

## CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



### Matt Shwed

#### Nuclear Scintillation Spectroscopy and Cosmic Radiation

**Division:** International / None

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Simcoe County

**City:** Barrie, ON

**School:** Bear Creek S.S.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this experiment was to search for a correlation between cosmic radiation and atmospheric pressure. This experiment also investigated whether it was possible to detect gamma ray bursts here on earth. A sodium iodide detector was used to measure cosmic radiation. A correlation was found between pressure and cosmic rays. No correlation was found with gamma ray bursts.

#### Biography

My name is Matt Shwed, and I am a 17 year old grade 11 student at Bear Creek Secondary School in Barrie, Ontario. I have a wide variety of interests, ranging from sports, the arts and of course science. I love to play golf, tennis and volleyball, and enjoy jogging and snowboarding in the winter. I also participate in drama, and recently played the lead role in the Agatha Christie play, "And Then There Were None". I have also helped direct a production at my previous elementary school. I was the valedictorian for my grade 8 graduation, and won the General Proficiency Award for exceptional results. In Gr. 10, I was also recognized for achieving the highest mark in Drama, Business and History. My greatest interest, though, is physics. I am fascinated by the diverse laws and theories about our universe, as well as the tiny world of atoms and subatomic particles. In the future, I would like to study theoretical physics. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in such a worthwhile event again this year.