Work Completed

The week started off by figuring out what was wrong with the website. The same directions were followed as were used last semester to load things onto the website. However, the new pages and projects that were loaded were not showing up online. All work was done in Dreamweaver. Dreamweaver showed that all work was saved and completed and that the website was loaded and connected online. Orlando came into the lab on Monday afternoon to assess the website. The problem was with the server and also with the template. The pictures on the top of the template were not able to be seen. Also when the mouse was dragged over in some areas of the template we were not able to click down. When looking at the code some code was shaded grey showing that we did not authorization to change that particular area. Orlando worked on the code and made it able for us to update the template ourselves. However the pictures still were not coming up. The problem with uploading things was thought to be that we were not uploading to the correct server. Thus Orlando tried saving to the local server some of the work we had done. This work appeared online ten minutes after upload. Orlando left thinking that everything was ok with the website. However when checking that this work had been uploaded later that night, nothing would open on the website.

I went to the help desk in Engineering II on Tuesday morning. I explained the problem with uploading and with our template to Jim and George. Like Orlando, they thought that we were not uploading to the local server and that was why things were not appearing online. Because our work was saved on Meghan’s Z drive, I was not able to show them the work we had done in Dreamweaver. Jim showed me the proper way to upload so that I could try it on my own. They did not know what was wrong with our template and could not help me at the time because I did not have the template to show them. I received Meghan’s log in information that afternoon and went into the lab to try the new way of uploading. I uploaded the index page and some documents to the local server to see if it would work. It did not work that afternoon. However the next day when the website was tested it did work. For the next few days the website would appear only at certain times. Meghan and I thought that this was strange and that the problem was not fixed. We waited until Cliff was in the lab because he works with Dreamweaver and editing the engineering website pages. Friday Meghan and I spent close to three hours at the help desk. Cliff was able to see our uploading and template problems. He suggested that we continue to save our work to the Z drive but to now work from the X drive to upload and save our work. He worked with Dr. Enderle and other information technologies people from UCONN on achieving us a new template. After working with the code the pictures finally appeared on the template. Cliff gave Meghan and I a copy of the X drive to be able to install it on our computer in the lab. That way we could properly upload our website. With the assistance of Bill we were able to load the X drive onto the computer. The X drive loaded properly onto the computer. When Meghan
logged into the computer to see if we could reload all documents and separate webpages (besides the index page) the X drive would not work properly. This needs to be further looked into to see if the X drive was installed improperly or if there are technical difficulties with our webpage again.

Contact was made with Mike Zenker regarding the receipt of a mold well. Mike Zenker works with constructing lazy susan devices. The round piece that is installed in the lazy susan could be used as the mold well for our wheel. We are in contact with him to get more technical information regarding the dimensions of the mold well. The diameters he is aware is in stock is twenty-one inches and twenty-eight inches. Optimally we would like a twenty-four inch diameter, otherwise we will settle for the smaller twenty-one inch diameter. Mr. Zenker thinks that a twenty-four inch diameter is a strong possibility. He is in contact with the supplier of these pieces and is due to call me back with more information in the following week. More information of the mold well is a necessity. Without this information there is no way to start construction of the wheel.

The painting method in which to paint the foamed PVC was decided on. It was decided to use the epoxy method. This method suggests that the PVC first be cleaned, sanded (with 150 grit sand paper), layered with epoxy (specifically made to be used on plastic), sanded, and painted. A layer of epoxy can be painted on top of the paint to provide optimal adherence.

Meghan and I went to Mansfield supply store on Wednesday. This visit allowed us to see the available paints, epoxy, dowels, and also provide us with ideas on how to construct the base system and clicker apparatus. This visit proved to be a success when all items were found. Price quotes and information on all items were recorded in our lab notebooks. It was decided to use wooden dowels to go through the bolt holes of the flange bearing. These dowels can be sanded down to get an exact fit through the bolt holes. The dowels will then lead into a wooden block that will be secured with hardware. A method for the clicking apparatus was also decided on. There will be a wooden block attached to the top of the base of the game. Protruding from this block will be a Soft Jamb Door Stop (Fig. 1). This is something that one would see attached to the wall to prevent a door from coming into contact with a wall. The door stop is made out of steel and coated with a polyethylene body. A zinc plated screw is attached to the door stop so that it can easily be screwed into the block. We believe that as a dowel comes into contact with the door stop it will provide the clicking noise. We are now waiting for an account of some sort to be set up so that we are able to make our purchases. We are in contact with Jen from the BME office in doing so.
Testing the painting method began late on Friday afternoon. Meghan and I prepared the bleach cleaner to be used to clean the PVC. This was made by mixing standard bleach with water. A trip was made to the machine shop to see what type of supplies they had (sandpaper, small scraps of wood, etc). However it was after four in the afternoon, thus no one was in the machine shop. Thus we were not able to carry through with the testing of the painting method. We are to obtain everything we need this weekend and begin testing early in the week. Figure 2 below is a picture of the foamed PVC and beginning of the testing of the painting method.

Future Work
This week will primarily entail work with the website and the beginning of the construction of the wheel. The X drive must be installed correctly and looked into for any further problems. The website must begin to work as soon as possible. Contact will again be made with Mike Zenker to try to achieve the mold well or any technical
drawings. The depth and diameter of the mold well are two pieces of information that need to be received as soon as possible as they are imperative in knowing how to construct the actual pie pieces. The painting method will be carried through. If this method does not work then there are other methods that can be attempted and tested.

Project Review

The construction of the game was slightly held off this week due to a number of reasons: the website not functioning and not being able to receive nor buy the parts that we need. Purchase of the small parts from Mansfield Supply need to be done soon so that construction can begin. The next week will hopefully prove to push up the construction.

Hours Worked
12 hours