

Education Works Champions 2013

Passion keeps sports broadcaster in play

Story by Rob Rombouts
Photo by Blackbird Photography



Passion and perseverance are helping **John Molson** reach his goal.

Since age nine, John's goal was to become a sports announcer. Through high school, he overcame learning and developmental disabilities to graduate. He attended <u>Niagara College</u>'s Radio, TV and Film Broadcasting program and won the First Year Radio Best Sportscast Award.

The Vanessa resident has learned as much in ballparks and arenas as he did in the classroom. John has visited sporting venues across North America and listened to play-by-play on radio and television, getting a better understanding of what makes a good sports announcer.

John said the job requires a lot of on-the-spot learning, as he analyzes plays and updates player stats, without the support of a colour commentator or a computer. Blessed with a voice for the job, John does live play-by-play with the Caledonia Pro-Fit Corvairs, a junior hockey team. He would

like to go further with his broadcasting, and does some freelance work for hockey tournaments in the area. He hopes this will lead to more work. John is also considering entering a sports management program.

Through it all, John has worked many manual labour jobs, helping him pay for college and stay devoted to his passion.

John's determination has helped him overcome disabilities, and maintain a positive attitude.
