

More than 120 entrants in science fair

# From dinosaurs to CN tower: fair exhibits as varied as students themselves

by Dagmar Kanzler  
 "A science fair is one way to make young people aware of how important science is in all aspects of their lives." Hessel Pape looked frazzled, exhausted but ever-so slightly contented as he surveyed the more than 120 entries in the second annual Area Three Science Fair.

Penetanguishene, and south to Elmvale. "We're hoping to foster scientific thinking, to get the kids asking questions, testing principles, making things work..." Pape just before he rushed off to help youngsters weighted down with fragile-looking displays.

the only way to have a science fair is to start one" - and has mushroomed into the extensive, often innovative collection presented to the public last Saturday. Curiosity is what prompted ten year old Steven Barnstaple of Victoria Harbour

It was Friday evening and the last of the competitors were straggling in with their exhibits. These were the winners of competitions held in public and separate schools stretching from Waubaushene to

"We're hoping to foster scientific thinking... to get kids questioning..."

The science fair grew last year out of informal talks between a few dedicated science teachers - "we decided

Public School to devise a working model of how wind is created. "I thought you hear wind every day and I wondered



Sound(?) testing

Sacred Heart student Greg McInerney won a first place ribbon at the Science Fair held at Midland Secondary School Friday and Saturday. Greg demonstrates his sound exhibit, entered in the junior experiment division.

Staff photo

what it was so I thought I'd do a project, said Steven matter-of-factly. His model consisted of a plywood box with two chimneys, under one of which he placed a lighted candle. The heat of the candle produced, he theorized, a dry and hot (low pressure) area. Air surrounding the other chimney would be a high pressure area because it was cool and humid in comparison to the adjacent area. By burning a piece of smoky ceiling tile over the high pressure area, Steven could show the air moving from the high to the low pressure

zone - thus wind! "He did it all himself," said a proud father Barnstaple after the very lucid explanation.

Breakable dinosaur

Eleven year old Derek Mayle had less luck with his project - a clay model of Tyrannosaurus Rex. "Mr. Pape had talked about doing things in clay and I'd always been interested in meat-eating dinosaurs so I thought about it.

"But I found it a nuisance 'cause it kept breaking," breathed Derek in exasperation as he gingerly tried to re-affix a broken toe to his

reclining model. His first 'Rex' had been modelled in the upright position but had smashed to bits - "all \$8 worth".

Undaunted, Derek decided to have another go at it, this time with a dinosaur who was dying of starvation (as his emaciated stomach will testify) and could therefore lie down. "I wanna' be a scientist...do lots of outdoors work, like in the Marsh (Wye Marsh) and discover new breeds of animals."

That's in the future. But right now all that's on Derek's mind is to reassemble a 'Rex' which threatens to disintegrate before the judges arrive. Friday evening saw judging of the ap-

proximately 130 displays by officials from industry, school boards and private walks of life. Students were judged on the attractiveness of

## "I wanna' be a scientist...and discover new breeds of animals"

displays, how scientific the display was, how he/she was able to respond to questions and whether or not he/she had learned anything in the process of preparing the project. Prizes were awarded first, second and third winners.

Foils and fans  
 Deane Woods, a 13 year old Bayview School

student must have awed the judges on a number of counts - they spent more than ten minutes discussing his experiment with air foils.

The amount of lift foils of different shapes provides was tested by balancing the turning a fan on the individual foil and balancing the foil with the wind on it against weights at the other end of the scale. The more weights required to balance, the more lift the foil provides, Deane theorized; and by turning the foils at different angles, he could

determine which foils provide the most lift.

His interest in flight only really got off the ground (pardon the pun) a month ago when he visited an airplane museum in Dayton, Ohio. "That really got me excited and interested in airplanes..." Consider-

ring his progress in a month, the sky could be the limit for this budding scientist-cum-navigator. The displays were as varied as the many students who created them. It's unfortunate, many a parent was heard muttering, that they couldn't all win.



Last minute adjustment

Ten year old Steven Barnstaple adjusts the candle under one of the two chimneys in his working model of how wind is created. Curiosity on how wind is

created prompted Steven to go to reference books and then build this model for the area three science fair. Staff photo



Handle with care

"I've always been interested in meat-eating dinosaurs" says 11 year old Derek Mayle as he touches up his Tyrannosaurus Rex clay model. Transporting the clay figurine proved

to be a dangerous proposition as the toes insisted on falling off and getting lost in the green bed Derek had made for his dying 'Rex'.

Staff photo



It's like this...

Midland trustee John McCullough was one of many judges responsible for marking the more than 120 entries submitted by students from ten area three schools. Here he discusses the possibilities of the CN tower model with its creator, David Bayfield of Corpus Christi in Penetanguishene. Staff photo

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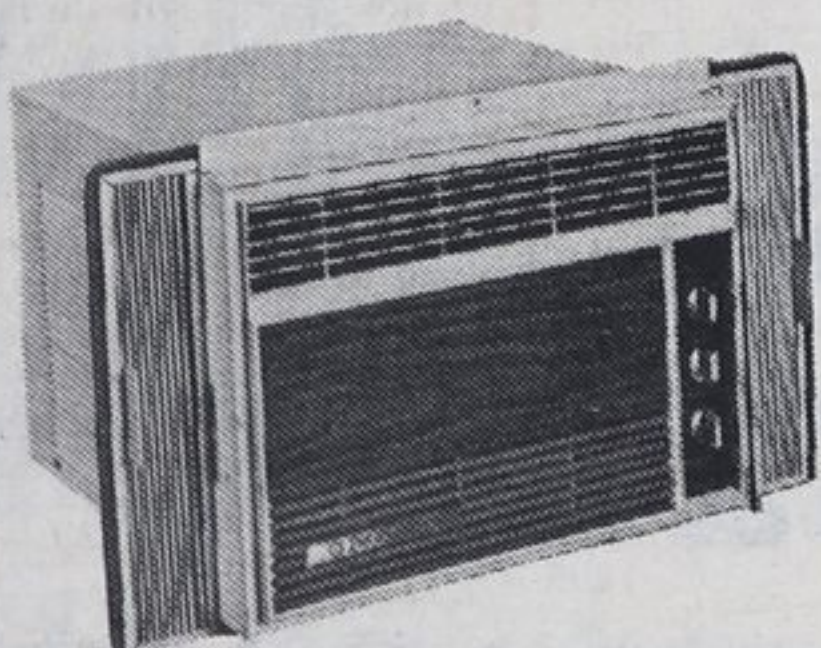
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