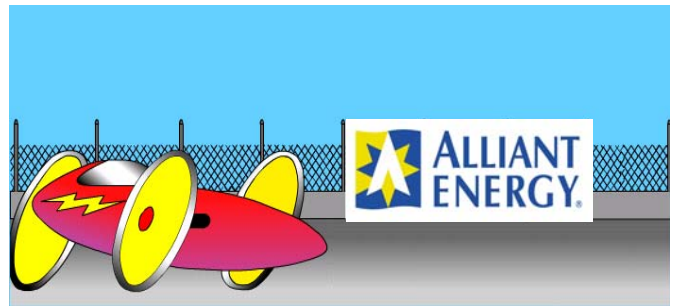


Iowa ELECTRATHON News



February 2003

IOWA ELECTRATHON — RACING TOWARD THE FUTURE

Vol. 4 No. 2



Alliant Energy Sponsors Iowa
Electrathon for the 5th Year!
Thanks Alliant Energy!

Reminder:

In order to participate in the 2003 season, all Iowa Electrathon team members **MUST** fill out a liability form and have it sent in by April 28, 2003. This includes advisors and volunteers.

The liability form requires a photo id and a parent/guardian signature if the individual is under the age of 18.

You can find this form at: <http://www.uni.edu/ceee/electrathon/DOCUMENT/new%20team%20info/IE-release.pdf>

Please send forms to:

Amy Fitzpatrick

University of Northern Iowa

Center for Energy and Environmental Education

Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0293

If you have any questions please call me at 319-273-3850 or email to amyfitz@uni.edu

Advisor's Guide on the Web!

The NEW Advisor's Guide is up on the web! The information that is currently available includes, General Design, Chassis System and Drive Train. You can find a link for the Advisor's Guide on the Electrathon home page.

<http://www.uni.edu/ceee/electrathon>

Go and check it out. This guide has tons of information that will benefit your team as your car is constructed!

Race Officials Needed!

Iowa Electrathon depends on volunteers to fill all our racing official positions. This includes flagman, racing director, safety inspectors, and corner marshals. We would like to have a large team of people from all over the state available to help with our competitions. If you or someone you know is interested in participating please contact Pat Higby (higby@uni.edu or 319-273-6012). Training includes an apprenticeship with our current officials. There are no tests to take; we need people who understand and enjoy Electrathon. We plan to meet in late April or early May. Please contact Pat before then.



Alliant Energy Honored for Its Commitment to the Environment

Alliant Energy's Iowa utility, Interstate Power and Light, has received an award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency for its work on a system to produce electricity from livestock manure. The EPA gave Alliant Energy the "Pollution Prevention Environmental Excellence Award in Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy" for its work with Top Deck Farms, The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Iowa State University in developing this commercial system at Roger Decker's dairy farm in Westgate, Iowa.

"Using manure to generate electricity produces enormous benefits to the environment," said Eliot Protsch, President Alliant Energy IPL. "Not only does this process prevent methane gas from escaping into the atmosphere, it helps contain livestock waste and odors associated with large-scale farming operations. And perhaps most importantly, it provides farmers with more flexibility in meeting their energy needs."

Top Deck uses about half the electricity it produces, while other Alliant Energy customers utilize the remainder. The methane digester is the first in Iowa to commercially produce electricity. The award recognizes Alliant Energy for its innovativeness, and the potential to expand this type of energy production with its agricultural customers. As the company implements more projects of this kind, it will be able to offer future environmental benefits as well as sources of income and cost savings for farmers.

Alliant Energy representatives were presented an Environmental Excellence Award plaque at a ceremony held in conjunction with the Missouri Associated Industries Environmental and Safety Conference on September 20, 2002. Alliant Energy is an energy-services provider that serves more than three million customers worldwide. Providing its regulated customers in the Midwest with electricity and natural gas service remains the company's primary focus. Other key business platforms include the international energy market and non-regulated domestic generation. Alliant Energy, headquartered in Madison, Wis., is a Fortune 1000 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LNT. For more information, visit the company's web site at www.alliantenergy.com.



Seated left to right: John Winter, Jerald Swenson, and Pat Higby. Standing left to right: Landis Wiley, Barry Wilson, Don Montgomery, Duane Liddle.

Photo by Amy Fitzpatrick

Advisory Board News

An Advisory Board meeting was held on February 17. The Board expressed its appreciation for Alliant Energy's increased support and the fundraising activities of the Iowa Electrathon staff.

A letter from Josh Smith (Prairie H. S.) was read, and Barry Wilson noted that Josh had summed up the feelings of many of his students as well. The Board appreciates the willingness of all the teams to give our new rules a try. This will be a difficult year while we work out the "bugs" in our new system. With patience, understanding, and good communication, we can improve Iowa Electrathon. Please feel free to send your comments to Pat Higby, and she will share them with the Advisory Board.

Other topics discussed included the budget, registration fees, trailer information, clarifications to the rules, and the Marshalltown race and sponsorships. The minutes of the meeting are available on the Iowa Electrathon web site at:

<http://www.uni.edu/electrathon/news.htm>

Starter Kit Available NOW!

Attention all potential teams: Has your school always wanted to start an Electrathon Team but didn't have sufficient funds? Well, have we got a deal for you! The Iowa Electrathon Program has 1 starter kit available to build an electric car. It includes an electric motor and a controller. If you are interested please contact Pat Higby or Amy Fitzpatrick as soon as possible! It is a first come, first served basis!

Rule Clarifications

The Advisory Board has made a few changes to clarify the rules:

- 1- Class 2A has a cost limit of \$2,500.00
- 2- Vehicle ID will be changed to "two digit number followed by the state's two letter abbreviation.
- 3- Monthly reports will include a cover letter and maximum of 1 page per car.
- 4- Monthly reports must be filed electronically in the text of the message or as an attachment.

You can find an updated rule document on the web with the clarifications highlighted in yellow!

Check it out: <http://www.uni.edu/ceee/electrathon>

Marshalltown Endurance Competition Schedule

Our **tentative** schedule for May 17 is:

- 8:30 Registration begins
- 9:00 Safety inspections begin
- 9:30 Hot laps begin
- 10:30 Driver's meeting
- 10:45 Flag ceremony and announcements
- 11:00 Green flag, first heat begins
- 12:00 Checkered flag, end of first heat
- 1:00 Green flag, second heat begins
- 2:00 Checkered flag, end of second heat
- 2:45 Awards ceremony

* Note: The race will begin at 11 a.m. promptly. If your team is not in line to compete the car may start from the hot lap area when ready.

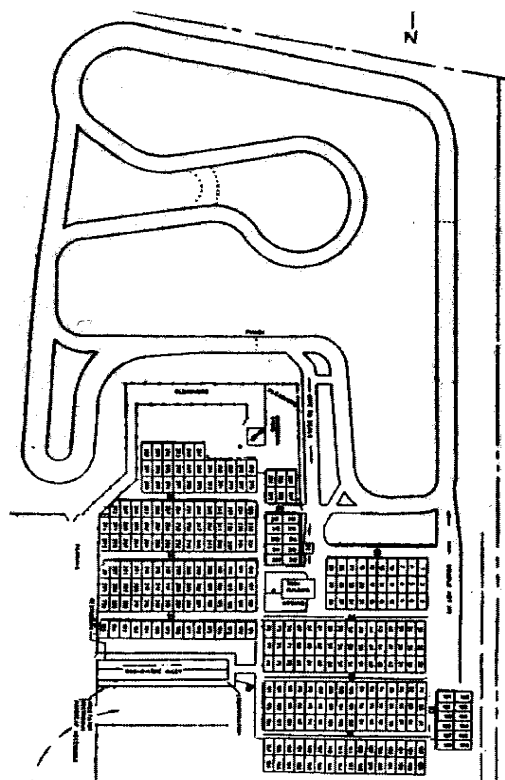
Track: Iowa International Speedway

Location: Marshalltown, Iowa.

Surface: Asphalt with concrete corners

Elevation: 12 foot elevation change from NE to NW

Grade: 3.7 degrees **Length:** 0.5 miles **Turns:** 8



Rebuild Iowa
You're invited to become a partner!

Rebuild Iowa

Rebuild Iowa is part of a nationwide program, Rebuild America, that is directed by the U. S. Department of Energy. The program's vision is to create communities across America that use energy efficiency and renewable energy to improve their citizen's lives at work, at home, and at play. Two of our Iowa Electrathon communities, Cedar Falls and Muscatine, are Rebuild Iowa partners. Iowa Electrathon contributes to this vision by showcasing non-polluting cars powered by electrical motors. Similar motors are used on both hybrid and fuel cell cars. We are at the cutting edge of transportation technology, training young people for jobs that will soon be in demand! Thank you, Iowa Electrathon students, advisors, and sponsors for helping Rebuild Iowa open the door to the future!

Electrathon Teams are getting ready to ROLL into a new season!

The new season kicks off in Marshalltown, Iowa on May 17th at the Iowa International Speedway. The teams are working hard to get their cars up and going by then. The cars are definitely taking shape and with the nice weather some teams are even outside testing new ideas! To find out more about the team progress read the team reports on the Electrathon home page: www.uni.edu/ceee/electrathon/teams.htm



Ogden is off to a great start!

Ogden Information
Ogden High School
Mrs. Eddy-advisor
heddy@ogden.k12.ia.us



Kennedy's 3 cars are making a lot of progress!

Kennedy Information
Barry Wilson –Advisor
www.cougarelectric.s5.com



Thanks to Fisher Controls and Stone's Restaurant for donating to the Alliant Energy Iowa Electrathon in Marshalltown on May 17th!

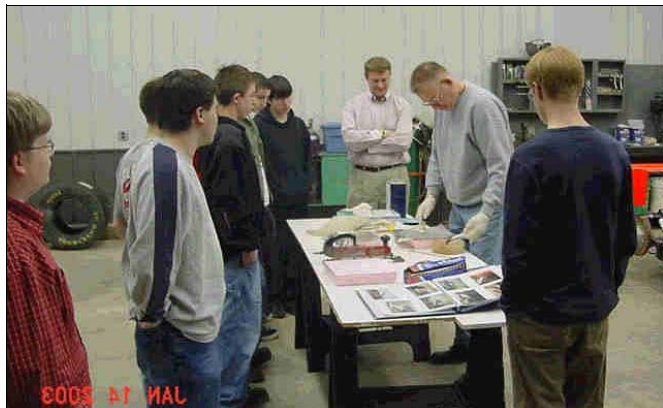


Stone's
Since 1887



**Waukee makes sure all
measurements
are correct**

Waukee Information
Advisor—John Kotz
jkotz@mail.waukee.k12.ia.us



Team Unity Photo Contest



Does your Electrathon team do fun things
together when you're not working on the car,
like build pyramids or playing in the mud?
????????????????????????????????

The team with the best photo and a little
explanation of what is going on will be
featured in the April Issue of the newsletter!
Please send photos and short explanation via
email to: amyfitz@uni.edu



**Center for
Energy and
Environmental
Education**



Race Schedule for 2003 Season

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Marshalltown Spring Race | Iowa International Speedway | May 17 |
| Cedar Rapids | Hawkeye Downs | May 30-31 |
| Pomeroy- Palmer Race | Street Race | June 21-22 |
| Forest City | To be Announced | Sept. 6 |
| Muscatine | Weed Park | Sept. 20 |
| UNI Fall Race | UNI Campus | Sept. 27 |

THE 2003 IOWA ELECTRATHON TEAM

Bill Stigliani — Director, CEEE
(319) 273-2573 or william.stigliani@uni.edu

Pat Higby — Energy Educator, CEEE
(319) 273-6012 or higby@uni.edu

Amy Fitzpatrick — Director of the Iowa Electrathon, CEEE



2003 Electrathon Hotline

Pat Higby
273-6012 or higby@uni.edu



.....
Muscatine Team competes this fall at
the UNI Alliant Energy Iowa
Electrathon!

We're on our game

**The Alliant
Energy family
of companies
proudly support
the Iowa
Electrathon and
the power of
teamwork.**

At Alliant Energy, we stay on top of our game to ensure that our customers have a reliable energy supply.

We're always looking for new innovations and use the latest technologies to provide our customers with the best ideas to use energy efficiently and safely. And with conveniences like 24-hour toll-free customer service and online bill payment, you can count on Alliant Energy to meet your energy needs — today and in the future.

We put our energy into building a winning partnership
... it's just one more way we're on for you.



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We're on for you.™