

## Local student aspires to bigger, better things after summer at Shad

By JACK EVANS  
Staff Reporter

People who attend Shad Valley sessions, a pre-university training program in Canada, are called "survivors," says Jason Bremner, who this summer became the only student from the Belleville area to be selected out of 1,400 applications across Canada.

In the weeks leading up to summer, that number was reduced to a total of 400, says Bremner, 17, scattered at several locations at university campuses across Canada, including, for the first time, Carleton at Ottawa, where Jason went.

Jason summed it up as "the most extraordinary thing I've ever done."

Technically, Jason is not through with his Shad experience yet. The seminar, lectures and training sessions lasted four weeks, but, as he was sponsored by Northern Telecom, he must continue to work for another six weeks.

At present, Jason's career goal remains to become a professor in biology, but he candidly admits that he was exposed to so many new ideas and career potentials as a result of his four weeks in Ottawa that, "It got me thinking," he said.

The course is intensive, three hours each in the mornings and afternoons of seminars, lectures or projects, plus additional time in the evenings. There is, of course, time for recreation.

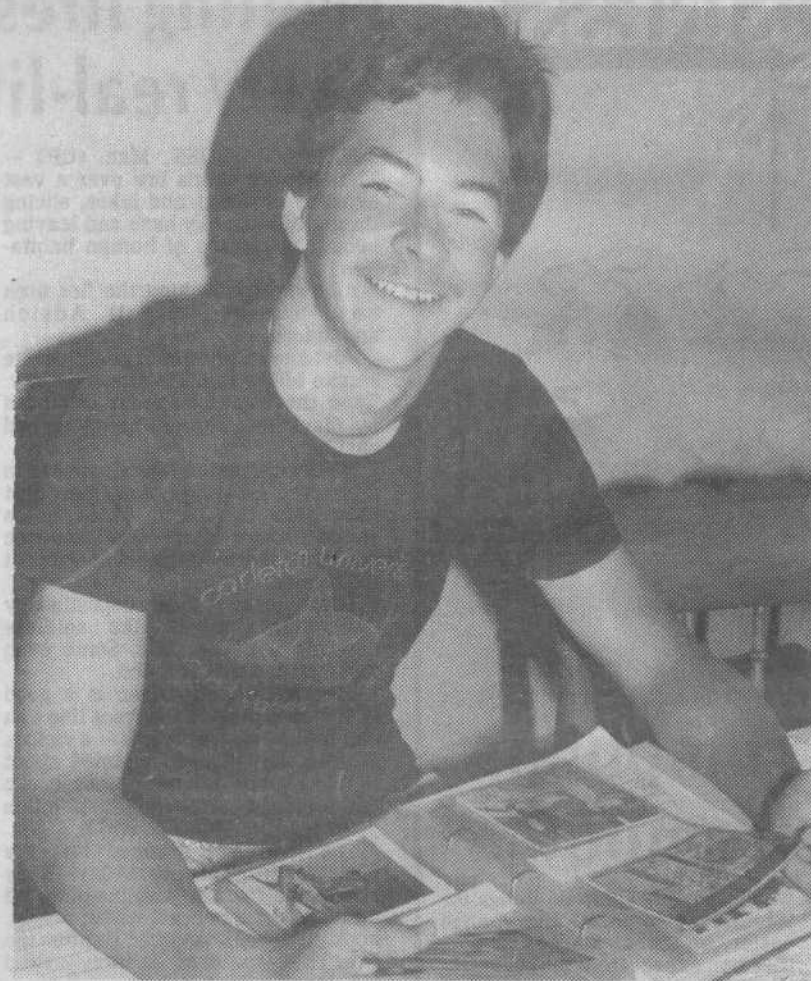
The program spans sciences, the arts, field trips, guest lecturers, hands-on opportunities with university equipment and a requirement to complete creative projects on one's own.

Jason said one of his Belleville Collegiate Institute teachers provided him with an application. The program, he said, is designed to "foster academic excellence, expose participants to advanced technologies and focus on entrepreneurship."

Jason said he found the idea of starting a business in connection with special interests a particularly exciting idea.

His group comprised 50 students from many parts of Ontario, plus 10 faculty members.

His summer work with Northern Telecom, which he is still completing, involves setting up computer program use through the company's human resources department.



Jason Bremner, 17, was the only area student to make it to SHAD Valley.

BREMNER, Jason