



The Erie County Technical School (ECTS) takes pride in offering students a comprehensive education that includes outstanding instruction and hands-on application of theory within the classroom as well as work-based learning experiences. ECTS students have the opportunity to participate in cooperative education, internships and job shadowing. Many students are also afforded the chance to participate in field trips, community service projects and may elect to compete in technical competitions at the local, state and national level.

Most recently, 12 Drafting & Design students traveled to Butler County Community College (BCCC) to participate in the 16th annual Drafting Competition and Technology Fair. This highly competitive competition was introduced in 1991 with only seven high schools and 60 contestants. Today, it has become the premier high school drafting competition in western Pennsylvania attracting over 20 schools and more than 160 students.

For two years in a row, ECTS drafting students have proved to be serious contenders as they have taken home overall first place honors in the technical/career school division.

"It was very exciting to come home with the first place trophy for the second year in a row," said Mariea Sargent, Drafting & Design instructor. *"I am extremely proud of how well our students performed at the BCCC's annual drafting contest. They were very well prepared and were fine representatives of ECTS."*

This year's competition included five drafting categories – Mechanical Drafting (manual), Architectural Drafting (manual), AutoCAD Machine 2D, Inventor 3D and Architectural Desktop. Students were evaluated on line weights, accuracy, dimensions and notations, lettering, overall appearance and neatness.

Amory Oberlander, a second year drafting student at ECTS and a junior at Fort LeBoeuf High School took first place in the mechanical drafting category. *"I competed last year and took first place in the same category,"* said Oberlander. *"This year's project was to draw an orthographic view of a bracket. I really enjoy the mechanical part of drafting because you have more room to be creative and personalize your drawings."*

Taking second and third place respectively in the same category were ECTS students, **Igor Belousov** and **Anthony Edinger**. Belousov, a first year drafting student and a sophomore at Girard High School, was excited about the competition and took extra time to prepare himself.

Edinger, a second year student from Fort LeBoeuf, was also happy to be part of the ECTS team and enjoyed the challenge of completing a drawing within an allotted amount of time.

Nate Gaff took first place in AutoCAD Machine 2D. Gaff is an Iroquois student and is completing his second year in the Drafting & Design program at ECTS. He was also the first place winner in the same category at last year's competition. Fellow student, **Tina Raeke**, a second year student at ECTS and a junior at McDowell High School, was also victorious with a third

Ashland is North America's leading distributor of thermoplastic materials. Our supply chain includes the world's leading plastics producers.



The miracles of science™



Bayer MaterialScience



The Chemical Company



polymers



Material Selection Assistance

Local Inventory

Packaging Options

Dedicated Fleet

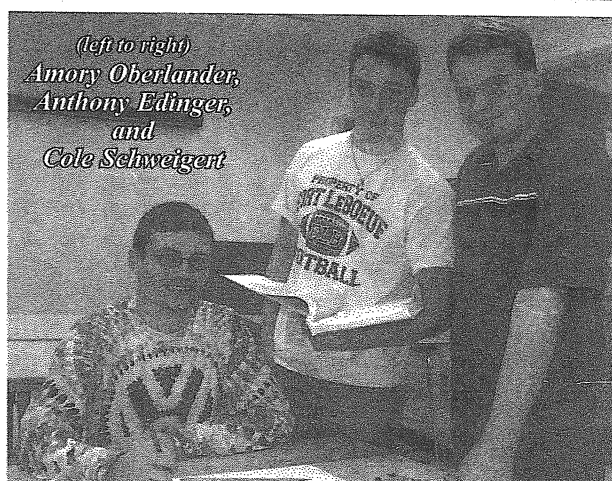
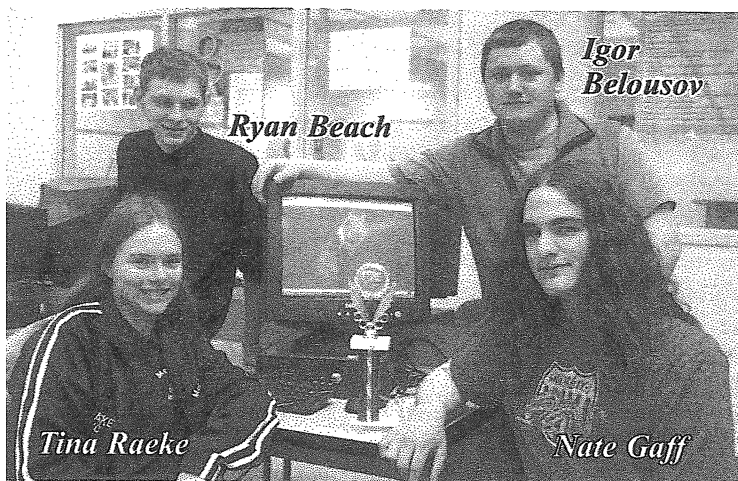
ASHLAND

For more information, contact your local sales representative:
1-800-531-7106 or visit us on the web at: www.ashland.com



Ashland is committed to the continuous evolution of technology and service solutions that promote health, safety and environmental protection around the world.

© Copyright 2007, Ashland * Responsible Care is a registered service mark of the American Chemistry Council, the Canadian Chemical Producers' Association and of other entities in other countries.



place win in AutoCAD Machine 2D.

Ryan Beach took second place for his drawing in the Architectural Drafting category. Beach is a second year drafting student and a senior at North East High School. *"My project was to take an existing barn structure and remodel it into an office building. It was fun to be on the campus of a community college and I really enjoyed participating."*

Cole Schweigert, took third place in the Inventor 3D category. Schweigert is a second year drafting student and a junior at General McLane. *"I took second place last year in AutoCAD Machine 2D but this year's project was a lot more difficult. It was fun to participate again and I was happy to be part of the overall winning team."*

For their efforts, all first place winners received \$75 cash while second and third place recipients received \$50 and \$25 respectively. With ECTS claiming the first place trophy, the trophy for second place went

to Central High School and Clearfield County Career & Technology Center took home the third place trophy.

"This annual competition is a great opportunity for high school students to demonstrate their technical knowledge, skills and problems solving abilities," added Sargent. *"It's also beneficial for educators who have the opportunity to network during the competitions. We can share and discuss the latest initiatives, curriculum ideas and instructional methods used in the drafting and design industry."*

In addition to the competitions, visiting students were given a guided tour of the campus and had the chance to learn more about admission requirements and the various opportunities available at BCCC.

"Most of our drafting students and competitors plan to continue their education in this field so it was beneficial for them to visit a college campus and to learn more about all the educational and career opportunities available to them after high school," continued Sargent. *"It was an enjoyable day and a very worthwhile field trip. We're all looking forward to returning to BCCC next spring."*

- Process Control Systems
- Cavity Pressure Sensing Technology
- Process Training

Karl E. Bauer
Regional Account Manager
phone: 231.947.3111

cell: 513.515.4056

fax: 231.947.6403

e-mail: karl.bauer@rjginc.com

web: www.rjginc.com

RJG, INC.
3111 Park Drive
Traverse City, MI
49686 USA



eDART System™

Cavity Pressure

Training



Polymer Molding Inc.

ISO 9001:2000 Certified Supplier of Plastic caps/plugs and other custom molded components

JEFFREY HINDMAN

Vice President Sales and Marketing

1655 WEST 20TH STREET • ERIE, PA 16502-2192
(814) 455-8085 • 800-344-7584 • FAX (814) 453-4381

www.pmimolding.com

jhindman@pmimolding.com

Erie Times-News Mon., April 30, 2007
Learning Page

Girard student wins scholarship award

The Erie County Technical School recently announced that David Corsi, a drafting & design student from Girard

High School, was selected as this year's recipient of the Patrick R. Locco Memorial Scholarship Award.

The award is sponsored by the Manufacturers' Association of Northwest Pennsylvania.

Corsi, who is currently participating in a cooperative education experience at Reiser Tool Design in Girard and has been accepted in the plastics engineering program at Penn State Behrend, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship toward continuing education and training.

The Patrick R. Locco Award was created 34 years ago by the Manufacturers' Association of Northwest Pennsylvania and was designed to recognize outstanding high school students who distinguished themselves in technical and academic studies.

Erie County Technical school takes first place

Students in the Drafting and Design program at the Erie County Technical School (ECTS), 8500 Oliver Road, recently took first place in the technical/career school division at the 16th annual Drafting Competition and Technology Fair sponsored by Butler County Community College.

This year's competition included five drafting categories - Mechanical Drafting (manual), Architectural Drafting (manual), AutoCAD Machine 2D, Inventor 3D and Architectural Desktop. Students were evaluated on line weights, accuracy, dimensions and notations, lettering, overall appearance and neatness.

Amory Oberlander, a second year drafting student at ECTS and a junior at Fort LeBoeuf High School took first place in the mechanical drafting category. Taking second and third place respectively in the same category were Igor Belousov, a first year drafting student and a sophomore at Girard High School, and Anthony Edinger, a second year student from Fort LeBoeuf High School.

Nate Gaff, a junior at Iroquois High School took first place in AutoCAD Machine 2D and Tina Raeke, a second year student at ECTS and a junior at McDowell High School, was also victorious with a third place win in AutoCAD Machine 2D.

Ryan Beach, a senior at North East High School, took second place for his drawing in the Architectural Drafting category and Cole Schweigert, a junior at Gen-

eral McLane, took third place in the Inventor 3D category.

This highly competitive competition was introduced in 1991 with only seven high schools and 60 contestants. Today, it has become the premier high school drafting competition in western Pennsylvania attracting over 20 schools and more than 160 students.

For their efforts, all first place winners received \$75 cash while second and third place recipients received \$50 and \$25 respectively. With ECTS claiming the first place trophy in the technical school category, the trophy for second place went to Central High School and Clearfield County Career & Technology Center took home the third place trophy.

"This annual competition is a great opportunity for high school students to demonstrate their technical knowledge, skills and problems solving abilities," said Mariea Sargent, Drafting & design instructor at ECTS. "It's also beneficial for educators who have the opportunity to network during the competitions. We can share and discuss the latest initiatives, curriculum ideas and instructional methods used in the drafting and design industry." In addition to the competitions, visiting students were given a guided tour of the campus and had the chance to learn more about admission requirements and the various opportunities available at Butler County Community College.

The Albion News
Wed., May 2, 2007

Erie County Technical School announces scholarship winner

The Erie County Technical School (8500 Oliver Road) recently announced that David Corsi, a Drafting & Design student from Girard High School, was selected as this year's recipient of the Patrick R. Locco Memorial Scholarship Award, sponsored by the Manufacturers' Association of Northwest Pennsylvania. Corsi will receive a \$1,000 scholarship toward continuing education and training.

Corsi is currently participating in a cooperative education experience at Reiser Tool Design in Girard and has been accepted in the Plastics Engineering program at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College.

The other nominees from the Erie County Technical School for this year's award were Steve Kibbe, an Electrical Engineering student from Fort LeBoeuf High School; Aaron Skarczenski, an Electronics student from Seneca High School; and Nick Teribery, an Electronics student from Girard High School. Each nominee will receive a monetary award of \$100.

"Candidates were nominated by their technology instructors and later participated in an intensive personal interview conducted by a committee from the Manufacturers' Association," explained Patty Palo, guidance counselor. "Students were selected for not only their academic and technical abilities but they were also judged on a written essay, interviewing skills and professional attire. Each and

every student should be very proud of their achievements."

The Patrick R. Locco Memorial Scholarship Award is only available to students enrolled in technical programs at Erie County Technical School, City of Erie Regional Career and Technical School; Corry Area High School and Crawford County Area Vocational-Technical School.

All nominees and winners of the Patrick R. Locco Memorial Scholarship Award were recognized at a reception held at the Manufacturers' Association of Northwest Pennsylvania. The Association's Board of Governors and senior staff members, parents, instructors, co-op supervisors, school administrators and representatives from local business and industry were in attendance for this special ceremony to honor these exceptional students.

The Patrick R. Locco Award was created 34 years ago by the Manufacturers' Association of Northwest Pennsylvania and was designed to recognize outstanding high school students who distinguished themselves in technical and academic studies. Formerly called the Golden Watch Award, this honor was renamed after the late Patrick R. Locco who was Association vice president from 1985 to 1994 and a strong advocate of technical education. This tradition continues today, to support and encourage young people to further their education and technical training upon high school graduation.

ECTS's co-operative education program

They can be found in restaurants, car dealerships, hospitals, nursing homes and manufacturing facilities. They can also be spotted at construction job sites, office buildings and even churches. No matter where they are or what they're doing, Erie County Technical School (ECTS) students are gaining valuable on-the-job training to complement their high school education.

Co-operative education helps connect classroom learning with work-based learning experiences. Students on co-op continue and expand their technical training by working for employers during the period they would normally attend ECTS during their senior year. In some cases, students begin co-op at the end of their junior year and continue their employment through the summer leading up to their senior year.

Currently, ECTS has nearly 70 students participating in the co-op program with nearly as many employers. ECTS works diligently with current and potential employers to develop an appropriate training plan as well as to monitor the performance of the students. Co-op is a combined effort that makes young people proficient and productive in the workplace.

John Karr Sr., owner of Karr Electric, is a firm believer in on-the-job training. "The co-op student currently working with our crew, who just happens to be my son, is in the Electrical Engineering program. John "Dan" Karr Jr., a senior at McDowell High School, has received a well

have the basic skills and are in the "learning mode" - open to new procedures, policies and experiences.

Shane Fuller, a senior at Northwestern High School, is more interested in residential wiring and has been working with Scott Seaton, owner of West Tek Electric. "Shane is awesome. He can't work hard enough and he enjoys every minute he's on the job site," said Seaton. "He has a well rounded classroom education and is now putting his skills to use in a real world application. We are in the process of building a multi-million dollar home and Shane has done everything from installing the electric service to running conduit, installing phone and computer data jacks to wiring recess lighting and fixtures."

Elaine Shaffer, business partnership coordinator at ECTS, visits its co-op students once a month for employer evaluations. Students are graded on various criteria including personal appearance, attendance/punctuality, responsibility/dependability, attitude/cooperation and their willingness to learn. They are also evaluated on safety habits, time management/flexibility, employability skill/core competencies, ability to accept constructive criticism and willingness to seek help when needed. Progress, quality and completion of projects are also key components of the monthly observation.

"We take great pride in placing qualified high school students in appropriate co-op positions. Right now we have nearly 70 stu-

The Albion News
Wed., May 2, 2007

continued . . .

rounded education at ECTS and possesses a good basic knowledge of both residential and commercial wiring. Working on the job site has helped to expand upon what he has already learned at ECTS and has given John a chance to use different equipment and a variety of tools that he may not have had access to in high school," continued Karr. "We've been working on a major renovation project at the Bishop's Institute of Applied Sciences and Biblical Studies and I have relied on Dan to do everything from wiring devices and panels, to putting up lights and installing switches and receptacles. From an employer standpoint, you can't beat real world work experience and the co-op program provides just that."

Steve Kibbe, a senior at Fort LeBoeuf High School, is an Electrical Engineering student who is currently participating in a co-op position with Chernicky Electric. Paul Chernicky, owner, is a 1972 graduate of ECTS and a great advocate of the co-op program. "Over the years, I've employed a number of co-op students and in addition to Steve, I have another ECTS student who has been with me for four years. As we near the completion of a new office building for Pastore Builders, I can honestly say that Steve has basically fulfilled the role of an apprentice. He is proficient in pulling wires, installing fixtures and services and running conduit. He has completed phone/cable television installations and is now skilled in computer wiring (CAT 5)."

From commercial settings to residential construction, ECTS Electrical Engineering students

dents out on co-op and I continue to get calls from business and industry seeking qualified employees," explained Shaffer. "Cooperative education is an important program at the Erie County Technical School and a valuable work-based experience," continued Shaffer. "The co-op program is reserved for those individuals who are considered to be the most likely to succeed on the job. In addition, our co-op students are representatives of ECTS and because of this important responsibility, there are certain qualifications in place to insure that only conscientious and proficient students participate."

Shaffer added, "Co-op is a great opportunity for our students and helps open their eyes to employer expectations such as good attendance, responsibility, work ethic and dependability. Whether headed off to college or directly into the workforce, the co-op program provides valuable work experience and is a good addition to a resume."

"Co-op is also a valuable tool for employers as young people can be enthusiastic and positive influences on other employees. If an employer needs help on a special project or an additional employee to perform typical job duties, the co-op program at ECTS may be a valuable human resource solution. This is also an outstanding opportunity for employers to make a difference in the development of our future workforce."

Interested in learning more about the Erie County Technical School's co-operative education program? Contact Elaine Shaffer at (814) 864-0641, ext. 363.

ECTS students take first place in drafting competition

Students in the Drafting and Design program at the Erie County Technical School (ECTS) recently took first place in the technical/career school division at the 16th annual Drafting Competition and Technology Fair sponsored by Butler County Community College.

This year's competition included five drafting categories – Mechanical Drafting (manual), Architectural Drafting (manual), AutoCAD Machine 2D, Inventor 3D and Architectural Desktop. Students were evaluated on line weights, accuracy, dimensions and notations, lettering, overall appearance and neatness.

Amory Oberlander, a second year drafting student at ECTS and a junior at Fort LeBoeuf High School took first

place in the mechanical drafting category. Taking second and third place respectively in the same category were Igor Belousov, a first year drafting student and a sophomore at Girard High School, and Anthony Edinger, a second year student from Fort LeBoeuf High School.

Nate Gaff, a junior at Iroquois High School took first place in AutoCAD Machine 2D and Tina Raeke, a second year student at ECTS and a junior at McDowell High School, was also victorious with a third place win in AutoCAD Machine 2D.

Ryan Beach, a senior at North East High School, took second place for his drawing in the Architectural Drafting cate-

gory and Cole Schweigert, a junior at General McLane, took third place in the Inventor 3D category.

This highly competitive competition was introduced in 1991 with only seven high schools and 60 contestants. Today, it has become the premier high school drafting competition in western Pennsylvania attracting over 20 schools and more than 160 students.

For their efforts, all first place winners received \$75 cash while second and third place recipients received \$50 and \$25 respectively. With ECTS claiming the first place trophy in the technical school category, the trophy for second place went to Central High School and Clearfield County Career & Technology Center took home the third place trophy.

"This annual competition is a great opportunity for high school students to demonstrate their technical knowledge, skills and problems solving abilities," said Mariea Sargent, Drafting & design instructor at ECTS. "It's also beneficial for educators who have the opportunity to network during the competitions. We can share and discuss the latest initiatives, curriculum ideas and instructional methods used in the drafting and design industry."

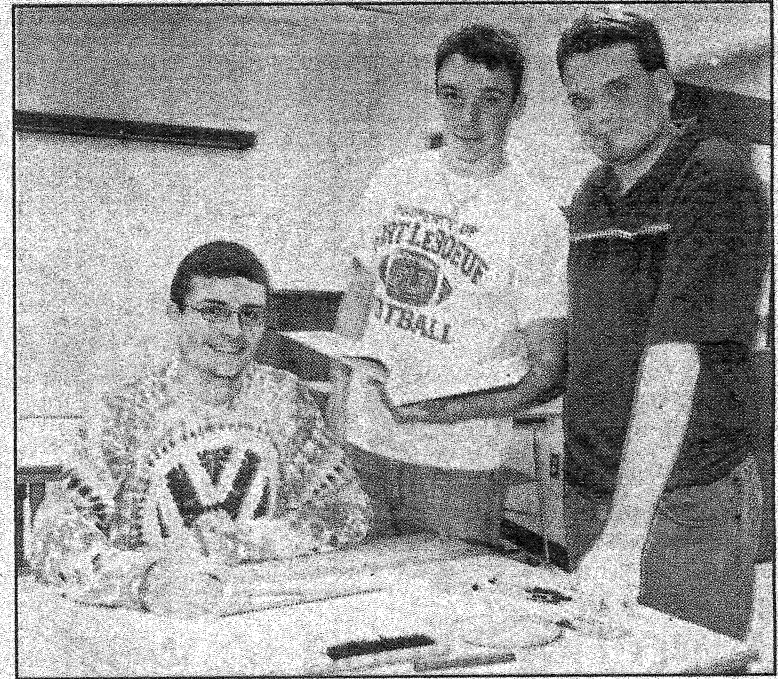


photo courtesy of Melissa Galbraith

DD p.m.: (l to r) Amory Oberlander, Anthony Edinger, and Cole Schweigert.

In addition to the competitions, visiting students were given a guided tour of the campus and had the chance to learn more about admission requirements and the various opportunities available at Butler County Community College.

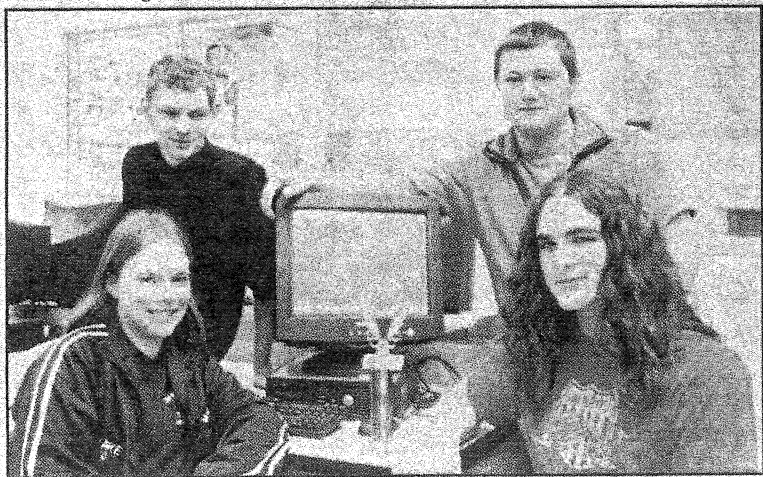


photo courtesy of Melissa Galbraith

DD a.m.: (back, l to r) Ryan Beach and Igor Belousov, (front, l to r) Tina Raeke and Nate Gaff.

ECTS students compete in State Skills-USA competition

Students from the Erie County Technical School (ECTS) recently returned from the annual SkillsUSA State Leadership Conference and Competition having earned several medals including one silver and one bronze award.

Hundreds of students from all over Pennsylvania competed in the three-day event, which was held at the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute in Schnecksville, PA. The state competition is sponsored by SkillsUSA, a national organization that provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development.

Only those students who took first place during district competitions earlier this year were eligible to compete at the state level. Students representing ECTS at the state conference included Autumn Schubert, Elizabeth Hill, David Retkowski, Sharon St. John and Andrea Adams. Students were accompanied by Mrs. Donna Erdman, SkillsUSA advisor and Early Childhood Education instructor.

"SkillsUSA competitions provide an excellent opportunity to test job skills against industry standards," said Erdman. "The conference also provides the chance for students to win scholarships and allows for networking opportunities. While students don't always win, they are very proud of their accomplishments and to be part of a premier group of students from across the state that gained eli-



photo courtesy of Melissa Galbraith
Autumn Schubert (left, North East) and Elizabeth Hill (Harbor Creek) participated and earned medals in the State Skills-USA competition.

gibility to compete and attend the conference. Our students returned to ECTS with a renewed enthusiasm for their skilled area."

Autumn Schubert, a Graphic Communication student at ECTS and a senior at North East High School, took second place in the Graphic Communications contest. Elizabeth Hill, an Early Childhood Education student at ECTS and a senior at Harbor Creek High School, took third place in the Preschool Teaching Assistant competition.

David Retkowski, a Facility Maintenance Technology student and a jun-

ior at McDowell High School participated in the Plumbing contest. Sharon St. John, a Health Assistant student and a senior at Union City High School, competed in the Basic Health Care Skills contest while Andrea Adams, a Health Assistant student and a junior at Harbor Creek High School, participated in the Nurse Assisting contest.

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving more than 280,000 high school and college students and professional members enrolled in training programs in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations.