93	Honeysuckle Mid Sch, Dothan			04/03/93	Neshoba Central, Philadelphia
		03/20/93	Tuscaloosa Mid Sch, Tuscaloosa	MT	State	03/20/93	Montana State Univ, Bozeman
		03/20/93	L E Willson Mid Sch, Sheffield	NC	Regionals	03/06/93	NC Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount
AR	State	04/17/93	North Little Rock HS, N Little Rock			03/06/93	Wake Forest Univ, Winston-Salem
AZ	State	03/29/93	Pueblo HS, Tucson Regionals			03/06/93	East Carolina Univ, Greenville
		03/06/93	Arcadia HS, Phoenix			03/09/93	Western Carolina Univ, Cullowhee
		03/13/93	Pueblo HS, Tucson	ND	State	03/27/93	South HS, Fargo Regionals
BC	Province	04/24/93	Centennial Sec Sch, Coquitlam Regionals			02/13/93	Bismarck State College, Bismarck
		03/06/93	WE Graham Ele Sch, Slocan	NJ	Regionals	03/12/93	Edison 03/13/93 Edison
		03/06/93	Norkam Sec Sch, Kamloops	NM	State	03/28/93	West Mesa HS, Albuquerque
		03/06/93	Burnaby North Sec Sch, Burnaby	NV	State	04/03/93	Proctor Hug HS, Reno
		03/06/93	Glenlyon Norfolk Sch, Victoria	NY	Regionals	03/04/93	Brookside Sch, Merrick
		03/06/93	Centennial Sec Sch, Coquitlam	OH	State	04/23/93	Ohio Wesleyan Univ, Delaware
CA	State	04/03/93	California State Univ, Fresno Regionals			04/24/93	Ohio Wesleyan Univ, Delaware
		02/28/93	Bullard HS, Fresno	PA	State	04/17/93	Altoona Area Reg HS, Altoona
		02/27/93	Bullard HS, Fresno	SD	State	04/03/93	Riggs HS, Pierre Regionals
CT	State	04/03/93	Fairfield HS			03/06/93	SD School Mines & Tech, Rapid City
DC	Regionals	03/06/93	Eastern Sr HS, Washington			03/06/93	Black Hills State Univ, Spearfish
		03/27/93	Eastern Sr HS, Washington			03/06/93	Northern State Univ, Aberdeen
IN	State	4/03/93	Noblesville HS, Noblesville			03/13/93	Dakota State Univ, Madison
MA	State	04/03/93	Worcester Polytechnic Inst, Worcester Regionals	TN	State	04/03/93	David Lipscomb Univ, Nashville
		03/20/93	N Middlesex Reg HS, Townsend	UT	State	03/27/93	Wasatch Mid Sch, Heber City
		03/20/93	Triton Reg HS, Byfield	VT	State	03/20/93	Univ of Vermont, Burlington
MD	State	04/24/93	Univ of MD Baltimore County, Baltimore	WA	Regionals	03/06/93	La Venture Ele Sch, Mt. Vernon
MI	State	04/16/93	Central Michigan Univ, Mt. Pleasant Regionals	WI	State	04/17/93	Univ of Wisconsin, Stevens Point Regionals
		02/13/93	Petosky Schools, Petosky			02/27/93	Waupaca Learning Center, Waupaca
		02/27/93	Waterford Mott, Waterford			03/13/93	Aldrich JHS, Beloit
		02/27/93	Spring Lake Jr/Sr HS, Spring Lake			03/13/93	Seymour HS & Mid Sch, Seymour
		02/27/93	Delta College, University Center			03/13/93	New Holstein HS, New Holstein
		02/27/93	Traverse City West JHS, Traverse City			03/13/93	Wausau East HS, Wausau
		02/27/93	Marquette HS, Marquette			03/20/93	Amery HS, Amery
		02/27/93	Rockford Mid Sch, Rockford			03/20/93	Lincoln Sch, Hartford
		03/06/93	Northwest Jr/Sr HS, Jackson			03/20/93	Univ of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
		03/13/93	Grand Ledge Public Schs			03/20/93	Baraboo Sr HS, Baraboo
		03/13/93	Otsego HS, Otsego			03/20/93	Menasha HS, Menasha
		03/13/93	Otsego Mid Sch, Otsego			03/20/93	Appleton HS East, Appleton
		03/13/93	Grosse Pointe N HS, Grosse Pt Woods			03/20/93	Glenbrook Sch, Pulaski
MN	State	04/24/93	Armstrong Sr HS, Plymouth			03/20/93	Marquette Student Union, Milwaukee
MO	State	04/17/93	Westminster College, Fulton			03/20/93	Hartford Mid Sch, Hartford
MS	State	04/24/93	Missouri Univ For Women, Columbus Regionals			03/27/93	Iowa-Grant HS, Livingston
		03/26/93	Millsaps College, Jackson			03/27/93	Ben Franklin JHS, Stevens Point
		03/27/93	Millsaps College, Jackson	WV	State	04/03/93	Sturgeon Bay HS/Mid Sch, Sturgeon Bay
				WY	State	03/13/93	Fairmont State College, Fairmont
							Riverton HS, Riverton