

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**CONWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTICIPATING IN EV CHALLENGE'S 2005
JUNIOR SOLAR SPRINT PROGRAM, COMPETITION**

CONWAY –Conway Middle School has signed on to participate in the EV Challenge's 2005 Junior Solar Sprint (JSS) Program. JSS is a hands-on classroom-based program for 6th, 7th and 8th graders that has students apply math, science, solar energy technology, electrical vehicle construction and creativity to design and build model solar race cars.

The JSS program is based on a curriculum sponsored by the US Department of Energy and provides each student team with a standard photovoltaic panel and electric motor to design and build a car using these components as the sole power train. The vehicle must also carry a 12-ounce soft drink can as cargo. Model cars are judged on technical innovation, creativity and speed.

This year's regional JSS competitions will be held Saturday, April 2, at Wakefield High School in Wake Forest during the EV Challenge Final Event weekend for middle and high schools. Northampton-East High School will be also be competing.

The highlight of the high school program is the design and construction of a street-legal electric vehicle that students enter into a competition also held during the EV Challenge Final Event weekend April 1-2. The high school competition also includes community service, public speaking and web-site design.

Friday's high school events will be at the Harris Energy and Environmental Center, near Raleigh. Saturday's high school events will also be at Wakefield High School.

About 4,000 students in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and Florida participate in the EV Challenge high school and middle school programs.

The middle school JSS competition is offered through the EV Challenge, which is the country's premier alternative fuel education program sponsored by the Carolina Electric Vehicle Coalition, Inc. (CEVC).

The NC Solar Center coordinates the JSS program and works with participating schools to provide a curriculum, instructional assistance and competition support.

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About CEVC and the EV Challenge

The CEVC's mission is to provide educational programs related to clean, alternative fuel technologies, with an emphasis on reaching middle and high school students. The EV Challenge has several government and corporate sponsors, including the State Energy Office, a division of the NC Department of Administration; the US Department of Energy; and Progress Energy. For more information about the EV Challenge, please visit www.evchallenge.org

About the Solar Center

The Solar Center is also sponsored by the State Energy Office and the US Department of Energy as well as the NC Solar Center Foundation. The Solar Center is operated in conjunction with the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Industrial Extension Service at North Carolina State University. For more information about the NC Solar Center, visit www.ncsc.ncsu.edu

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