

Physics Student Seminar

Wednesday 12/5/2007, 4:30 pm
Science & Engineering Building Auditorium

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The Physics of Superheroes



For years we have been captivated by the idea of superhuman abilities. This is mostly spurred by the popular comic books of our youth. Some of the largest grossing movies are based on the superheroes we read about when we were kids; and some of us may still read them. However the book, *The Physics of Superheroes* by James Kakalios, takes a more non fictionalized look at the subject of superpowers.

With all the physics principles laid at our feet we are able to determine what systems must be present in order for extraordinary events to happen. As an example we are able to determine the gravitational field that must be present in Superman's planet in order for him to leap tall buildings in a single bound. This lecture will give us a conceptual look at the ideas behind this "action-packed" way of discussing and analyzing classical and modern physics.

Please join us for light refreshments at 4:15pm outside SEB 203.