



LUNCHING WITH THE FANS — Gordon Korman, 19-year-old Canadian writer of children's books who has been pursuing that career since he was 12 years old, had lunch recently with 25 of his most avid fans. They achieved the honor by writing prize-winning compositions on why they wanted to lunch with the author. Shown with

him are, seated from left, Eric Berdan, a Grade 7 student at Homedale School; and Brian Mortin, a Grade 6 student at Wellington Street School; and standing from left, Sarah Hayhoe, a Grade 4 student at Edward Street Public School; Erin Leatherdale, a Grade 7 student at Lockes Public School; and Michael Manchester, a Grade 5 student at Sparta-Union Public School.

and Canadian Authors Association award for the most promising young writer.

WAS YOUNGEST

For a while, he said he was probably the youngest writer in the country. Now, however, there are more contests for teenage writers and thus more opportunities for them to get published at a young age.

At the moment Mr. Korman, who is studying dramatic and visual writing at New York University, has no major ambitions in other areas. But eventually, he said, he would like to try something different.

"It's not a good idea to do the same thing when you are 65 that you did when you were 19," he said. "At sometime I will want to experiment with other things."

His visit to St. Thomas last weekend was one of about 200 he has made to schools and libraries.

The most common question he is asked, he said, are where he gets his ideas and how much money he makes.