SUPER SCALE BONUS: SANDHAWK LAUNCHER PLANS

by Jeff Vincent

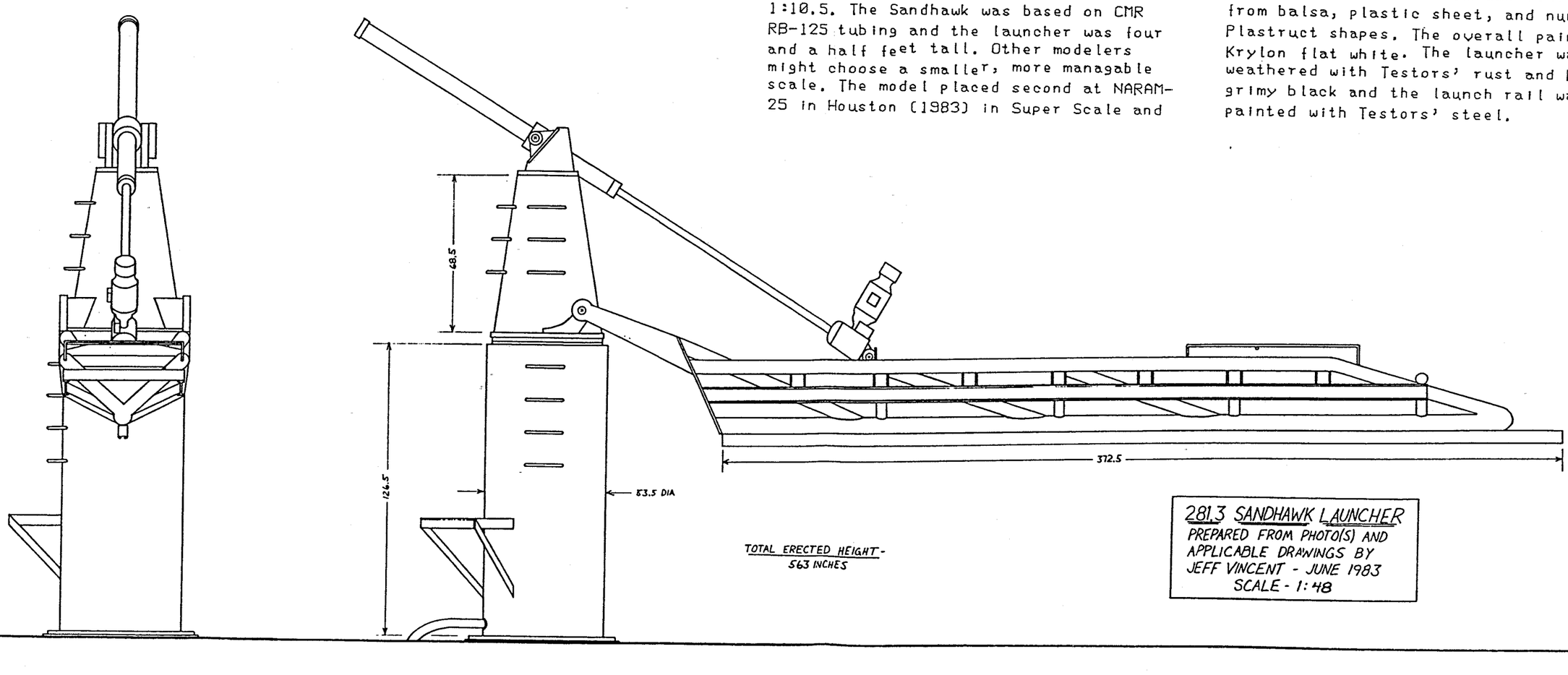
These drawings depict the launcher used with the Sandia Sandhawk sounding rocket. Data on the Sandhawk vehicle is contained in the NARTS Sandhawk Scale Pak.

The drawings are based on two drawings from the SNOAR NEWS (Volume 6, Number 2) and the color photo in the NARTS data. The launch rail length is documented in SNOAR NEWS and the remaining dimensions were photo-interpolated. (This was allowed at NARAM-25 and is a common practice in Super Scale due to the lack of launcher data.)

The scale factor of my model was 1:10.5. The Sandhawk was based on CMR RB-125 tubing and the launcher was four and a half feet tall. Other modelers might choose a smaller, more managable scale. The model placed second at NARAM-25 in Houston (1983) in Super Scale and second at NARAM-26 in Allentown (1984) in Scale and was featured on the November 1986 AmSpam cover.

Here's how it was built:

The base of the launcher has an internal structure of an aluminum axle on a 2x4 and 1x2 mounted on a large 1/2" plywood sheet base. The structure was built up of balsa rings and spruce spars with a surface of two layers of poster board. The ladder rungs are Plastruct tubing. The yoke at the top of the cone was made from basswood. The motor and other pieces on the connecting arm are balsa. The launcher boom was constructed from balsa, plastic sheet, and numerous Plastruct shapes. The overall paint is Krylon flat white. The launcher was weathered with Testors' rust and Polly S grimy black and the launch rail was painted with Testors' steel.



TOTAL ERECTED HEIGHT - 563 INCHES

281.3 SANDHAWK LAUNCHER
PREPARED FROM PHOTO(S) AND APPLICABLE DRAWINGS BY JEFF VINCENT - JUNE 1983
SCALE - 1:48