

letters

Early Days of the Student Steel Bridge Competition

It was enjoyable to track the progress and milestones of *Modern Steel Construction* but I didn't see a milestone for the annual Student Steel Bridge competition. Dr. Ellifritt was our faculty advisor back in 1988 when we went to the University of Alabama

at Birmingham to compete against four other universities. The crew used our school van and drove straight through, arriving at the UAB engineering building about 3 a.m. where we helped the UAB team finish their bridge.

I'm not sure if 1988 was the first year for the regional competitions but it was the first the University of Florida

entered. It was an excellent activity to apply all the technical knowledge we had learned to a completed project—design—fabrication—erection. It has come a long way since then. Thanks for providing this magazine.

—George Olsen, P.E.
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