



**TOP TECHS:** Techs reigned supreme recently at Acton High school during several technical skills competitions. Acton's in-school gold medal winners include, front, left to right: Robbie Vorne, Joey Vilcius, Buchanan Elliott and Mike Banfield. Back: Ray Seeger, Nick Fread, Adam Bosch, Cameron Cardiff and Cyrus Bapooji. — Frances Niblock photo

## Techs reign at Acton High

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**  
The New Tanner

The technical expertise of Acton High school students Nick Fread and Ray Seeger earned them gold medals at the all-Halton Skills Olympics last week and advancement to the Ontario Skills Competitions in Kitchener later this month.

Fread won the Computer Aided Design — Architectural competition and Seeger won the Mechanical CAD competition, proving once again that Acton technical students are a force to be reckoned with.

The high level of technical skills shown by local students wasn't a surprise to many. In the eight years Acton has competed in the Skills Olympics, it has had five national medals winners, seven provincial medal winners and many students who placed in the all-Haltons.

Head of Technical Studies, Norbert Axtmann, said the medals show Acton students have lots of opportunity to excel.

"Small school and all, students can get training better, or equivalent to, a lot of larger schools. We asked our students how far they want to go and then help them get there," Axtmann said.

Ten students took part on the Halton Skills Olympics; the stepping stone to provincial and national competitions and 48 students took part in the in-school competition.

With the whoops and cheers of her friends echoing through the halls, Acton High school student Joey Vilcius accepted a gold medal in the transportation technology — automobile maintenance category during

in-school skills competition. Students entered in the automobile maintenance section rotated through six work stations, some of them timed events that included repacking the bearings of a rotor, removing, reinstalling and balancing a tire on a rim and completing a welding job.

"The winners of the desktop publishing (Cyrus Bapooji and Cameron Cardiff) did an absolutely beautiful poster to promote our skills competition," Axtmann said.

The in-school gold medal winning computer animation project by Robbie Vorne and Ryan Brooks was a logo design for the Year of the Elderly.

"Crossed-laurel wreaths came into the screen and then a globe came in and spins. The wreaths then kind of flaps and takes the globe away," Axtmann said, adding that it was really simple and very effective.

Here are the results of the all-Halton competitions last week:

**Architectural CAD** —  
Nick Fread — Gold  
— Sarah Rosenmeier — Silver  
**Mechanical CAD**  
— Ray Seeger — Gold  
— Paul Withers — Bronze  
**Team Carpentry** — Mike Banfield and Buchanan Elliott — Bronze  
**Cabinet Making** —  
Adam Bosch — Fourth  
— Phil Wilson — Fifth



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