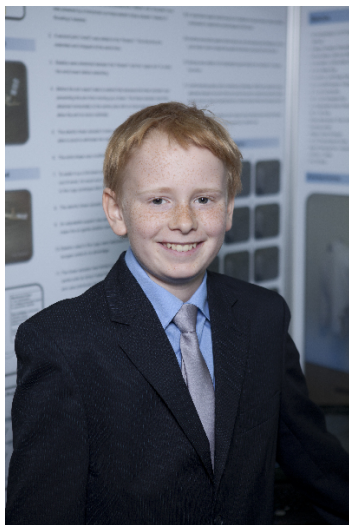


CWSF 2013 - Lethbridge, Alberta



Sherwood Marks

En Garde: Fencing Dummy Fights Back

Challenge: Innovation

Category: Junior

Region: Waterloo-Wellington

City: Guelph, ON

School: Rockway Mennonite Collegiate

Abstract: My invention is a mechanical fencing dummy that thrusts with proper form to provide fencers an efficient and useful training partner. Although fencers need to practice frequently to improve their skills, a human opponent is not always available. This dummy allows fencers to practice alone to improve their fencing techniques, timing, distance, stamina, speed and more. The dummy's arm is actuated by a pneumatic cylinder.

Biography

My name is Sherwood Marks and I live in Guelph, Ontario. My school is Rockway Mennonite Collegiate in Kitchener. Before attending Rockway I attended Trillium Waldorf School from junior kindergarten to grade 6. Some of my favourite hobbies are drawing, archery, and fencing (which I got my project inspiration from). I am training to become a fencing and archery assistant coach. Since I was 8 years old I have been playing piano and practicing fencing and archery. For the last two summers I have gone to Halliburton for fencing and archery camp. Growing up I have spent a lot of time drawing, woodworking and making crafts. My art was one of four Rockway pieces recently selected for the Expressions 38 art exhibition at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. I like experimenting with Technic Lego and mechanics. I am also an avid reader. Camping is one of my favourite activities and I am in a scout troop. Last year I went on a canoe trip with the scouts to Algonquin Park. I am planning to continue using my fencing dummy for training. I think entering a science fair is an excellent opportunity to challenge yourself and learn more about science and engineering.

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