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"ALL'THE NEWS YOU NEED"

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1994

Student Eddolls

BY DOUG HARRISON. The Acton Tanner

Phillip Eddolls is following in the footsteps of his brother John.

Phillip became the second member of the Eddolls family and second only to John in McKenzie-Smith history to win the Trustee Merit Award twice. The award was given to Phillip for his display in the Junior pure physical science category at the Hamilton-District Science Fair.

"I wasn't expecting to win. I was blown away when my name was called, because the competition was really hard," concedes Phillip, whose project in the recent event at McMaster University was tops among 40 other displays. It posed the question Are there hidden colours in your fruit drink?

"It's not like a competition between John and I. He was surprised to win, too. We have a section on a wall at home for our plaques and hopefully we can get my sister Ruth — who's in Grade 6 — on it soon."

Phillip was chosen to represent the middle school after a strong finish in the local science fair, which attracted about 130 displays from its Grade 6, 7 and 8 students.

Phillip's interest in the topic was sparked by a friend who is allergic to red food dyes. The project also looked at what the dominant hidden colour is in fruit drinks. In his findings, the 13year-old found purple was the No. colour.

"I thought I would get good examples," Phillip says, "but the results were amazingly weak. Some of the colours were so weak I couldn't see them."

Last year, the Grade 8 student's winning project examined the scientific properties of bread.

Although he's unaware of his winning grade this year, Phillip knows the two judges rated it between 79 and 85 per cent.

"I hate projects, but when you can reap the benefits, it's fun. If you spend the time to work out the details of your project, you're going to get an award."



SUCCESSFUL SCIENTISTS!

McKenzie-Smith was well-represented at the recent Hamilton-District Science Fair. Back row, from left, are Shannon Inglis, Katie Tuitman and Science teacher Mr. Straw. Front row: Aimie Fendley, Phillip Eddolls (who holds his Trustee Merit award) and Mary Beth Robertson. Absent is Rochelle Taylor. (Doug Harrison photo)

Quarry-area residents feel the earth move

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner

If you felt the ground shake around 4 pm last Wednesday, it wasn't an earthquake but the beginning of blasting on the south side of Regional Road 43, by United Aggregates Limited (UAL).

What the blasting indicates to area residents is UAL's serious consideration of quarrying on the road's south side. Residents who were not informed of the blasting—understood it wouldn't happen until a water-taking permit for the south side was in place. But UAL apparently took action regardless.

"I'm not saying it's illegal for them (UAL) to blast," said a source last Wednesday, "but agencies had approached them and told them not to blast until the water-taking permit is in place."

Blasting by UAL is permitted in their licence under the Aggregate Resources Act that was issued last year, but residents have had doubts about the site plan of the quarry area.

Where part of the problem lies, according to the source, is a house between Third and Fourth Line on R.R. 43 (Sideroad 22) that is owned and occupied by UAL. Under the Aggregate Resources Act, which governs the Acton quarry, all houses are to be removed before excavation begins.

The house was still standing following the blasting on Monday. The source added that the Ministry of Natural Resources but won't enforce the removal of the house.

A second problem lies in the unsettled water-taking permit on

the south side.

A quarry consultant, HBT AGRI Limited in Waterloo, has put out a yearly water-taking report since 1989. Since that time there have been numerous criticisms from agencies and residents.

The source mentioned a letter from the consultant in 1989, which said the radius of interference was listed at between one-and-a-half (MNR) was aware of the blasting, and two kilometres. At that time, UAL was pumping 300,000 gallons of water a day on the north side. The current permit on the north side allows for 1.8 million

gallons to be pumped. The latest application for a south-side permit is for two million gallons, said the source.

In the latest letter from HBT AGRI Ltd., one resident understood it to read as follows: "We understand there to be interference with domestic wells within 600-metres of the quarry operation ... the exact magnitude of the interference (the lowering of water in residents' wells) is difficult to predict, especially in a fractured rock aquifer."

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