

## **Students earn practical experience**

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More than 200 local Tech Prep students put their knowledge on display March 9 at the annual Tech Prep Showcase at Terra Community College.

Justin Hines, Aaron Spencer and Darien Spann presented their project, Animation Exploration. The trio of Fremont Ross and Technology Center students worked with Tiffin Metal Products to animate lockers and create videos of the plant to make the company's Web site more user-friendly.

The three months of work on the project and the presentation to the judges offered valuable practice for life after high school.

"To me, it's the experience of how to talk in front of people and present a project," Hines said. "This will give me experience for interviews I'll have in the future."

Spencer agreed. "Real work experience, that's what I got out of it," he said.

The chance to see industry close up appealed to Spann, who plans to major in mechanical engineering.

"We got to see how the engineering and the manufacturing work hand-in-hand," he said.

All three are seniors and plan to attend college next year. Because Tech Prep students take college classes in addition to their high school studies, each will take at least 15 Terra credits -- and college experience -- with them.

Hines, Spencer and Spann have already qualified for state competition in April in Columbus.

For more information on Tech Prep, call director Ed Harper at 419-559-2360.

### **SHOWCASE RESULTS**

- Health Science Technologies: 1. Amanda Brimmer, Stephanie Fisher and Kayla Tyree, Tech Center.

- Information Technology: 1. Andrew Nicholson, Cody Semer and Seth Sholl, Tech Center; 2. Stephen Burns, Ethan Firestone and Jared Poignon, Sentinel Career Center.
- Law and Public Safety: 1. Corey Gabel, Mekenna Klaiss and Casey Wilson, Tech Center; 2. Kiersten Hoffheins, Kelley Miller and Brittney Molnar, Tech Center.
- Senior Capstone Project: 1. Aaron Williamson, Tech Center; 2. Kyle Slayton, Tech Center.



Justin Hines, Aaron Spencer and Darien Spann pose with their project, Animation Exploration, at the Tech Prep Showcase at Terra Community College on March 9. The trio worked with Tiffin Metal Products to improve the company's Web site. (Submitted photo)