

Bethany Bissell
Rachael Moon

Soleil Parks
Camden Peavy

Eighth grader Elexis Kalar questions a witness in front of the judge (Johnny Galan). She said she liked questioning people and being part of the whole process. "My favorite part of the mock trial was eating pizza afterwards," she said.

Fulmore



Photo by Adrian Peña



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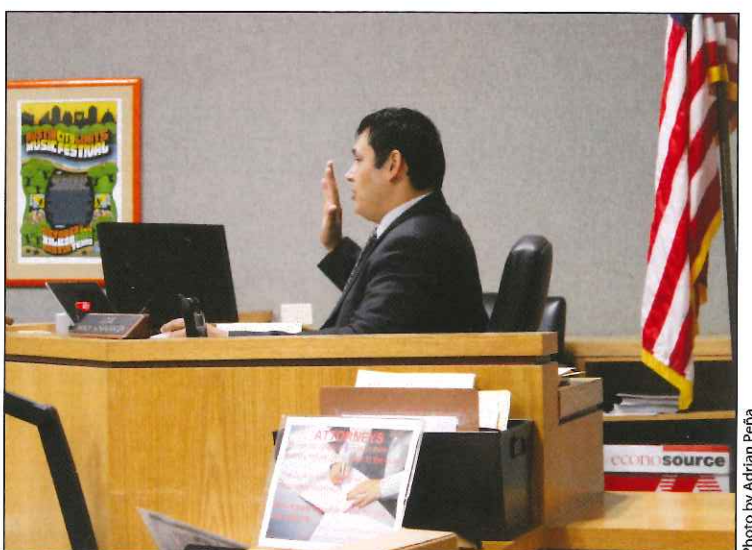


Photo by Adrian Peña

Law teacher Johnny Galan swears in the jury. He has been holding mock trials in the local Travis County Courthouses for many years. "The mock trial field trips we take are the most exciting part of the class."

Eighth graders Ella Castro and Mia Orrick consult on their case at the mock trial event. The trial held at the Travis County Courthouse downtown is the last trial of the semester.

3. CAPTIONS

(right) Henry Morone, John Pena-Caceres and Sean Young join other students to measure how far their rockets went. "I was jumping up and down because we hit Mr. Askins," Sean said.

Away from the action, Lionel Vasquez Diaz, Jacob Stella and Moss Gillespie discuss the launch. "My favorite part of the rocket launch was that we got to shoot water bottles in the sky, make it rain and see it fly all around," Lionel said.



Photo by Morgan Sanders



Photo by Morgan Sanders



Photo by Morgan Sanders

Rocket Man

Science students make, launch soda bottle rockets

Science teacher Cooper Askins has been shooting off rockets for years, all for sixth graders to learn about PSI, and of course, how to shoot off a soda bottle rocket.

"Shooting off rockets made me see the bright side of science and it made it seem really fun," sixth grader Griffin Butler said.

Askins said that he loves watching how motivated the students get when they try to hit him with the rockets. The students must have accurate data and graphs to do so.

"This is an lesson where students get to see the abstract

physics concepts discussed in class applied to a real world situation," Askins said. "It is also really fun and engaging, which always helps students learn."

Sixth grader Hang Tung said shooting off rockets made him love science just a little more than he already does.

"Shooting off rockets helped me learn about how much PSI is needed to move a rocket to a certain area," Hung said. "It was a really fun project. I like to see the rockets launch."

Askins said shooting off rockets teaches students about the relationship between forces and motion. He also said students

calibrate the rocket launcher by shooting off the rocket at different air pressures (PSI) and measuring the distance.

"This activity leads to a lot of questions that deepen students' understanding of physics," Askins said. "You can't help but watch this lab and think of hundreds of other labs you would like to do."

Askins said that this project was hard because he was the target the students were trying to hit. He said the students got a rush of energy when they finished the countdown, pulled the trigger and saw it launch.

Morgan Sanders



Photo by Morgan Sanders



Photo by Morgan Sanders

Students Daniel Martinez-Silva, Sean Young, and Nikoli Alsmann put fuel in the soda bottle. "We launched three but I think the second one got stuck in a tree," Daniel said.

Putting the bottles into the launcher, Moss Gillespie, Jacob Stella and John Grubb help teacher Cooper Askins set up the rocket launcher.



Seventh grader Kye Kane tunes her instrument and gets warmed up before the spring orchestra concert. She has a routine she uses before a big concert. "I try to calm down and I play a few things with my friends," she said.

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