Team 1: On Wings Like a Penguin
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With more demand for a single piece of technology to fit a variety of needs, four mechanical concentration students constructed an air cushion vehicle that travelled both on land and on water and was able to transport two passengers simultaneously.

Air cushion vehicles, more commonly called hovercrafts, can be driven over all types of terrain and in all types of weather. Hovercrafts are a multi-purpose vehicle capable of transporting large amounts of weight with small amounts of engine horsepower. They are extremely useful in situations where the transition from land to water must be made instantly. However, hovercrafts are difficult to manufacture at low cost due to the variety of different materials needed to make them function. Air cushion vehicles are also not very practical for typical road driving due to the steering response time. They are much more suitable for rural areas that have wide-open fields and not many obstacles.

The goal of our project was to build an inexpensive, dual-engine hovercraft that could travel at speeds of five miles per hour or greater. All materials were easily obtained and design decisions were made to simplify and beautify the craft.