



MEDAL WINNERS: AHS tech students recently grabbed seven medals at the Halton Skills Olympics. From left: teacher Norbert Axtmann, Harch Brar, third in C.A.D. architectural; Lisa Sanderson, first in manual; Dave Wray, first in C.A.D. architectural; Jen Shrubsole, fourth in manual; Erin Martijn, second in communications tech and teacher Terry Golletz. Absent are silver communication winners Dave Schultz and Dave Pennock. (Doug Harrison photo)

Environmental operetta at Robert Little school

ROBERT LITTLE NEWS

BY THOMAS MAHON & BECKY CHAPMAN

Hurry, hurry, come one, come all. It's only a dollar to see it all!! Yes, everyone come to see the Robert Little Operetta ... Assignment Earth! Grade 4 and 5 students all across Robert Little will be presenting this presentation to encourage people to protect our environment.

There will be two presentations (Cast 1 and Cast 2); one was last night (Tuesday) and the other will be tonight (Wednesday) at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.

On May 11 all Grade 5 students will be going to the Blue Springs Scout Camp on the Sixth line. The students will be working on an environmental theme. They will enjoy a two-day stay with meals provided for them. We hope they have a good time.

Computer crashes can't stop duo

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Not even computer crashes to two Acton computers at the recent 1994 Halton Skills Olympics prevented local high school tech students from capturing two gold, two bronze and three silver medals.

The suspect machines belonged to Acton High students Dave Wray and Harch Brar, who captured a gold and bronze respectively in the Computer Aided Drafting (C.A.D.) architectural category at the event in Oakville.

Wray and 19-year-old Lisa Sanderson, who earned a gold in the manual drafting exam, are heading to the Ontario Skills Olympics at Hamilton's Copps Coliseum on May 16 and 17.

Acton High tech teacher Norbert Axtmann said on Friday that both computers were cleared of all unnecessary files and checked for viruses before the competition.

"I saw Dave becoming really agitated at his machine and that concerned me, because I knew he

knew the program (Softplan) and that the computers had sufficient memory. But I wasn't allowed to talk to him while the competition was in progress."

Soon after, Wray's computer crashed and indicated an error message that neither he nor his teacher had ever seen.

Not 10 minutes later, Brar's computer shut down with the identical error message.

"We've run these machines three periods a day every day since September and nothing like this has ever happened," Axtmann said, adding the computers were somehow tampered with before leaving for the Olympics.

Axtmann got Brar's computer limping to 50 per cent capacity so he could finish his work, while Wray's worked at 75 per cent.

"They were limited to what they could do, but finished the exam that way. I thought they had blown their chance," said Axtmann.

The students were playing the role of draftsmen in an office. They

were to produce a working floor plan — including dimensions, notes and sizes — and design sketches of a summer cottage.

Brar hurried to finish the elevation while Wray, who already had finished, was one of six in the field of 20 to complete the bonus exercise of a section of a wall.

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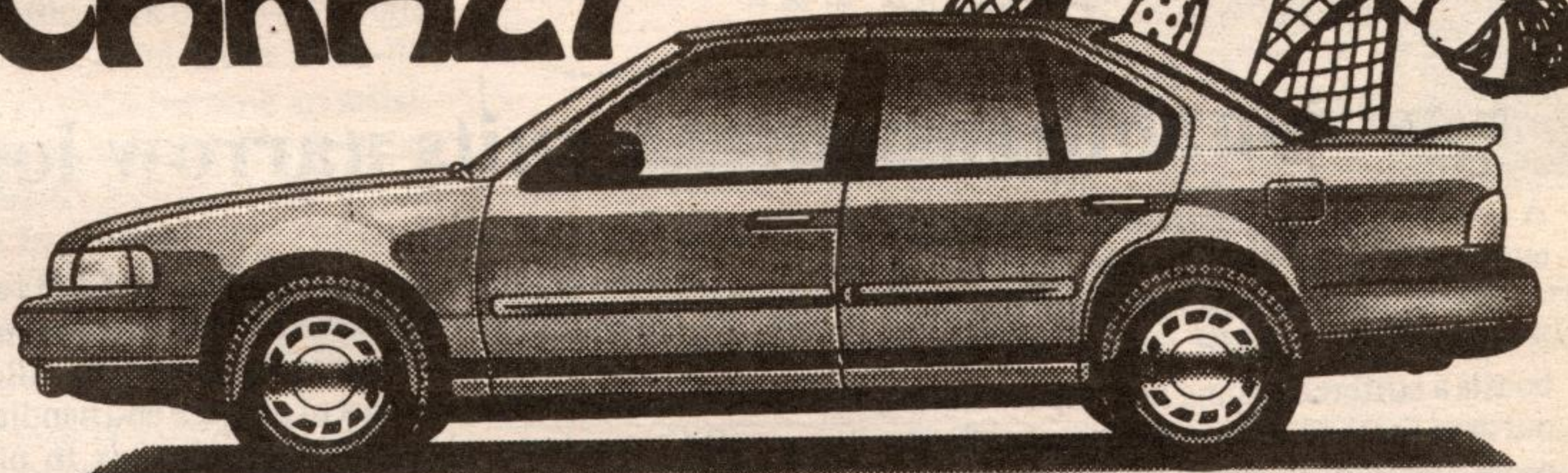
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