

Picks to click

Warner students give a high-tech 'show-and-tell' at program

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When 10-year-old Cameron Hasten walked into Warner Middle School for last week's "Technology Night 1999," he hadn't decided where to attend sixth grade in the fall.

Cameron, who currently is a student at Highmeadow Common Campus, apparently was torn between going to Warner or O.E. Dunkel Middle School.

But then, he experienced the annual technology extravaganza at Warner. There were many highlights: CO₂ dragster races of student-built cars; amateur radio demonstrations; Lego robotics; and how to create Web pages or use Power Point software for multi-media presentations.

"This really impacted our decision," said Cameron's mom, Julie Hasten of Farmington Hills, after watching the wooden racers zoom down a 65-foot-long raised track in a hallway outside the technology lab. "I think he's leaning toward attending Warner now... I thought it (the race) was really neat."

Cameron agreed. "I didn't think it'd be able to go that fast."

He added that he liked the concept of using technological resources and knowledge to build a dragster, and then "see



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMMON

It's a drag: Warner Middle School vocational technology teacher Thomas Ogle prepares to test his students' CO₂-powered dragsters — created on a CAD system, prototyped and shaped from wood in a 33-day project. At left is eighth-grader Heather Allison.

how it turns out."

The Hastens were among about 100 people who turned out to the Farmington district school for the program.

"The goal of this evening is to

inform our parents

of the advanced technological state of our school," said Warner media center technician Sue Ferrari. "It's to show them there's much more available than they might think."

Participants in the CO₂ dragster races, such as eighth-grader Eddie Bellamy, used computer aided design skills to make dragster prototypes. Then, they built them out of wood, made them a particular weight, and propelled them out of the chute with the help of CO₂ cartridges.

Students, using computers, also charted how the vehicles performed in various categories, including: average speed vs. mass; speed vs. drag; and mass vs. rollout.

"My overall record is 4-0," said an enthusiastic Eddie Bellamy.

Please see WARNER, A8



Hamming it up: Warner sixth-grader Andrew Dobbs, an amateur radio operator, receives a short wave call with his friends, Sean Baldwin (laughing) and Gregory Wright.



Making waves: Parent Gregory Wright Sr. talks to the radio tech club teacher (Jeff Drelles) while his younger son, Antonio, watches his brother ham operate.

On track: Karen Hasten, mom of Tiffany, 9, and Cameron 10, watch CO₂ races. Left is Eric Weintraub, 11, and mom, Bonnie Weintraub.



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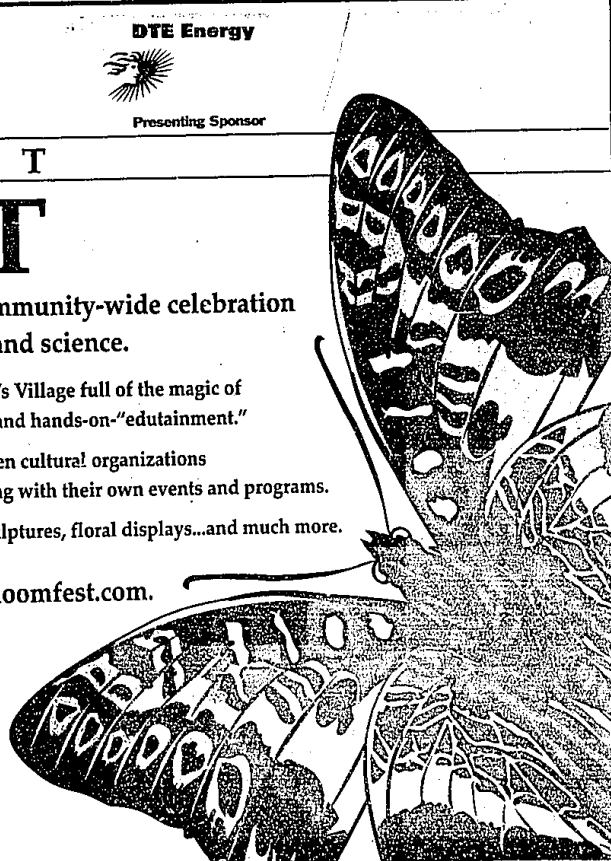
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