

STAMFORD

SHS senior wins Swedish science prize

By Charles Dianis
Staff Writer

STAMFORD — A Stamford High School student has won an award for an independent research project that examined the effects of pollution on fish.

Igor Zelenberg, a senior, is the only Connecticut student to receive the Stockholm Junior Water Prize. The award, sponsored by Princess Victoria of Sweden, aims to increase students' interest in water-related research.

Zelenberg will be eligible to attend a national competition in Dallas next month. The winner will receive \$2,500 and represent the United States in an international competition in Stockholm.



Staff file photo
Igor Zelenberg of Stamford High School is the only Connecticut student to receive the Stockholm Junior Water Prize.

Zelenberg examined the levels of metallothionein — an enzyme produced in response to the existence of heavy metals — that accumulates in the livers of minnows. The fish were taken from salt marshes in Stratford and Stonington.

The research indicated metallothionein levels were significantly higher in fish from Stratford, which were taken from a marsh near several industrial businesses.

In October, Zelenberg's project was among 288 national semifinalists in the Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science and Technology. The award honors students who conduct scientific research.