Question #310

Dan holds two rolls of toilet paper in his hands, as seen in the photograph below.

Dan will now release them from rest simultaneously, allowing the one in his left hand to fall freely, but holding the end of the toilet paper with his right hand so that the roll unwinds as it falls.

Which of the following will happen?

• (a) The roll in Dan's right hand (unwinding as it falls) will reach the floor first.
• (b) The roll in Dan's left hand (freely falling) will reach the floor first.
• (c) The two rolls will reach the floor at the same time.
• (d) The toilet paper in Dan's right hand will break.
• (e) Other.

Click here for Answer #310 after March 24, 2008.

For questions and comments regarding the Question of the Week contact
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