Dear Science Fair Judge:

Thank you for agreeing to be a judge at the 2005 Dallas Morning News-Toyota Regional Science & Engineering Fair. We will be back at the Automobile Building in Fair Park on Saturday, March 19 (see enclosed map). We are excited to announce that there are well over 800 projects entered in this year’s Fair. Your participation will ensure the ultimate success of the event. If you know of other qualified judges who would like to participate, please ask them to call one of us immediately at (214) 768-2495.

To all veteran judges – welcome back! To all newcomers – I know that you will be inspired by the effort put forth by our exhibitors. Remember that each has already excelled at their school and/or district levels.

Captains
Please see the "Special Instructions for Captains," "Captain’s Call List" and other materials enclosed in this packet.

Day of Judging
All judging will take place on Saturday, March 19.

Because of the large quantity of projects and the need to do a thorough and fair evaluation, the judging process is broken down into several components. The projects are divided up among judging teams to ensure enough time to review every project and interview every student at least once.

• Round One of Judging
  First, all exhibitors will be interviewed. Each judge will be part of a three-member team. Each individual judge will be responsible for interviewing 10-12 students during an initial two-hour period. He/She will interview students, record comments and scores and rank the projects in numerical order: 1 for the best project, 2 for second best, etc. (ranking forms will be provided).
  Round One judging focuses on a group of projects within a particular science. The Round One judges are essentially narrowing the field down to the top projects.
  The results are passed on to Round Two judges.

• Round Two of Judging
  Round Two judges determine the Fair winners in an entire science. During Round Two, judges will select the First-, Second-, and Third-place winners, by science, and up to six Honorable Mentions. We encourage your to give out six honorable mentions whenever possible. The more students we are able to reward, the better.
  Enclosed in this packet is an explanation of the criteria which should be used to evaluate all projects. Please familiarize yourself with these criteria prior to the Regional Fair.

• Final Round of Judging
  Grand Prize winners will be selected by a new team of Grand Prize (Final Round) Judges. First and Second Round judges will not be involved in this phase.

More complete instructions will be provided March 19 during the orientation.

(Over)