UT student engineering society to compete in concrete canoe race

By Emily Hickey : March 26th, 2010

Sophomore engineering student Kyle Layton’s goal for this weekend is to successfully float and race a concrete canoe that he and his chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE) created.

UT students will attend the 2010 ASCE North-Central Regional concrete canoe and steel bridge competition Friday, March 26, through Sunday, March 27, at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

Layton said he is looking forward to the “Olympics for civil engineering.” With their 2009 canoe named “Frank” being the first to make it to competition since 2006, Layton said he is hopeful about the 2010 canoe named “Whiskers.”

The University’s team will be one of 10 competing in the 23rd annual event. Other colleges that will be represented are Ohio Northern University, Michigan State University, Calvin College, University of Michigan, Case Western Reserve University, Wayne State University, Western Michigan University, Michigan Tech and Lawrence Tech.

According to the ASCE, the competition was designed to provide civil engineering students with an opportunity to gain hands-on experience and leaderships skills by working with concrete mix designs and project management.