

# Area students earn top honours at science fair



Centennial Middle School students Matt Weber and Kylie de Chastelain (left) and Alex Harmsen and Irene Harmsen (right) won an all-expenses paid trip to the



Canada-wide Science Fair in Quebec next month after winning awards at the recent Bay Area Science & Engineering Fair. Submitted photos

Local students from Georgetown and Acton schools shone recently at the Bay Area Science & Engineering Fair held at Mohawk College.

They were among 350 competitors in Grades 7 to 12 from Halton, Hamilton, Brant-Haldimand and Norfolk Regions showcasing 252 projects.

Selected to attend the all-expenses paid trip to the Canada Wide Science Fair (The Nationals) in Quebec in May are Centennial School students Irene Harmsen and Alex Harmsen with their project Survival or Extinction: A Virtual Simulation and Kylie de Chastelain and Matt Weber with their project Math Assessment Preparation Techniques as Homework. All are first-time competitors.

The de Chastelain and Weber team won the Roy Middleton Award for Best Junior Project for the over all top exhibit in the Grade 7/8 division and a Gold Merit Award. Kylie and Matt studied the effectiveness of different study techniques to improve math skills.

The Harmsen team also won a Gold Merit Award plus the Dofasco Process Automation Award. The duo created a computer simulation model to find out which variables will determine an animal species' survival.

Also at this competition, Anthony Querques of St. Joseph School in Acton won the Silver Merit Award for his project, Maintaining the Balance— Titrations: A Volumetric Analysis. His project also received the Chemical Institute of Canada-Hamilton Section Award, The Dr. Colin J. L. Lock Memorial Chemistry Award, the Nelson Steel Award-Chemistry and the Ramanujan Mathematics Award.

Winning Bronze Merit Awards were Steven Slowka of St. Joseph School for Acid Armour and James Rowan of St. Brigid for Coffee Break. Steven also won the Nelson Steel Award-Environmental.



James Rowan, a Grade 8 St. Brigid student won a Bronze Merit Award for his project Coffee Break at the annual Bay Area Science & Engineering Fair held at Mohawk College. Submitted photo

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## Food bank to use 'project'

Continued from pg. 13

"The nice part is that once we've worked the bugs and kinks out of the system and it's put in place, this will be a model that other food banks can use," said Ed Cox, chair of the Georgetown Bread Basket board, who added that the cost of the \$300 barcode scanner will be picked up by Microsoft.

"We might hire Joseph to help systemize things around here," joked Christ the King principal Nijole Vaitonis. "This project is wonderful. It's not just his brilliance, but it's hard work, commitment and determination that made this happen."

The Imagine Cup is in its third year and more than 20,000 students from 90 countries have participated in the six different categories, including software design, IT, short film and interface designer, with \$25,000 going to each division winner.

When asked if he would consider a career in computer programming or logistics after his experience with the food bank inventory project, Querques replied that he likely will study in the field of engineering.

"My heart still lies with material sciences as a career path," said Querques, who is the starting halfback for the CTK Jaguars' football team and is also taking a guitar course at school this semester.

"But I know that in engineering school, there are sections that apply specifically to computing, and it's always great to have know-how with computers."

(Eamonn Maher can be reached at [emaher@independentfreepress.com](mailto:emaher@independentfreepress.com))

\*Leasing plans OAC provided by Kia Canada Financial Services. Available on 2006 Spectra (ST5416)/2006 Sportage LX (SP5516). Based on a 48/48 month lease rate of 0.00%/1.82% and a down payment or trade equivalent of \$2,849/\$3,500. First month's lease payment of \$168/\$209 plus \$0/\$1,295 delivery and destination, and a \$350 acquisition fee, due upon delivery. Total lease obligation for the featured models based on an MSRP of \$15,995/\$21,095 is \$10,913/\$13,532 and the option to purchase at end of lease for \$5,125.50/\$8,508.20 plus applicable taxes. Lease has 20,000 km/year allowance (other packages available) and \$0.10/km for excess. \*\*2006 Spectra MSRP (ST5416) from \$15,995. 2006 Sportage LX MSRP (SP5516) from \$21,095. Licence, registration, insurance, delivery and destination and taxes are not included, unless otherwise stated. MSRPs of 2006 Spectra (ST5416) include delivery and destination of \$1,090. Prices subject to change without notice. Dealer may sell/lease for less. >Fuel consumption for 2006 Spectra (ST5416) is 42.8 mpg (6.6 L/100 km), 2006 Sportage LX (SP5516) is 36.2 mpg (7.8 L/100km) Highway. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication, EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. \*J.D. Power and Associates 2005 U.S. Automotive Performance, Execution and Layout Study.† Study based on responses from 115,026 U.S. new-vehicle owners surveyed during the first 90 days of ownership. [www.jdpower.com](http://www.jdpower.com). †Test drive program ends May 31, 2006. XM offer expires June 15, 2006 or while supplies last. Approximate retail value of RoadyXT and 2 months service is \$99.99 and \$25.98 respectively plus applicable taxes. Eligibility for the above offer is contingent upon the purchase of a 12-month prepaid subscription to XM Canada Satellite Radio Service and the payment of any associated fees and taxes (including, but not limited to, all applicable shipping charges). In the event of cancellation by customer prior to the expiry of the 12-month prepaid subscription, customer becomes responsible for payment of the full retail value, plus applicable taxes, of the RoadyXT to XM Canada. XM Canada reserves the right to substitute a comparable radio at its sole discretion. All fees and programming are subject to change without notice. This offer is non-transferable and not redeemable in cash. Offer only available within Canada and is not valid in association with any other offer. Offer available for new subscriptions only and can only be redeemed once per person. Use of the XM Satellite Radio Service in Canada is governed by the terms and conditions located at [www.xmradio.ca](http://www.xmradio.ca). Use of the RoadyXT is governed by the terms and conditions enclosed therewith and XM Canada and Kia Canada hereby disclaim any responsibility with respect to customer use thereof. This offer is not open to employees of Kia Canada or XM Canada or its affiliated companies, immediate family members of any such employees and all others with whom any of the foregoing are domiciled. KIA is a registered trademark of Kia Motors Corporation used under licence. ROADYXT is a registered trademark of XM Satellite Radio Inc. used under licence by XM Canada. †Kia's "Worry-Free Comprehensive" warranty covers most vehicle components against defects under normal use and maintenance conditions. Price, availability and specifications are subject to changes without notice. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.