

# PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

PRESENTS

## Today's Saturday Morning Physics Speaker



### Monika Wood

Manager  
Warren M. Smith  
Demonstration Laboratory  
(U-M Physics)

### *The Physics of Basketball*

#### Abstract

Basketball is one of the world's most popular sports played and enjoyed by fans of all ages. Spectacular plays seem to defy the laws of physics, but like everything, basketball is packed full of interesting phenomena. Physics Professor Tim Chupp and Monika Wood, Physics Demonstration Lab Manager will demonstrate and explain the science of key elements of the game in this lecture designed to entertain and deepen your enjoyment of the sport.

#### Biography

Monika Wood has worked for the University of Michigan since 2010 in the Physics Lecture Demonstration Laboratory, where she became the manager of the lab in 2016. The Demo Lab's mission is to help make physics accessible to everyone. The lab supports professors by supplementing their lectures with physics apparatus to provide context and student engagement. The lab's reach goes beyond the classroom with the continued support for student outreach groups as they engage school-aged children in the area. During the pandemic, Monika and her team have put together a digital library of many of the demonstrations used in class accessible through their YouTube page: UMDemoLab.

Monika graduated from Eastern Michigan University with her Masters' Degree in Physics in 2010 where she had the opportunity to perform research at the High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) facility in Gakona, AK. She used the high-power HF transmitter to generate and study strong Langmuir turbulence in the interaction region of over dense ionospheric plasma.

When she is not working in the lab, Monika enjoys spending time outside gardening, at the lake, walking through the woods with her dogs, or curled up next to the fire playing video games with her husband and son.

**YouTube Link to Saturday's Talk:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBmpwVeulpg>

**Discover more about Saturday Morning Physics:** <http://www.saturdaymorningphysics.org>

**View past lectures on YouTube:** <http://tinyurl.com/nwb8ydu>