

Two entries - two winners at Science Fair

By Corie Maxwell

Acton High is very proud of its participation in the Hamilton Science Fair. There were only two entries from the high school

and both were winners. Karen Pierce, a grade 11 student, entered a biology project on Temperature Inversion in a populated valley, which she had been working on since Christmas.

This project works by pumping air through a glass bottle of water, then splitting the line and pumping half the air through ammonia hydroxide and the other half through concentrated

hydrochloric acid. After this is done the two lines combine, and this air is pumped through four smoke stacks in a simulated valley. Another air pump which pumps the air through copper coils is submerged in ice to represent the cooling process. This air is then pumped down each side of the valley, while the sides of the valley are also cooled with ice. Above, there is a sunlamp to shine rays on the valley and floor.

When this happens, the smoke rises from the smoke stacks. Karen's work was rewarded when she and three other groups were chosen from 90 entrants to display her project for a week at the Ontario Science Centre in Toronto.

Combined effort

The other entry, a particle accelerator, was the combined effort of three of our students: Steve van Fleet, John Hamilton and Rodger McEachern. This "atom smasher" changes the structure of hydrocarbons and has about the same relationship to nuclear physics that the telescope has to astronomy. The accelerator probes the microcosms; the telescope — macrocosms.

The researching and construction of the accelerator had been in progress since last



KAREN PIERCE and Steve Van Fleet both had winners at the science fair.

May but these students were determined to make their project function properly and to have it finished on time. They were fortunate in enlisting the aid of Cenco of Oakville who loaned them a \$300 oil diffusion pump for their complicated apparatus. The hard work and relentless effort displayed by these boys

was worthy of the top prize in their category — The Hamilton Board of Trustees Merit Award — plus \$100.

Fair's purpose

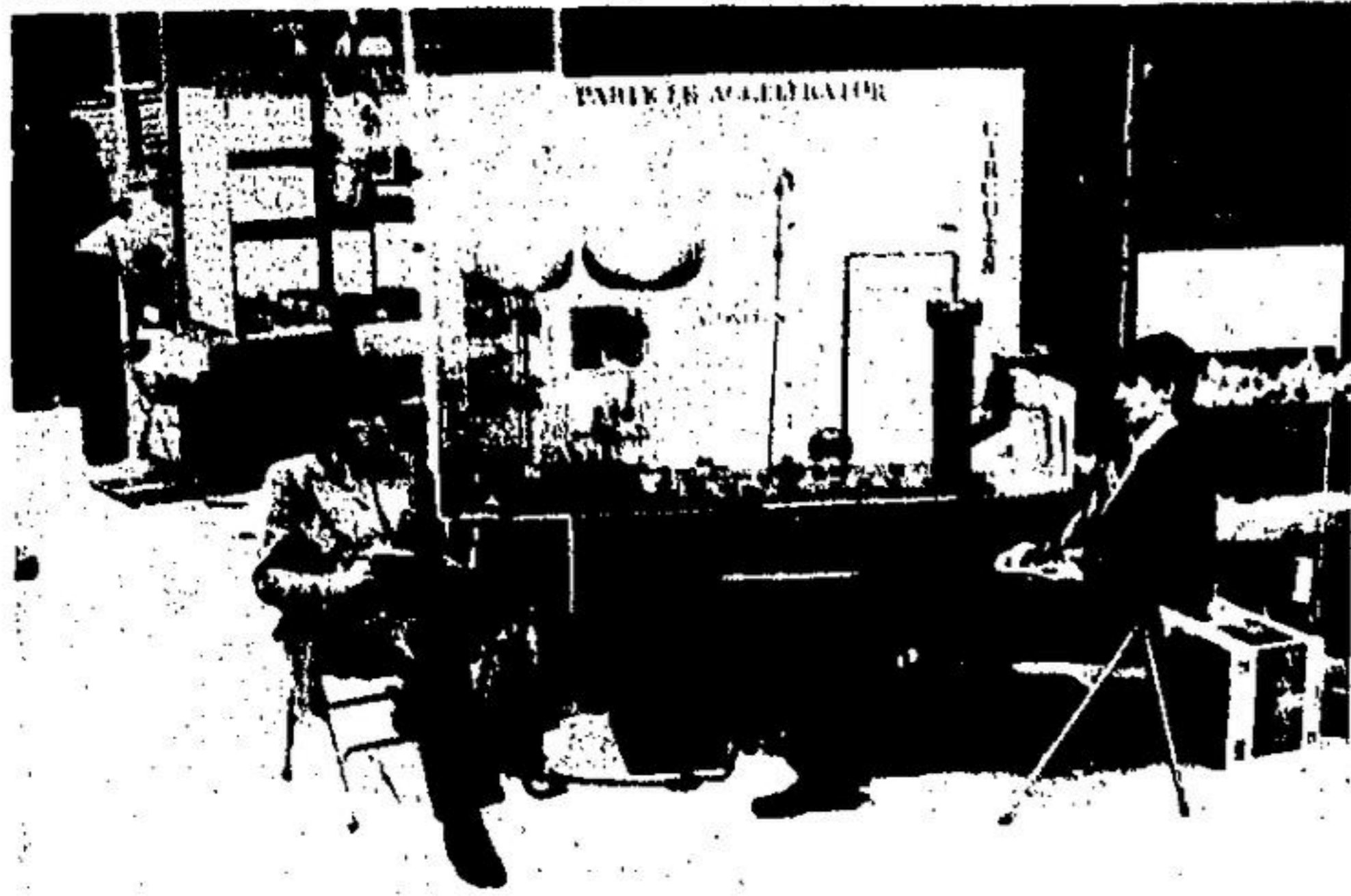
This fair's primary goal is to introduce students to science and technology beyond the limits of the classroom. The first day of the three day fair, April 6,

allowed the judges to ask questions and make the vital decisions on who was to win.

The second day was set aside for student tours and two of the grade 12 chemistry classes from Acton High visited the fair. They saw everything from "the effects of cigarette smoking" to "sailing". (Hopefully, some of them left with ideas for projects of their own for next year!)

The third day, Saturday, was open to the public and at eight o'clock in the evening the judges announced their decisions, much to the relief of Karen, Steve, Rodger and John.

The judges mentioned that this, their 12th annual fair, was the best yet, due to the entries. With the amount of imagination and work exhibited by our two groups, more students should be encouraged by these examples of hard work—which paid off!



STEVE VAN FLEET and Rodger McEachern are ready to answer questions about their science fair exhibit—a particle accelerator.

2 The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, April 12, 1972

Students enthused - centennial

By Corie Maxwell

Last Wednesday a very ambitious, humorous, zealous man came to speak to the students of the high school about Acton's Centennial in 1974.

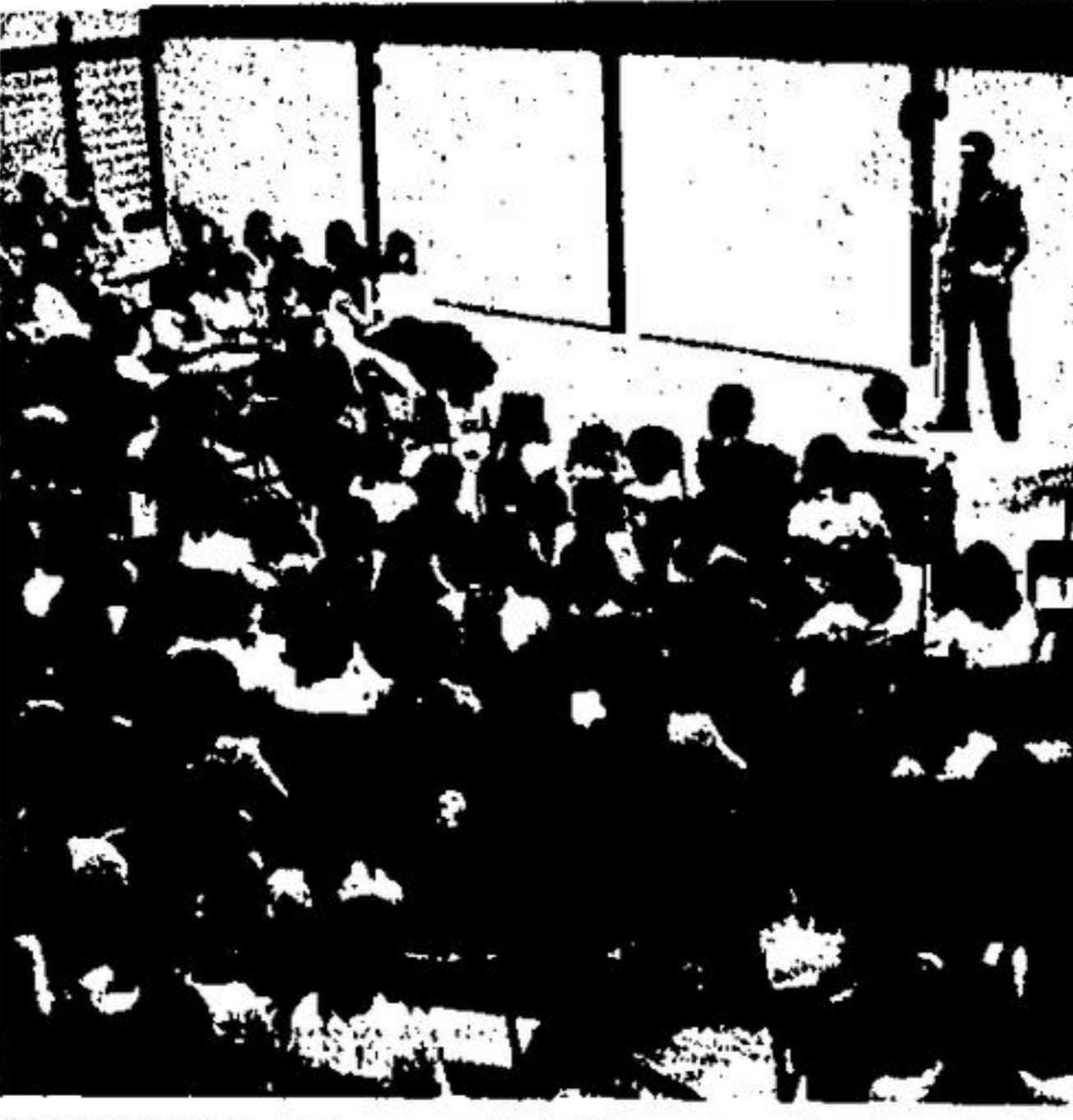
Jack Carpenter, co-chairman of the Centennial Commission, stunned everyone with his wild ideas (which, by the end of the assembly, seemed very realistic) and his spreading enthusiasm.

He told us about Acton's jubilee or 50th anniversary in which the residents of the town raised \$600 at a fair and built the two stone pillars which constitute the park gates. (Unfortunately, it was the wrong year!)

Big project

In our Centennial year, 1974, there is a project in the making which will benefit most of the residents of Acton. It is to be the renovation of the Community Centre, including the building of a new foyer and the addition of an auditorium.

Since Jan. 1, 1874 was our official birthday, there will be breakfast for the whole town on Jan. 1, 1974. The Army and the Antique Club will have a 100 gun salute, while the first child born in that year will get a prize. There will be dances, a Trade Fair showing what the town produces, three new town signs, the planting of Centennial bulbs, Christmas lights will dazzle the town and, would you believe—A Football Game? Not exactly the Grey Cup. (Although Acton is supplying the 24 footballs for that



CENTENNIAL spokesman Jack Carpenter fires imagination of students.

game) but how about the Gold Cup???? This will be a C.F.L. professional game.

Plan walkathon

Jack Carpenter was full of ideas and encouraged the students to start their own fund-raising Centennial project. He mentioned the tremendous amount of planning and work necessary, but emphasized the need for determination and a united approach to any under-

taking. Already students have started planning a walkathon—but not an ordinary one! This walkathon with a difference would last for about a week this summer and would be combined with a sort of "camping trip". The walk is to Niagara Falls and back and even now, there has been great interest shown.

As Mr. Carpenter said, "1974 will be a wonderful year to live in Acton!"

Notes from Acton High

By Corie Maxwell

The house league basketball championship playoffs were held at A. H. at a Sports Night. This was followed by a sock hop last Friday evening.

In the grade 9 and grade 10 girls' championship, Thor and the Wunder Squad defeated Underground. Thanks to an outstanding display by Maureen Gerth who scored all 26 points, Thor won 28 to 2. Members of the winning team are Maureen Gerth, Sherry Phillips, Susan Mathews and Cathy Weldon. Janice Drinkwater scored for Underground. Referee was Sandy van Fleet.

Juicy Lucy won the senior girls' title by default as no Jungle Bunnies were present.

Lucys win

Juicy Lucy's junior boys triumphed over Underground 18 to 8 in their championship game. Bob Vinski scored 8 points from the field and 6 from the foul line to spark the Juicy Lucy win. Jeff Patterson scored four points for Juicy Lucy. Other members of the championship team are Gerald van Opstal, Jeff Ribble and Scott Somerville.

Scoring for Underground were Steve Brunelle, Chris Tennant, Ken Withers and Terry Davidson, all with two points. Jungle Bunnies won the senior boys' championship over Juicy Lucy by default.

A sock hop ended this successful venture for the Athletic Association.

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