

Success is \$30 electron microscope

By LYNN ORR

As far as he knows, Andrew Papp is the first high school student in the country to build an electron microscope. It may be one reason he captured the granddaddy of prizes at the International Science Fair last week.

Another reason, however, is the cost factor. What usually requires a \$30,000 investment, cost Papp about \$30.

He concluded that use of his method of construction might allow other high schools to obtain the device that is considered unaffordable.

That kind of reasoning garnered six prizes for Papp in California last week as one of 12 Detroit area students who went to the fair after winning first prizes at the Metropolitan Detroit Science and Engineering Fair in March. In fact, the Detroit group gathered 23 awards, more than any other region.

Papp, 17, a junior at Harrison High School in Farmington Hills, won a first place award in physics in the General Motors Grand Awards for his project, "Investigation of Electron Microscopy."

The top prize earned Papp a \$250 award and certificate, while Harrison

school received \$550 for the purchase of scientific books or equipment and a plaque for display in the school's trophy case.

PAPP ALSO won a \$100 savings award for a first place award from the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers; an honorable mention award from Eastman Kodak Co.; a silver medal from the U.S. Army, an honorable mention from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and a one-year student membership as a finalist in the American Association of Physics Teachers awards category.

The son of Leo and Terry Papp, 2485 Castleridge, he accepted the achievements calmly. Asked what he liked most about the week-long fair in California, he replied, "The weather—it was 80 degrees and fantastic out there."

Accompanied by HHS chemistry and biology instructor Wayne Shalla, Papp enjoyed the chance to see other projects and meet students from around the world. And it's a good bet he'll be back there next year.

"The electron microscope works more like a TV than a regular micro-



ANDREW PAPP

scope," he says. "You use electrons instead of light."

His microscope gets up to 30,000 magnification. "Usually it costs about \$1 in power in microscopy or about \$30,000 for a microscope with 250,000 power. I converted things from junk like old TV sets."

A pump and transformer were donated, but the low cost of Papp's project impressed everyone. Papp says his friend, Brad Johnson, was a big help in getting the project done.

"He gave me technical assistance and moral support. Just his interest in the project helped keep me motivated."

Papp has another year of high school to complete before considering college—"probably the University of Michigan or Massachusetts Institute of Technology," he says. This summer he'll be attending the Lawrence Institute of Technology's summer institute and possibly planning other projects.

Before that, he'll finish work on the school's yearbook and most likely collect some credit for technical assistance in Harrison's play "The Music Man" presented last weekend.

PTA scholarship winners announced

Six Farmington students were chosen as recipients of the G.V. Harrison scholarships for 1978 awarded by the Farmington Area Parent-Teacher Association Council.

Each student will receive a \$100 scholarship from funds raised by this PTA this year. Two seniors from each Farmington high school were selected to receive the awards.

North Farmington High winners are Jon Stevens, of 3790 Wendy, and David MacLennan, of 28141 Peppermill.

Stevens has been a member of the concert and marching bands at NFHS, a variety swimmer for three years, and plans to study flight technology at Purdue University this fall.

MacLennan is a member of the National Honor Society and has been a newspaper carrier for the past five years. He will major in chemical engineering at General Motors Institute next year.

Julie Trevisan, of 36093 Congress C., and William Philip, of 22437 Lilac, are Farmington High School winners.

Ms. Trevisan is president of the National Honor Society, a member of the student council and a cheerleader. She plans to continue her education at Valparaiso University, majoring in business administration.

Philip plans to use his scholarship at Western Michigan University, majoring in secondary education. He is a member of National Honor Society and plays football and baseball.

HARRISON HIGH School winners are Thomas Ervin, of 26101 Springfield, and Linda Hamel, of 28141 Castleridge.

Ervin is a member of the student council, class boards, National Honor Society and jazz bands, and the Michigan Ballet Theatre. He plans to study telecommunications at Michigan State University.

Ms. Hamel is a National Honor Society member as well as the band and science club. She plans to study optometry at Ferris State College.

The students were presented their scholarships May 17 at Kenbrook Elementary School.

Obituaries

HENRY A. SONSMITH, SR.

Henry Sonsmith, Sr., retired University of Michigan instructor and Farmington Hills resident, died May 10 at his home. A scripture reading was said in the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home and a high mass was held in Our Lady of Sorrows Church with Magr. Thomas Beahan officiating. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery in Alpena.

Mr. Sonsmith retired from U-M in 1972 as a lecturer in vocational education and practical arts. He worked through the Detroit extension service of the university.

Before joining the university in 1948, he taught drafting in the Michigan Veterans Vocational School and taught for 19 years at Hamtramck High School. He was a member of Iota Lambda Sigma professional fraternity, the National Retired Teachers Association, and Michigan Vocational Education Association. He also was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Church and was active in the choir for many years.

Surviving are his wife, Audrey; sons, Henry A., Jr. and David C.; daughters, Mrs. Anne Quigley and Mrs. Mary Bower; and nine grandchildren.

MARIA DICHTIAR

Maria Dichtiar, 66, of 21017 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, died May 10 in Botsford General Hospital. Services were May 12 in Fred Wood Funeral Home with the Rev. Nestor Siochak officiating. Burial was in Arkwark Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

Mrs. Dichtiar was a receptionist in a dental office. Surviving is her son, Peter, of Northville.

HARRY JAMES CASSATT

Harry Cassatt, of Farmington Hills, died May 15. Services were May 17 in the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home with Pastor Jerry Young of the Church of God officiating. Burial was in Presbyterian Cemetery in Huntington, Penn.

Mr. Cassatt was a World War II veteran who served in the Navy as a seaman 2d class. He received the American Theater ribbon and Victory medal. He was a member of the Moose Lodge of Farmington.

Surviving are his sons, Robert L., Allan J., Harry (Chip), and Mark Anthony; and daughter, Mrs. Sharon Marie Nuscio.

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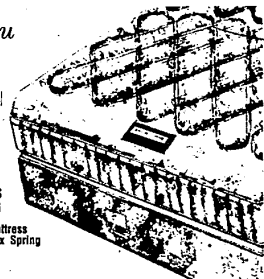
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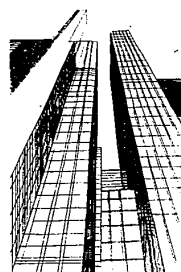


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