

School boards honor outstanding students

By FRANCES NIBLOCK

Clever, caring and hard working – those characteristics are common to the Halton public and Catholic school board students honoured with excellence awards.

Ninety-three elementary and secondary public school students, including three in Acton, will receive awards tonight (Thursday) at the Halton District School Board's 24th "Celebration of Student Excellence" evening in Burlington.

All recipients were nominated for exceptional qualities in two areas, including academics, the vocational and athletic fields, self-improvement, community work and citizenship and student leadership.

Although there were a handful of qualified nominations at Robert Little School, Grade five student Yaw Antwi-Boasiako was the clear winner for being a valuable member of the school family.

Antwi-Boasiako, 10, is described by his nominators as a genuinely kind leader, a unique and mature deep-thinker who is also "clever,



Yaw Antwi-Boasiako
Robert Little

caring and driven to succeed."

Antwi-Boasiako's mature sense of fair play and empathy for others was demonstrated when he gave up a good chance to win a track and field race to stop to help a competitor from another school who had fallen.

An "incredibly positive and helpful attitude" earned Jakob Macpherson his award. The Grade eight McKenzie-Smith Bennett School student is an exemplary role model who takes learning seriously and is actively involved in the community.

Macpherson is known for "trying his best and being there to help others when needed."

The "overwhelming exu-



Jakob Macpherson
M.S.B

berance," of Acton High School student Kathleen Dennis "personifies the spirit of Acton High School" according to her nominators.

Dennis is a musician and an exceptionally diligent student who is a key member of the school Band executive. She was nominated for a Sportsmanship Award at the provincial basketball championships and has donated hundreds of hours as a community volunteer.

At Limehouse Public School, Kendra Miller was selected for being a quiet leader and positive role model.

The Grade five student volunteers as an officer helper and bus monitor and was in the school choir.



Kathleen Dennis
Acton High

Miller is also active in cross-country, floor hockey, dodge ball, track and field and volleyball.

At Brookville Public School, Grade eight student Charlotte Tilstra

is a self-directed, mature student whose quiet leadership was evident when she was elected Prime Minister of the Student Forum.

Tilstra is an excellent student who also finds time for basketball, Think Bowl competitions and the concert band. She is also a lunchroom helper and tutor.

Catholic Awards

A Limehouse student and one from Rockwood received "Sharing the Spirit" student excellence awards from the Halton Catholic District School Board as



Rachel Van Fraassen
St. Joesph

it celebrated the 20th anniversary of its awards last Wednesday at an Oakville school.

The Board launched Catholic Education Week 2008 (April 27 - May 2, 2008) by recognizing the achievements and efforts of the recipients with a medallion and certificate, for excellence in Catholic leadership, family commitment, school and community involvement and dedication to a difficult situation or task.

At Acton's St. Joseph School, Grade eight student Rachel Van Fraassen was selected for her compassion and care, demonstrated by her willingness to help her family and peers.

The 13-year-old Limehouse resident is known for



Jesse Krusby
Christ The King

her respectful, positive attitude towards staff and is a role model for others.

Rockwood's Jesse Krusky, a Grade 11 student at Christ the King in Georgetown, was honoured for consistently displaying the desirable qualities and Catholic values.

Krusky, the only student representative on the school's crisis response team, is described by his nominators as a caring and supportive friend, a faithful member of the school's Social Justice Committee and a "vibrant example of life in the imitation of Christ."

Two Milton students – an autistic student and a sister with a special needs sibling – were honoured with Brian P. Fichaud Spirit of Inclusion awards.



Acton's Candlelight Tribute

Passing the Torch of Remembrance

Candlelight Tributes honour and recognize the sacrifices and achievements of all those who served overseas and on the home front in the cause of Peace and Freedom

A Silent Walk and a Candlelight Tribute will be held in the evening of May 8, 2008

You are invited to gather at the Hide House parking lot on Eastern Avenue and at the Anglican Church parking lot, north of Mill St. on Willow at 7:00 p.m., then walk in procession to the Cenotaph at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Wayne Young @ 519-853-0797

