

AHS achievers honoured

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

It was standing room only at Acton High on Friday morning as proud parents cheered on their blushing children, over 60 in all, as they received Acton Achiever awards from school officials.

Principal Joyce Bradley said they were recognizing those special students that characterize the values they strive for at Acton High including service, achievement and commitment.

"We are recognizing students, who at various levels, have made significant changes in their lives, for other people and for themselves," Bradley said.

"We know that when they leave us, they leave to go out and be the leaders in our communities in order that they can help us make the world a better place to be."

Jamie Birrell, James Metcalfe and Rob Turpin each received two awards. Jamie graduates this year with the distinction of having won the Halton gold medal for architectural CAD (computer aided design).

Soccer coach Jamie Shepherd, who also received an award as a volunteer coach, said Jamie excelled in his efforts on and off the court and was often pelted with old shoes and leather balls from fellow team members when he wanted to train even more.

Arts teacher Sharon French said that when she met James Metcalfe he told



ACTON ACHIEVERS: Over 60 Acton High school students received Acton Achiever awards from the school at an awards ceremony on Friday. Front: Double award winner James Metcalfe. Back, left to right: Norbert Axtmann (teacher), Spencer Navarra-Chew, Rob Turpin, Rebecca Austin, Tricia Johnson, James Mashinter and Terry Ruf (vice-principal).

her that he got good marks in art, but that he wanted to be known as a jock.

"Last year, James had the lead in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and played the role of Linus in a very touching and comedic way," French said, adding he also did superb jobs in this year's productions and talent show.

Rob Turpin was honoured for his dedication in working with both the midget boys' and girls' basketball teams and for his academics.

Language teacher Lisa

Rogers said that Rob didn't seem too enthused at the beginning of a the Grade 12 creative writing course.

"Rob made fun of most of the assignments that we did, but as we came along he has really shown creativity, originality and something that I really respect, a pride in his work that I didn't see at the beginning of the year."

Three students, Rebecca Austin, Tricia Johnson and James Mashinter received awards for achieving their full potential while at AHS.

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