

Caledon student wins spot at regional culinary competition]

By Zachary Roman

A Caledon student's cooking and baking skills are being put to the test.

Charlie Borscevski is a Grade 11 student at Humberview Secondary School in Bolton. He's currently taking the family studies course there under teacher Jaclyn Haber.

While Humberview doesn't have a hospitality program, Haber teaches culinary skills in her class as she has four years of culinary school experience from George Brown College. Each year, she likes to include a culinary challenge as part of her class.

This year, Haber hosted a cultural bread championship for her students. They were divided into teams, and each picked a bread item to make from a team member's culture. Borscevski was part of the winning team, which baked a German pretzel.

Two students, one of which was Borscevski, from that winning team then competed in a competition on March 6 to earn a spot in the Peel Skills ? Culinary Arts competition.

Borscevski won, gaining a spot in the competition which was held on March 8 at David Suzuki Secondary School in Brampton.

To earn his spot, Borscevski had to first make a hamburger from scratch. He had to make the bun, patty, sauce, and a pickled topping all within a strict time frame. Then, he had to create a brownie for dessert complete with a functional garnish and fruit-based sauce, again all from scratch and under a tight timeline.

?It was fun, but hard because you had to do it all in a certain amount of time? you feel pressured,? said Borscevski.

Borscevski said his interest in cooking and baking is fairly recent, and that it's grown as a result of him taking Haber's class. He likes food and working with his hands so cooking and baking have been a great fit for him.

While Borscevski has a lot of ideas for what he might do as a career, being a chef or baker is now one of them. Some of his favourite things to make are brownies and soups, as well as garnishes and sauces.

In a March 6 interview, Borscevski said he was nervous but excited for the March 8 competition. He said he thought it would be a fun time.

While this article had to be sent to press before we knew how Borscevski did at the Peel Skills competition on March 8, if he won there, he'll be going to compete at the provincial level at Humber College on April 1. Students who win at the provincial level can then compete in a national competition too.