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## **Kanata teen wins invention honours for green walkman**

By Krista Cooney

*Staff reporter*

For anyone in doubt, there is proof that high school projects have long term and valuable benefits. The proof can be found in two University of Ottawa students, Paul Brown and Annie Galipeau. The two first year students recently accepted the highly reputed Manning award in Vancouver. According to Brown it "is comparable to a Canadian Noble prize."

The award was one of many they have received in recognition for their unique "Green Walkman." Although it began as a high school science project done "just for the marks," it soon became much more.

The ingenuity of the invention is that it is both consumer and environmentally friendly. Operated on "spring power", it is wound up like an alarm clock. This saves both the cost of batteries and precious landfill space.

They are now looking towards marketing the walkman. "The whole idea is to get it out to the public where it can be of some use," says Brown.

Both have attended numerous science fairs, and Brown described them as "a lot of fun at first." But their importance quickly escalated to the point where they "were beyond competing, it was much more important to tell people what I had done."

Of the award and its \$4 000 prize, Brown states "I like the recognition." But, "It's nice to get the money. It's helping me with university."

Plans for the future are uncertain, but Brown takes comfort in the fact that "there are lots of possibilities out there."