School is at home for this Newington family. 7

Winchester plays host to Pee Wee 'B' Tournament of Champions April 5, 6 & 7. B-1

Don't miss the special **Spring Home Improvement Section** included in this week's *Press*

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour at bedtime on Saturday night!



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$600,000 fire destroys organ warehouse

Kim Robinson
Press staff

INKERMAN STATION — A wealth of craftsmanship went up in smoke last Thursday when fire destroyed an organ warehouse at the home of Roy and Shirley Fawcett, just off Hwy. 43 west of Winchester.

As Roy sifted through the charred ruins that afternoon, he estimated that $1/2 million worth of organs were destroyed by the flames, as was another $100,000 in new organ parts.

While the contents, a mixture of trade-ins and inventory for Fawcett's Organ and Piano Studio in Winchester, were partially insured, he says the 90 instruments that were lost can't really be replaced. He has also lost his investment of time in these organs.

"It's kind of hard to see something you've worked on burned like that," he says.

The fire was spotted by the Fawcetts' son Rob around 11 am. He and his two brothers helped firefighters manage the blaze and they tried to save some of the contents of the storage barn, but as the upper level started to cave in, this became too dangerous. They did save the mobile organ and vintage Cadillac rig the Fawcetts feature in many local parades. However, Roy says they may have to disassemble the organ float now that they have nowhere to store it.

He was in Vars at the time the fire broke out and he got a call on his cellular phone.

"I stayed right on the phone all the way from Vars to my driveway," he says.

Both pumpers from the Mountain Township Fire Department were there keeping a steady stream of water on the flames. When the water ran out they had to rush off for a refill, relying on backup

• continued on next page



Lost battle
Trucks from three local fire departments were called out to the blaze at the Fawcetts' storage barn, but the 90 organs kept inside were lost to the flames. The fire emitted a pillar of smoke that could be seen for miles around.
Press Photo— Robinson

OPSEU strike effects still being felt

Kim Robinson
Press staff

AVONMORE — The strike by the Ontario Public Service Employees Union may be over, but it's not yet business as usual at many provincial government offices in the area.

For Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) workers, it's a matter of racing against time while trying to get back into the rhythm of their jobs.

"When you've been out on the picket lines for five weeks there's a period of adjustment when you're back to work," says OMAFRA field service manager Joanne Newman.

However, the seasonal nature of the farming industry may not afford them time for readjustment. Farm management programs and pesticide courses that were postponed as a result of the strike now have to be jammed into the few weeks before the farmers' busiest season. Anyone whose pesticide licence was up for renewal during the strike period has been given a three-month extension, but Newman says many will find it difficult to fit in a qualification course this time of year.

Drivers' licences that would have expired during the strike have been extended to June 30, and drivers have been able to obtain their licence stickers at privately operated licensing offices, but the Ministry of Transportation's main computer system is still down. Doug Cameron, a manager at the ministry's office in Kingston, says it could take close to a week to get the system completely up and running.

In the meantime, there will be manual booking and rescheduling of driving tests, and any tests slated for this time will go ahead as usual.

Cameron says he expects some clients may be upset about the strike. Newman also anticipates mixed feelings for OMAFRA clients, as well as for the workers themselves. She notes that during the strike, not all union members were on the picket lines, some wanted to continue working, while others simply stayed away.

Still, Newman notes a willingness to move on in the OMAFRA staff.

"I think everyone's extremely relieved that the strike is over regardless of the position they took," she says. "They just want to get on with things."

Bank heist in Morrisburg

MORRISBURG — A lone male, armed with a gun, held up the Bank of Montreal in the Morrisburg Plaza Tuesday afternoon.

The robbery occurred around 2:30 pm. The culprit revealed a firearm and demanded money, but no shots were fired and no one was injured in the hold-up.

The man made off with an undisclosed amount of cash.

OPP officers were called immediately but the culprit had already fled the scene when they arrived minutes later.

Jr. Kindergarten threatened by provincial budget cuts

Liz Edwards
Press staff

CORNWALL — Junior Kindergarten students in the SD&G public board will attend school every other day, if at all, next fall.

The board has decided to change from its half day Junior and Senior Kindergarten program to an alternate full-day structure, with Junior students attending one day and Seniors another.

The move would eliminate noon-hour busing and save approximately $500,000 in the next year. Hopefully it will be enough to prevent the possible cancellation of the Junior Kindergarten program, says Jim Dilamarter, director of education. There are currently 17 Junior Kindergarten classes in the SD&G Public Board.

But board members won't decide until they hear how much the provincial government will cut from its $87 million budget. The government is cutting $400 million from the province's education budget for the 1996-1997 fiscal year. The SD&G public board could lose up to $800,000 in its busing budget alone for the next year.

The board will likely make its decision by the end of this month, says Dilamarter. A number of other school boards such as Durham, Hastings and Grey County have already decided to cut the program.

The SD&G Catholic board has no plans to cut or change Junior Kindergarten programs at the present time, says board chair Charles Adams. Kindergarten students from the Catholic board go to school for a full day while Junior students attend for half a day. But like the public board, the separate board is waiting for cuts to its $77 million budget.

The program has been very beneficial to students because it gets students learning at an early age, says Adams.

This Tuesday, the board will decide how the alternate day program should be administered. There are three options. One class could attend on Monday, Wednesday and Friday one week and Tuesday and Wednesday the next. In other plans, the two different classes could alternate Fridays, or Junior Kindergarten students could attend on Tuesday and Thursday only. The board may let individual schools decide which methods they want to use.

All day Kindergarten programs have been considered by other school boards in the past and some parents have objected, saying a full day is too long for four and five-year olds.

But Jack Barkley, principal of Nationview Public School in South Mountain, says there haven't been any complaints so far and that parents realize the board needs to cut back somewhere.

However he says there may be fewer Junior Kindergarten students at Nationview next year. This year the school has 36 students attending the class but staff had estimated the enrollment would drop to 27. Schools are enrolling students for the fall and so far the school has received only 19 replies to its invitations to register, though more parents might come on the actual registration day, says Barkley.

It could mean there are fewer students in the area, they are going to different schools, or that parents don't want to send four-year-olds to a full day of school, he says.



Growing concern
Drama teacher Terry Green tries out some of the props for the *Little Shop of Horrors* production: an old-style dentist chair and a small version of the plant that grows to monstrous proportions.

Little Shop play staged on big set

Kim Robinson
Press staff

MAPLE RIDGE — A large, evil-looking plant that keeps growing and growing is the centrepiece of *Little Shop of Horrors*, and, in keeping with this theme, the producers of the North Dundas District High School version of the musical are thinking big.

The backdrop being planned for the production is impressive. Drama teacher Terry Green has envisioned it taking up the whole stage end of the high school gym.

The stage will be extended to accommodate a rotating set, depicting scenes inside the shop and out on the street, which is in the works under the direction of T.R. Leger woodworking instructor Gord MacDonald. Green had imagined a sliding screen would suffice, but like many aspects of this musical, it grew into a much more grand scheme.

"It's really incredible," says Green. "It's a very elaborate set for a school musical."

This setting is matched by imposing props. As the plant grows to mammoth proportions, it requires puppeteers inside to work it. The foamy-textured plant props were purchased from a high school in St. Catherines, and though they needed a lot of repairs, Green was glad to find a base to work from for these gigantic puppets.

• continued on next page

Continued from the front page...

Fire

from Winchester and Morewood. A tanker truck from Ault Foods was called out as well.

Mountain Township Fire Chief Claude Brisebois says the cause of the fire is still under investigation but it may have been touched off by the chimney of a wood stove located at the rear of the building.

While the warehouse was close to the Fawcetts' house, firefighters were able to contain the flames within the two-story, metal barn structure so that it didn't pose a direct threat to the home.

Play

The production had another stroke of luck in locating another essential stage feature, a dentist's chair. Math teacher Bill Sherwood, whose father once practised dentistry in Winchester, just happened to have his father's old equipment around the house.

Other elements have been coming together since early in the new year. Band members have been learning the music since February and casting was done in December so that the performers could get familiar with their parts before rehearsals started in earnest after the March break.

Cast members say the set will be very fun to work with.

Mark Hutchinson, who played Charlie Brown in the school's musical last year, says he finds it easier to a act when surrounded by such a convincing setting.

"It fools me and I even know how it works," he says.

Green has confidence in his experienced cast to pull off this large undertaking. Like Hutchinson, many were in *Charlie Brown* last year.

The director also has faith that the production will recoup its $8,000 cost. Despite its title, this story of how a misguided botanist tries to win in love is suitable for younger audiences and Green has invited local public schools to four matinee performances, one of which is already sold out.

Evening performances will be staged from May 8 to 11, starting at 7:30 pm. Tickets are $5 in advance and $6 at the door.





Fire damage
A blaze destroyed a warehouse full of organs belonging to Roy Fawcett in Mountain Township, Thursday. Top, a firefighter surveys the mess and second from top is an outside view of the damage.

Cancer patients require support

WINCHESTER —April is Cancer month and people can give more than money.

Your moral support is needed as well. The Canadian Cancer Society has a number of suggestions of how people can help some you know who is afflicted with this disease.

First of all, keep in touch. Send regular cards or letters, even if you live next door, and visit whenever you can. Many people with cancer find they have lots of visitors when first diagnosed, when they are in hospital or undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. But cancer treatment can go on for a long time and they appreciate if you keep in touch through good times and bad.

You can learn to listen. Sometimes visitors feel they have to entertain the person or they may talk a lot to cover their own feelings. Sometimes just being there is helpful without saying anything. If the person wants to talk, listen to what is being said.

Help the person stay healthy. Many people with cancer aren't able to eat as much as they should or get the exercise they need to stay healthy. Drop by around mealtime and encourage the person to eat properly or offer to go for a walk with the person.

Cousineau wants plan to fix drainage problems

Kim Robinson
Press staff

MOREWOOD — Winchester Township Council is looking at an overhaul of the drainage system in Morewood, but even at this preliminary stage the possibility of long-term funding for such a project seems doubtful.

At Monday night's council meeting, where a map of the hamlet was studied and the sites of many individual drainage complaints were pointed out by the township's drainage and roads superintendents, Reeve Claude Cousineau suggested they start looking at the whole picture.

"When we're talking about drainage, let's talk the whole village and not just one landowner," he said.

He noted that $75,000 had been designated for work on Morewood's drainage system in the United Counties budget released about a week ago. And council agreed that the municipality should be working on a plan with the United Counties to determine where that money will be best spent.

Roads superintendent Arden Carruthers will be meeting with United Counties engineer Don McDonald to discuss the installation of a drain on County Road 7 as well as work along County Road 13 to free up the northeast flow of water across the low-lying hamlet, toward the Castor River.

As drainage superintendent Brent Copeland explains, over the years, individual property owners have redirected the natural flow of the water with their own piping and drains, and certain areas are bearing the brunt of this disruption.

"The overland drainage has been altered so much that none of it works properly," he says.

A complete overhaul, clearing away the problem at each trouble spot, would cost $559,000 according to estimates from 1989, and Carruthers says there wouldn't be much change in that figure.

Cousineau said if Winchester Township could get a commitment from the Counties Council for $75,000 over four or five years it could be done, but he expressed his skepticism, citing the United Counties' decision to reduce its construction budget from $1.5 million to $400,000 this year.

The issue will be brought back at the next council session with a summary of situation and proposals on what can be done.

Stores to stay open later

Liz Edwards
Press staff

WINCHESTER — There will be more time to shop in Winchester this summer.

At the last meeting of the Business Improvement Association, merchants were in favor of extending their hours over a period of three months, beginning June 1. Now stores will open on Thursday until 8 pm, currently only a few are open past 5:30 pm.

But they will close an hour earlier on Friday night at 8 pm. Most store owners found business was slow on this night during the summer.

The weekly entertainment in the park that BIA members have sponsored for the last few years, will move from Friday to Thursday night. Members are still searching for ways to make better use of the parkette on the corner of Main and St. Lawrence Streets. The BIA pays half the rent of the parkette, $3,500 every year.

Joel Steele, BIA president, suggested turning the corner into an open air market on Saturday mornings. But most members couldn't think of a practical way to sell their goods from the corner. Mary Jane Elliott of Sweet Sisters Bakery said baking would spoil too quickly in the summertime and Steele remarked it would not be of much use for his clothing stores as there are no changing facilities.

The parkette will be available for community groups that want to use it for fundraising, though certain fundraisers such as bake sales and craft sales will be limited and all suggestions must be approved by the association.

Steele suggested groups could gear their fundraisers to activities such as carnivals or mini-golf. Merchants may not hold the mini-golf tournament they've sponsored for the last two years.

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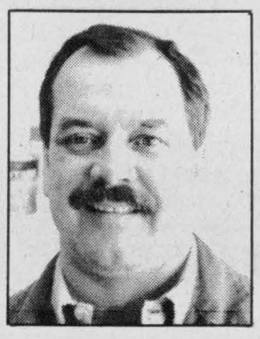
Denis Ouellette


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Minivan couple drives onto airwaves

Liz Edwards
Press staff

MOUNTAIN —They'd be hopelessly lost if they came to Winchester.

Virtual prisoners of their minivan.

That is until they spotted an auction.

An auction is something the ultra-yuppie couple of Debbie Wilson-Taylor and Andrew Taylor understand. If it doesn't fit within their suburban-living, hypenated-name, passenger-side-airbag world, they don't want to know about it.

Fortunately they don't have to, they're the fictitious, heavily satirized minivan people out of the imaginations of Denis Grignon and Nancy Payne.

And their rather trite dilemmas, debated from the confines of their bulbous vehicle, can be heard every other week for the next three months on CBC Radio's Definitely Not the Opera, broadcast Saturday afternoons at approximately 1:30 pm.

The minivan is the symbol of their life, a comfortable plush, quiet little atmosphere with huge coffee cup holders that will fit a jumbo Tim Horton's mug.

"It's a suburb on wheels," says Grignon, who lives with Payne in Mountain Township. Jr. "B" hockey games, farms and curling clubs that dominate in this area wouldn't even register in their rearview mirror.

For two or so minutes an episode, the couple nitpick and agonize over such 20th-century predicaments as what their Montessori-educated children Zack and Brianna should wear for Halloween. Hobos and Indians are just too offensive, and ghosts, well, that would be dabbling in the occult.

Six of the comedic sketches aired last fall and their producer Bill Smith was eager for more. Each segment precedes with a specially poignant version of the song *Minivan Woman, Minivan Man* written for the show by Kevin Mallory, a friend of Grignon and Payne.

Comedy and radio are as familiar to Grignon and Payne as a cellular phone is to Wilson-Taylor and Taylor. Grignon is a stand-up comic, a regular humor columnist with the Winchester Press and has worked for the CBC and CHEZ.

Payne is taking time off from her job as an associate producer with CBO morning. She acted in theatrical productions in university and is starring in the soon-to-be-staged production of *Opening Night* in Winchester.

Given the right inspiration and a dilapidated laptop computer, they can't help but create.

Grigon and Payne had plenty of time to come up with the idea while stuck behind minivans which typically do 75km an hour on Hwy. 401, says Payne.

The minivan couple came to life while they were driving in a pickup truck loaded with fenceposts to Payne's parent's farm in Lindsay.

The yuppie couple aren't evil. Their world is just very different. They mean well but they just don't get it, says Grignon.

"They're hypersensitive, they don't leave the bubble enough," he explains.

Not that there's anyone around who is exactly like them, or at least Grignon and Payne hope so. For entertainment purposes, Grignon and Payne blow them out of proportion.

"We just make them a little more ridiculous than life," says Payne.

Grignon, who moved to the area about a year ago, drives a pickup truck and owns a chainsaw, declares himself to be the antithesis of the minivan couple. Payne, however, admits to buying President's Choice products and owning a composter.

Listeners can catch the show on the FM dial at 91.5 from Ottawa or at 95.5 from Cornwall.

Such couples will be rarely seen in these parts. Payne noticed, when she used to trek into work, that minivans populate somewhat closer to urban area, though some have migrated outward to the new subdivision in smaller towns.

They've considered creating a rural version of the minivan couple but Payne says it wouldn't be the same. It's more fun picking on an urbanite, self- absorbed sub-culture.

Besides they'd like to continue living peacefully in the area.



Budding hope

Harry Keyes of Winchester bought daffodils from volunteer Betty Cooke at the Royal Bank in Winchester Friday to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society. April is Cancer month and volunteers will be canvassing the area for donations. A Breast Cancer Awareness night will be held at the Park Lane Seniors Support Centre in Williamsburg on April 10 at 7:30 pm. Guest speakers will include Carol Spiro from Breast Cancer Action in Ottawa and local woman Linda Swerdfeger.

Press Photo — Edwards

Students answer condom question

MAPLE RIDGE — Whether condom machines will be in the bathrooms of North Dundas District High School is still in question.

Parents answered a survey last Thursday at parent- teacher interviews asking them whether birth control, in the form of condoms, should be available at the school. Students were also given the same survey on Monday. They answered it anonymously.

The survey also asked if condoms should be available from the school nurse, who is in the school half a day a week, or through vending machines in the washroom.

Results, however, will not be released until they are presented to the school committee, made up of teacher, parent and student representatives, on April 11, says Connie Provost, school vice-principal. Its members will make the final decision based on the results.

Grade 12 student Jen Castle says the survey stimulated controversy in the school, with students and staff on both sides of the issue.

The committee agreed to a survey after Eastern Ontario Health Unit nurse Rose Knox, concerned about the spread of AIDS, asked that the school consider distributing condoms.

General Vanier Secondary School in Cornwall is currently the only other school in SD&G to have condom machines in its washrooms.

Councillors lift economic barriers

By Derek Puddicombe

OTTAWA — The Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton is cooking up a recipe for economic development and Osgoode township wants some of those ingredients.

Osgoode councillor Dale Harley applauds the lifting of barriers to regional economic development.

In a speech to the Ottawa-Carleton Board of Trade last week Regional Chair Peter Clark committed the region to unwinding the red tape that has been burdening economic development for years.

"Economic development is a simple recipe... only two ingredients; leadership and partnership," he said.

The partnership of these two "economic development agencies" will be working towards a marketing strategy that will promote the region as a single economic entity Clark said.

"It's a strategy that will allow us to speak with one voice... to benefit everybody," Clark said.

He called for an end to the "pick me" style of lobbying municipalities use when approaching the Region to locate business in their area.

"We recognize the value of the Ottawa-Carleton Economic Development Corporation (OCEDCO) and its help in attracting new business to the region," said Harley. "I look at this as a good thing."

Osgoode Township has been working on its own economic development strategy for the past year. The plan is the township's bid to attract new business, expand present businesses and further the economic development of the area.

The township suffers from having one of the lowest industrial and commercial tax bases in the region.

It wants to turn this around by increasing the tax base from its current 8.44 per cent to 10 per cent by 1997.

"The focus of our plan is not to attract big business from Eastern Ontario to Osgoode Township, OCEDCO has the contacts for that," said Harley. "We would be foolish to go ahead and do that."

The focus of the township's plan is to develop within and make the township a friendlier place to do business.

"The region's plan is a positive step for us," Harley added.

Lions play runs at UCP

MORRISBURG —The Matilda-Iroquois Lions Club production of *The Man Who Came to Dinner* will run April 18, 19, and 20 at 7 pm at the Upper Canada Playhouse with a matinee performance at 2 pm on Saturday, April 20. Tickets are $10 for evening performances and $6 for the matinee. The play is being produced with help from Seaway District High School's drama club. Tickets are available from Lions club members, at the Village Green in Morrisburg, Beaupre Jewellers and Mustard's Variety in Iroquois or by calling 652-4588.

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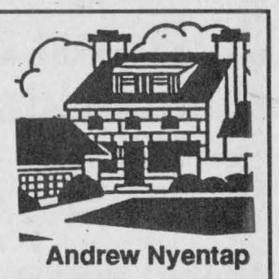

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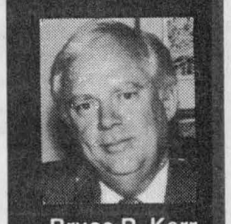

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Firehall site safety issue?

By Derek Puddicombe

GREELY — A group of Greely residents are concerned their firehall is in the wrong location.

The issue arose after the Osgoode Township Library Board threatened to close two of its branches due to budget constraints.

In a letter to Osgoode Mayor Lloyd Cranston, Greely residents Mary Ann Cardhill, Marg McManus, Peter O'Neill and Cathy Woodworth expressed their concerns.

The letter outlined an action plan to address concerns about the location of the existing firehall, capital costs for replacement and options for the provision of an expanded library.

"I think the firehall should be moved to a less residential area," said O'Neill.

Having the station next to the Greely Public School is a safety concern the committee wants the township to investigate.

Osgoode Fire Chief Gerry Bennett doesn't consider the location of the firehall a safety issue.

"All fire departments go by schools and its mandatory lights and sirens are on," said Bennett. "All precautions are taken."

One ideal location O'Neill would like the township to examine is the property within or adjacent to the Greely industrial park. Another option outlined in the letter was leasing or renting a facility to park the trucks.

Residents are also questioning the safety of the existing structure. The building was constructed from used materials.

The Greely committee is also asking the township to explore the chance of moving the library from its present location. A possible location for the library, O'Neill said, is in school portables at the community centre.

But the township doesn't expect any movement on the issue soon. Discouraging any talk about new construction or relocating are reduced budgets.

"The bottom line is money and the township doesn't have the dollars right now," said Osgoode Councillor Doug Thompson.

A proposal will be available in about a month outlining some of the possibilities for the firehall and library, Thompson said.



Drill distinction

The 2951 CFS Leitrim Army Cadets drill team won the Ottawa Garrison's recent drill competition. Five teams competed in the event, held at the Dow's Lake Pavilion in Ottawa. The team will next compete at the national level. Members of the team are, front row, left to right, Pte. Thomas, Pte. Burgess, Pte. Carter, Chief Warrant Officer Smith, Pte. Robinson, Cpl. Whitteker and Master Cpl. Carter. Back row, from left to right, Cpl. Hoy, Cpl. Keeler, Master Cpl. Walker, Warrant Officer Hitsman, Warrant Officer Stuart, Sgt. Taylor, Sgt. Langlois, Pte. Gagnon, Master Cpl. Chenel, Sgt. Murray, Cpl. Gould and Pte. Kerr.

Press Photo— Robinson



Gold Star achievers

Three members of the 2951 CFS Leitrim Army Cadets Corps proudly display their Gold Star with Wreath decoration, having passed the National Star Certification Examination in a week-end testing session at CFB Kingston over the March break. The examination involved a variety of written, physical and skills testing. The three cadets, from left, Sgt. Taylor, Sgt. Langlois and Warrant Officer Torrance, are now one step away from Master Cadet status.
Press Photo— Robinson

Police blotter

Driver charged

WINCHESTER — An Orleans man was charged with failing to yield the right of way following an accident at the north corner of Hwys. 43 and 31 on Monday. Pierre Huot, driving a Pontiac Sunfire, pulled out from Main Street into the path of a northbound vehicle on Hwy. 31. The other driver, Andrea McDonell of Ottawa, sustained a minor injury in the crash. Both Huot's car and the McDonell vehicle, a Jeep Cherokee, were substantially damaged.

Marijuana discovered

OSGOODE TWP. — Between $3,000 and $4,000 in marijuana along with hydroponic growing equipment and supplies were seized from an Osgoode Township home on March 28. The marijuana was discovered when Manotick OPP officers were dispatched to the residence, located at 1993 Hwy. 31, for an unrelated matter. At the scene, narcotics and drug-related items were found by investigators. The incident is still under investigation.

Municipal offices robbed

MOUNTAIN — Office equipment was stolen when thieves forced their way into the Mountain Township municipal office last Wednesday night. A few days earlier, on Monday, March 25, an after- hours break-in took place at the Chesterville Public Works building at 161 Industrial Drive in the village. Some time between 4 pm and 10:30 pm thieves broke into the north side door of the building and took a computer (Batra, model 486DX4100), a monitor (SVGA) and a printer (Canon, model B-J 230). If you have any information concerning this break-in, Crime Stoppers would like to hear from you. Call 1-800-265-8477.

Jewellery taken

WINCHESTER — A Main Street store was broken into overnight March 31 - April 1. A forced entry was made and jewellery was stolen.

Thefts in Osgoode

OSGOODE TWP. — Several thefts were reported last week in Osgoode Township. On March 28, a number of items, including a television and computer, were stolen when an Edgerton Drive home was broken into between 9:30 am and 1:30 pm. The same week, a wallet was stolen at the Metcalfe Curling Club and vehicles parked at private homes on Main Street in Osgoode, Doyle Road in Osgoode Township and Lawrence Street in Vernon were entered. Thieves stole car stereo systems and a purse.

Gun recovered

OSGOODE TWP. — Osgoode Township employees found a sawed-off shotgun in a ditch last week. Police checks reveal it had been stolen from the Minden, Ontario area in 1994.

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Editorial/Opinion

WINCHESTER PRESS

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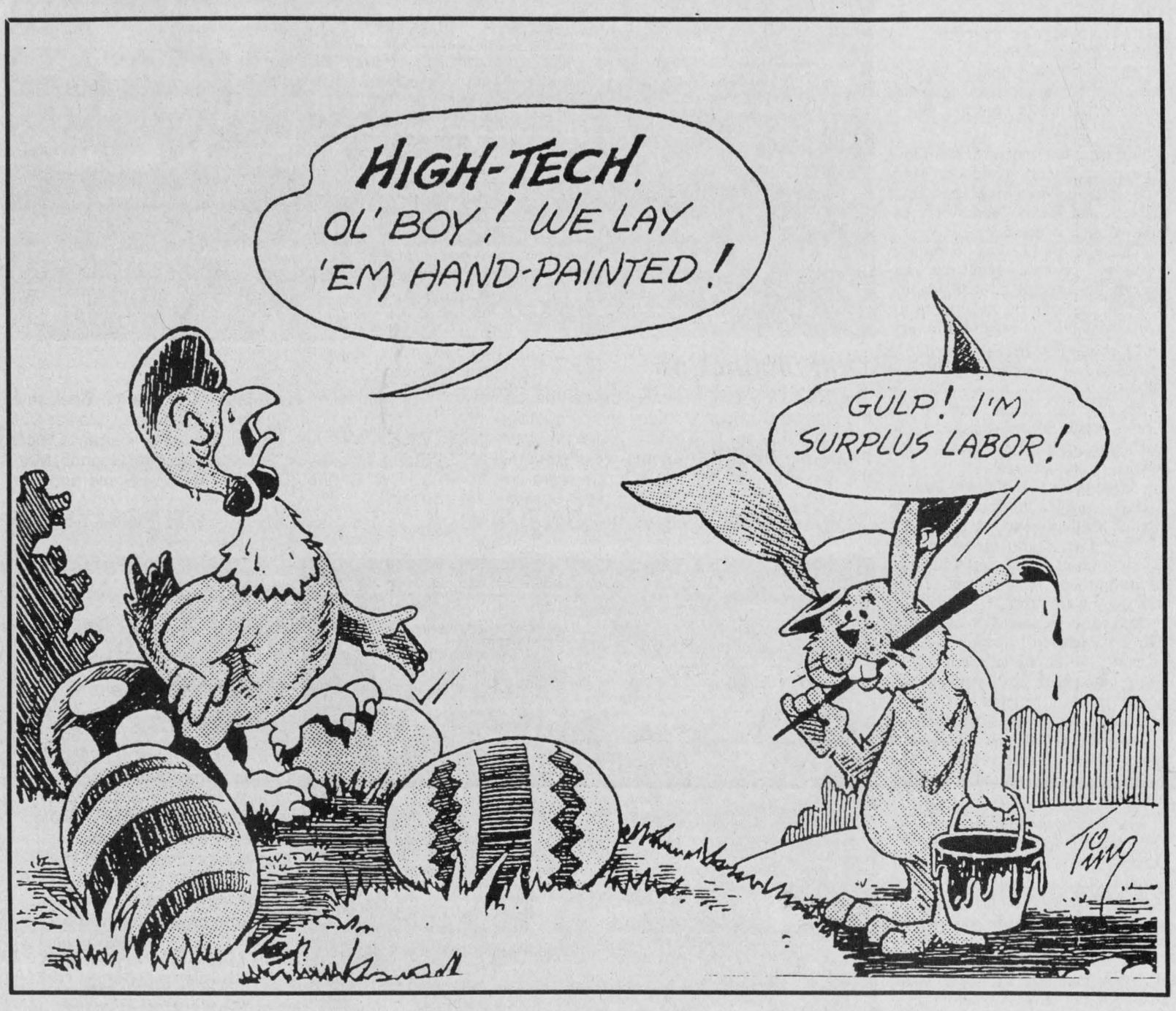


EDITORIAL

Selling the village

Blowing your own horn these days may be the key to survival.

With the economic pressures, people working and looking for jobs have to try even harder to stay in the game. Being good is simply not enough, people have to be constantly reminded that you are.

Last week real estate agent Bob Volks told the Business Improvement Association the village needs to grow. People aren't moving here like they used to. Being a real estate agent naturally he would like to sell houses but he is a part of the economic structure. The village needs some kind of growth, either an influx of people or a business to kickstart its economy.

With more water on the way, growth may soon be possible. But the village just can't build a business park or subdivision and hope the people will come.

The village will have to invite them and it will require a fair bit of persuasion these days. There's a lot of competition. It may require a co- operative effort with other municipalities and there's much to be done.

To start with, the last promotional package profiling Winchester is years out of date. Updating it is a must. The village or the area needs something to give out at business fairs, home shows, and other venues.

Local business and many residents would naturally want business and industry to be a promotional campaign's target. A local business would provide jobs and might even create other employment.

Some merchants worry that wooing people who simply live here and work in the city won't help the local economy much. People who don't work in the village or nearby use it as a bedroom community and spend their money elsewhere.

But these people should not be easily dismissed. If they have potential to be a significant part of their clientele, businesses may need to cater more to people who do work out of town. These residents will spend their money in a city if by the time they get home, the stores are closed. Extending the hours as the merchants are doing is a step towards these customers.

Unfortunately most people these days don't always have the luxury of working near their homes. They have to take the jobs where they can get them.

But, for various reasons, they may to choose live in this community despite the commute. They're just waiting for people here to tell them why they should.

This week in...

1946

The cost of producing lumber rose eight per cent but retailers were assuring customers that there would be no price increase for consumers that year.

Committees were being set up to arrange canvassing activity to raise funds for the Winchester District Memorial Hospital. Reeve Walter MacDonald chaired the meeting in which fundraising plans were discussed.

Davidson's store in Winchester was selling a 26- piece set of silver-plated cutlery for $34.75.

1956

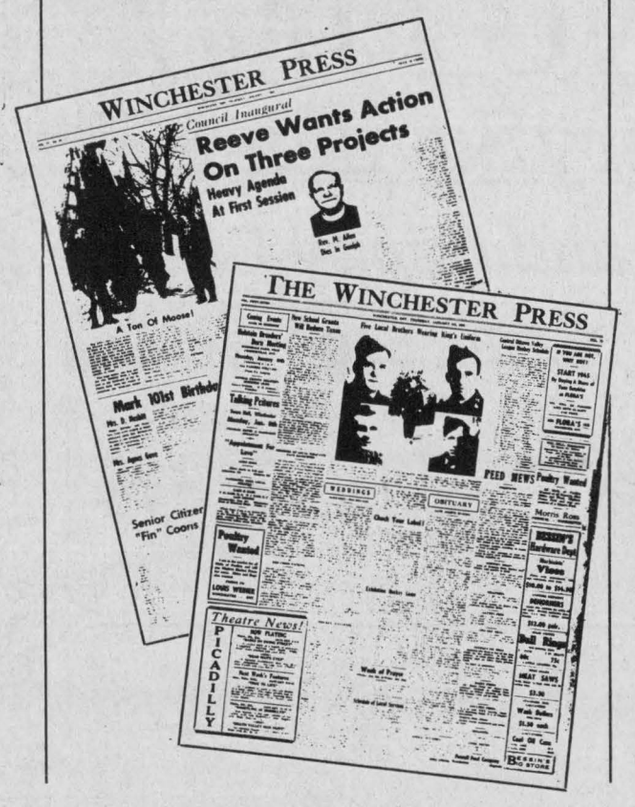
Winchester Council was set to take over the operation of the Winchester Arena pending an investigation into what government grants would be available.

A fire that threatened the entire north end of Inkerman was brought under control by local firefighters. The blaze had broken out in a barn belonging to Gordon Steinburg and spread to a nearby shed, completely destroying both structures. Damage was estimated at $1,500. The cause for the fire could not be determined.

1966

An electro-surgical unit was installed at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital with the financial support of the Morrisburg Branch No. 48 of the Royal Canadian Legion. President Elwin Brown presented a cheque for the new equipment at a special ceremony at the hospital.

Bruce Benson of Canadian Crystal Pools was awarded a $10,082 contract to build the Winchester Centennial Pool. At the same meeting, council was informed of the increasing cost of the addition of a multi-purpose room to Winchester Public School. School Board Chairman Raymond Annable told council the price had jumped from $55,000 to $65,000.


WINCHESTER PRESS
Council Inaugural
Reeve Wants Action On Three Projects
Heavy Agenda At First Session
A Ton Of Moose!
Mark 101st Birthday
Senior Citizen "Fin" Coons
THE WINCHESTER PRESS
Theatre News!
PICADILLY

1976

At the peak of the flood season, water levels along the South Nation River were the highest they had been since 1942. Near Cass Bridge, residents were bailing out not only boats, but houses too.

The Chesterville Senior Citizens' Drop-in Centre received a grant of $31,257 from the federal government. Stormont-Dundas MP Ed Lumley announced the grant.

1986

Wayne Burns, owner of Winchester's Seaway Valley Pharmacy, announced his plans to build a new, 6,000 square foot pharmacy building on Main Street. The new store would be substantially larger than the pharmacy's location on St. Lawrence Street. The new location would also provide 18 parking spots for customers.

The year-round implementation of a pre-Kindergarten program in the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Public School Board resulted in a mill rate increase of 7.6 per cent.

All former high school goons invited to opening night

Rural Roots
by Denis Grignon



I can't act.

And I'm in a play.

I feel it's only fair to tell you this now, since I'd hate to have it discovered while I'm on stage on that opening night, offering up my lines with the conviction of an info-mercial.

But I AM interested in theatre and I'm getting better.

I see it as a new venture that will challenge my creative skills and allow me to bitch with more credibility the next time I rent a Keannu Reeves movie.

That's probably one of the main reasons I joined the newly formed North Dundas Players about four months ago.

At the time, I was very clear to the group's founders that my acting skills were on par with those of a snowman's. The casting crew, however, wasn't as concerned.

THEM: What role do you see yourself playing in this newly formed theatre group?

ME: Well, since I can't act, I see my skills best utilized in the area of promotions and writing. Not being an actor, I believe my creativity is best suited for paper, the written word.

THEM: Great... You'll play secondary character Michael.

I opted against taking Dramatic Arts in high school in lieu of woodshop, sheet metal and not getting beat up by school goons.

Thankfully, high school students have come a long way since my time there. Today, it's perfectly alright for a male youth struggling with masculinity and acne to choose Dramatic Arts instead of woodshop, sheet metal and not getting beat up by school goons.

It's not that they enjoy getting beat up by school cement heads, but should it happen (and it rarely does) today's theatre student is better schooled in faking extreme pain in order to end a beating sooner.

SCHOOL GOON: Hey! Aren't you taking that pansy course, Drama?

DRAMA STUDENT: FOR SHAME! Whatever hurts me can ONLY make me stronger. Aye, you may possess the physical strength to overcome my physique... But, alas, my SPIRIT will be stronger than even your mightiest strike. Beat me if you will, but I shall always be the victor!

SCHOOL GOON: Er... yeah... whatever... where'd you get that sceptre and crown? I can make ya a nicer one in sheet metal, if ya like.

I don't want to diminish the talent found in our theatre group.

Au contraire! (that's theatre talk, eh). We've all been pleasantly surprised at the abundance of natural acting ability amidst our cast.

By day, we're public relations writers, computer programmers, farm equipment salespeople, journalists, marketing directors, students. BUT THREE NIGHTS A WEEK WE'RE... WE'RE... well, okay, we're little theatre actors.

But we are, indeed, ACTORS. I know this now. Because the other night, while rehearsing with the male lead, I drifted and started to fantasize about a buddy movie that involved car chases, a couple of explosions, monkeys and a disclaimer at the end that assured "no animals were hurt during the filming of this film."

Most male actors, I understand, fabricate this dream (except for the monkey part). Only they refer to it as "a future PRO-ject I'm working on with another leading man." Then they eat more shrimp, sip more bottled water and send the Hollywood reporter away with black and white glossies.

...some time in the future...

BIG FANCY HOLLYWOOD REPORTER: So where did you get your start?

ME: In a wonderful production called "Opening Night" by the Dundas County Players. I'm sure you've heard of us.

BFHR: No. But then, I've never heard of Winchester, either.

ME: For SHAME! It's the home of the BIGGEST little theatre. The crowd LOVED our opening night of "Opening Night".

BFHR: That's nice. So, how'd you choose your partner in this buddy movie of yours?

ME: Funny you should ask...

Okay, so come to the play, already. I may not be O'livier. I may not be DeNiro. But a few of us come very close.

And we'll even welcome 'former' school goons.

Denis Grignon is a comic and broadcaster living in Mountain. "Opening Night" runs April 25 to 27.

Schooling personalized in the home

Liz Edwards
Press staff

NEWINGTON — Six-year-old Adam MacDonald doesn't go to school.

He doesn't have to. He learns what he needs to know in his own living room at a desk just his size.

While he learns Adam is surrounded by everything that is most familiar to him, especially his instructor.

His teacher is his mom Karen, a registered nurse who is staying at home to raise her four children ranging in age from six to six months.

Karen, 31, plans to teach her other children if all goes well. It's not that the school system is necessarily bad, she says, but she and her husband Stephen, 33, wanted to be more involved in their schooling and have more control over what their children learn.

"One of the major reasons we decided to home- school was there are a lot of things in school, we wouldn't want our children to learn," she says.

It's legal for parents to teach their children at home. Under the Education Act, children may be excused from regular schools if they are receiving sufficient instruction at home or elsewhere.

In 1989 there were 5,000 children schooled in the home in Ontario. Karen has two other friends who do it as well and belongs to a local association for parents who choose this option. Parents can test their own children and can teach them right through their high school years. At-home students can obtain a high school diploma through correspondence courses. Those wishing to enter university also have the option of writing entrance exams or applying as mature students when they are 21.

Specifically the MacDonald's want their children to learn from a Christian curriculum that they wouldn't get in a public school. Though Timothy Christian School in Williamsburg may have met their religious requirements, Karen still wanted to teach Adam herself and she couldn't have done it if he was enrolled at a regular school.

The nearest school they thought would be suitable in North Gower, an hour and a half away from their home near Newington.

"When you look at the number of hours a child is away during the day... at the end of the day, you don't have a lot of time with them. I wanted to be more of an influence on his (Adam's) life," she says.

About three years ago, she and Stephen began to consider the possibility that she could keep her children at home.

"We've been teaching them all along since they were babies. It seemed like a natural progression to teach them at home," she says.

"It's not necessarily to have a Super Kid. It's more personalized."

Since Karen is not an official teacher, she cannot instruct any children but her own. She belongs to the Rideau Valley Home Educator's Association, a non-profit Christian organization, and shares a teacher's manual with a friend. What Adam needs to know, and how she should instruct it is laid out in the manual. She can also purchase lesson plans or follow her own.

Two hours a day, Karen and Adam sit down to study. They try to learn lessons in the morning but their schedule depends on the other children Aaron, 5, Kathryn, 3, and six-month-old Kaleb who also demand their share of attention.

Two hours may not seem like much but it's concentrated school work, says Karen. A normal school day is interrupted by recess, lunch and subjects such as art which she incorporates into their daily life and not into the two-hour segment.

Flipping through his school books, Adam points out what he has learned in adding and subtracting. His favorite subject is coloring. His mom says he does well at math but is finding reading difficult at the moment.

Sometimes he doesn't understand why he has to work when the other children don't but next year his brother Aaron, who just turned five, will join him. But they're already listening to his lessons and Adam often tries to share his knowledge, says Karen.

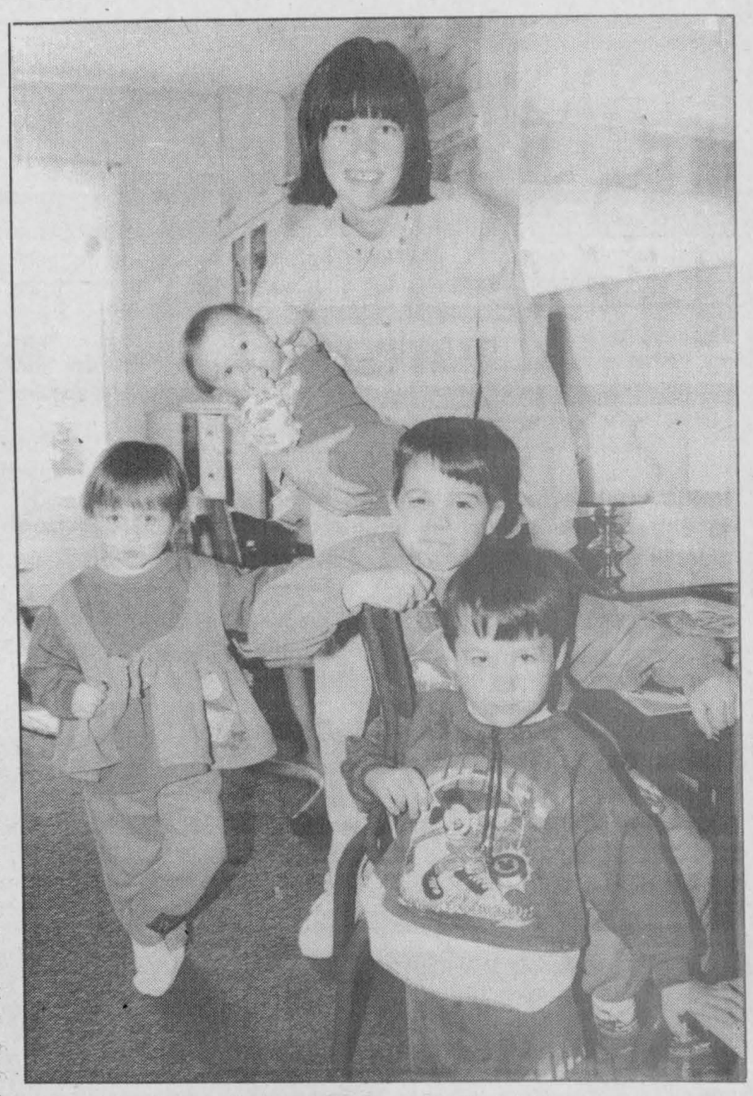
"Adam's always asking him 'what's five plus one, what's two plus two," she says.

Home schooling's not for everyone, she admits. There are a lot of factors to consider such as the parent and child's relationship. It also means one parent has to stay home and commit to the job. In the MacDonald family, Stephen works at Geggie's Home Hardware near Winchester and is the family's only source of income. The family only has one car so it means restricting outings to certain days.

People often ask Karen if her children are missing out on the social aspect of school. At this age, she says, Adam enjoys staying at home. He participates in soccer and other community activities as well he plays with other children in the neighborhood when they come home from school.

She could conceivably instruct them until high school but right now Karen is taking one year at a time. Her children might decide they want to go to a regular school by the time they are that age. But she would like to keep them at home for as long as possible, even if it means teaching four children in different grades.

"It's sort of like going back to a one-room school house," she says.



Karen MacDonald is teaching her oldest child Adam at home and eventually hopes to teach all four. Pictured from the top clockwise are Karen and six- month old Kaleb, Adam, 6, Aarron, 5, and Kathryn, 3.

Parenting seminars continue

Kim Robinson
Press staff

MAPLE RIDGE — Bill Begin encourages parents to know themselves before they try to understand their teenagers.

Begin, who has worked in the field of teen and family counseling for 18 years and has written *The Strategic Parenting Manual*, is bringing his expertise to North Dundas District High School this month in a series of parenting seminars.

The first seminar, held Monday night, took the parents' own emotions and personal concerns as a starting point. Begin says parents have to recognize their own motivations as they deal with parenting problems.

"You can't discipline out of anger or because you're hung-up on something," he says.

He counsels parents to keep open the lines of communication rather than simply imposing their own views.

Starting from this understanding, the series continues with seminars on identifying crisis situations (Wed., April 10), strategies for dealing with these crises (Mon., April 15), communication (Wed., April 24) and issues facing the children themselves (Mon., April 29). All seminars take place from 7 pm to 9 pm and admission is free. For more information, call the school at 448-2328.

The seminars are sponsored by the School Committee in co-operation with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, which has drawn on Begin's manual as a resource in its family counseling activity.

Begin says he aims to present the parenting advice in a down-to-earth manner, giving many examples of how he has seen teens and their parents relate.

Q. Guess who's coming to town?

A. See page B-8 in this week's Press.

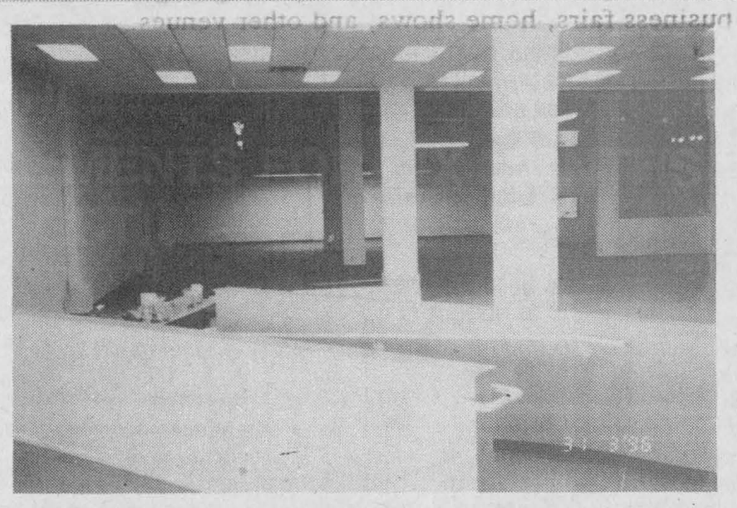
Sneak Preview Prices





DOORS OPEN SATURDAY, APRIL 6 9 AM

WATCH THIS SPACE





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1,000 responses to policing question

by Chris Bridgen

OTTAWA — The concerns are piled high on Betty Hill's desk here at regional council.

In response to her survey about regional police assuming the duties of the OPP in Rideau and other rural townships in her ward, the regional councillor has been flooded with responses.

So far, she's received nearly 1,000, in just a week.

"I was careful not to ask the question whether people want to have the OPP or the regional police serving the community," Hill said.

Instead, the survey focuses on whether or not residents want to be informed about the process.

Overwhelming, they want to be kept updated, says Hill, while pointing to the stack. She expects another deluge of paper in the coming weeks.

Keeping in touch and consulting the community are also two key parts of Al Bouwers' plan.

Bouwers, the former Osgoode Township mayor, was appointed to head a steering committee that will study the pros and cons of replacing the OPP.

The committee's members are Bouwers, regional councillors David Pratt and Alex Munter, Goulbourn Township Mayor Paul Bradley, deputy regional police chief Alex Mackie, the region's commissioner of finance Jack Labelle and Insp. Vic Burns of the OPP.

Although the issues surrounding the switch are complex, Bouwers wants to get to work right away. The first step was taken last Monday, when the new committee met for the first time.

"We're setting down the ground rules and what the scope and extent of our public meetings will be," Bouwers said.

"There are a lot of questions that I will be asking before we go out into the community," he added, referring to the extensive list of questions Hill prepared for regional council last week.

Her concerns weren't dealt with, since the police service board had already decided to start a committee to study the issue.

Even though Hill still considered the police board's move as an "end run" she was pleased with the final motion.

"I'm pleased that the Jan. 1, 1998 date was removed from the mandate written for the steering committee," Hill stated.

"But there are still other questions. There could be a substantial capital outlay to equip the regional force in rural areas."

Opening Night in Dundas, showtime just weeks away

Garnet Quail
Press Staff Reporter

WINCHESTER — Sets are being constructed and tickets are being sold. The 'stage is being set' for the first play by the recently formed Dundas County Players Theatre Society.

As mentioned last week, the show will be presented in Winchester's Henderson Hall on the evenings of April 25, 26 and 27. This farcical Canadian comedy is suitable for audiences 12 years of age and over and should have local theatre goers laughing long and hard.

Last week, here in the *Press,* you were introduced to two of the groups' devotees and this week you will meet two more.

Firstly, I would like to introduce you to Winchester's own Marc Calder who appears in the role of Richard Hyde-Finch, the director of the play within a play which is a madcap bit of tom foolery and a very important part of the show. In his life away from theatre, Calder enjoys his family and his work in the wonderful world of computers.

His onstage girlfriend, Cilla Fraser, is played by Nancy Payne, a recent import to the Winchester area and the two come together like oil and water in an ongoing attempt to settle their differences. In Payne's 'other life' she is an associate producer with the *CBO Morning* radio program in Ottawa.

There are so many springtime activities we have all been waiting so impatiently to get started at and, of course, Easter is just around the corner so perhaps you should mark those dates on your calendar — April 25, 26 and 27. Tickets are just $6 and you don't want to forget to get yours. They are available from Vicki Muir.

Celebration to be music for seniors

WINCHESTER — Stanley Rawlings says he has plenty to celebrate, and he wants his celebration to bring long-lasting enjoyment to the Nor-Dun Seniors Support Centre.

Rawlings is planning a dinner party at the Nor-Dun Centre April 13 that he hopes will raise money to buy a piano for the centre. That same day he and his brother Donald, of Iroquois, will be turning 70, but this is more than a birthday party for the English-born twins.

"This has been a wonderful country to me," says Stanley. "I'm giving this as an appreciation night and at the same time celebrating our birthday."

The twins came to Canada from England in 1940. They served in the RCAF and returned to life in Britain in 1946, but they didn't forget Canada and were back ten years later.

These days, Stanley spends a lot of time at the Nor-Dun Centre. He has often played on a loaned piano for visitors' enjoyment and hopes to have a permanent instrument there soon.



Bright light

Many people sat out to look at comet Hyakutake, which was most visible in the night sky last week. Kerry Coons of RR3 Winchester caught the comet on film. This shot was taken on March 26, some time between 10 pm and 12:30 am, using a 35mm camera set for a four-minute exposure.

Fee for waste removal lowered

By Chris Bridgen

METCALFE — The fee for hauling liquid waste from holding tanks to the sewage treatment centre has again dropped dramatically.

In what has been a long struggle to drop the fee liquid waste haulers would have to charge customers, Regional Councillor Betty Hill won a fight to have the fee lowered to 51 cents per 1,000 litres.

That represents a more than 75 per cent drop from the last proposed fee, which stood at $2.25 per 1,000 litres.

The owners of hauling companies and rural businesses in Osgoode and Rideau that use holding tanks argued that such a fee would destroy businesses across the area.

Under the old fee structure, it would have cost holding tank owners $180 to pump out a 10,000 litre tank.

Hill won the fight with her planning and development committee councillors to have the fee lowered.

She found out that the city sewer rate is only 51 cents.

"I put forward the argument that it wasn't fair to put the charge so high," said Hill.

"If we are going to be partners in the region, everything has to be equitable."

NEXT FIGHT

The next battle for Hill and Osgoode Regional Councillor Robert van den Ham is convincing the full regional council to support the lower fee.

It won't be easy, Hill says. The vote at the committee level was a close 4-3 in support.

"I'll have to do some lobbying to get councillors to see the rural point of view on this," said Hill.

Many of the more than 250 businesses in the area with holding tanks, including malls such as the Manotick Mews, have their tanks pumped on a weekly basis.

"And they already have to pay the haulers to come and get the waste," indicated Hill.

Van den Ham said Osgoode representatives are taking the news well.

"I talked to Gord Pratt in the township's economic development office and he was very, very happy with the recommendations," he said.

"But we're still in for a rough ride at the regional table," van den Ham added. "The administration fees may be higher than what they would bring in."

Regional council debates the issue April 10.

Euchre winners

WILLIAMSBURG — Winners of the Williamsburg Township Seniors' euchre on Wed. March 27 were as follows.

Ladies: Kezia Wells, Jean McIntosh and Gladys Kyle.

Gents: Ray Casselman, Doug Cheney and Keith Scott.

Door prizes: Audrey Casselman and Lorraine Tupper.

Draw: Doris Hill, Enid Dalrymple (2), Audrey Whitteker, Lois Sweeney, Ray Hummel, Muriel Miller.

The next euchre is slated for Wed., April 10. Everyone is welcome.

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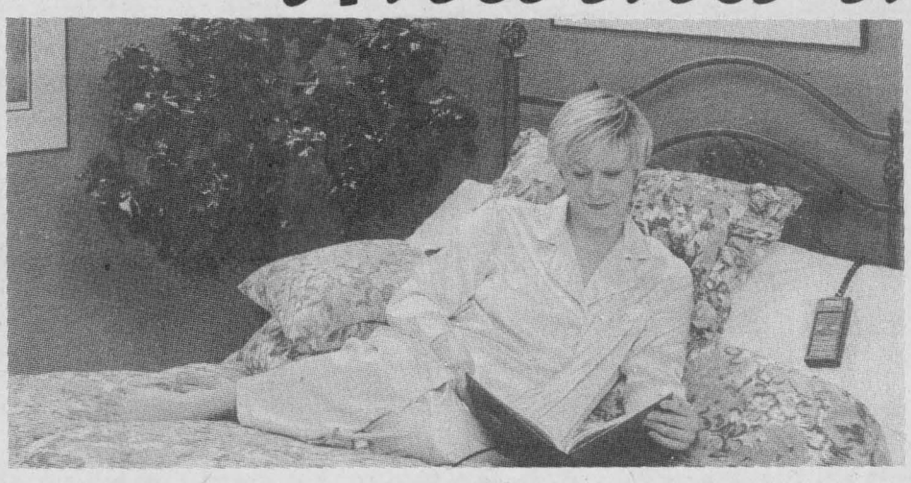



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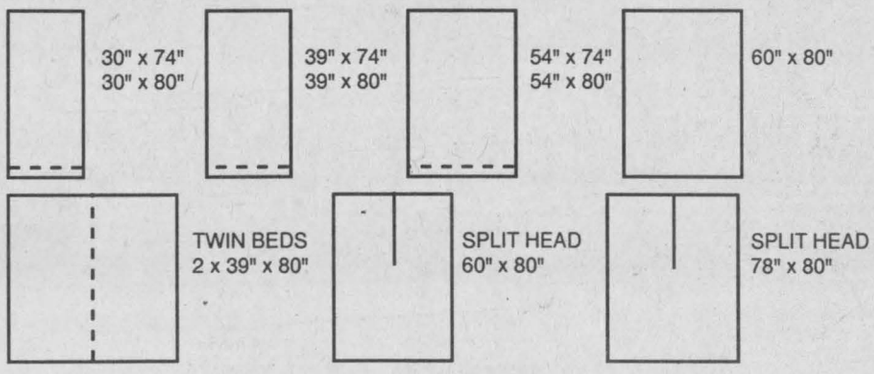

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OBITUARIES

Ida I. Cross

Ida I. Cross of Winchester died March 24 at Dundas Manor. She was 85.

The wife of the late Frank Cross, she was born on Aug. 10, 1910 in Mountain Township to the late James Brown and Charlotte McCaslin.

Mrs. Cross was the mother of Joyce Keiver (Don) of Winchester, Pauline Sharkey (late Francis) of Chesterville, Jacqueline Cross (Claire Elliott) of RR4 Winchester, Carole Coughler (late Gordon) of Winchester, Beatrice Stang (Ray) of Cornwall and son-in-law Danny Gordon of Kemptville. She will be remembered and loved by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mrs. Cross was predeceased by her daughters Marion, Susan Gordon and son Willis, five sisters and two brothers.

She was a member of the Winchester United Church.

A service was held at Daniels Funeral Home in Winchester on March 27 with Rev. Robert Belbin officiating and assisted by Paster Stephen Neil.

Interment was at Maple Ridge Cemetery. Pallbearers included Bob Geggie, George Hanes, Keith Shaver, Bruce Kerr, Martin Van Sleuwen and Peter Guy.

Irma Hauch

Irma Hauch of RR2 Chesterville died at home March 28. She was 59.

A seamstress and the wife of Matthias Hauch who she married in Germany, she was born in Weddlebrook, Germany on Dec. 31, 1936.

As well as her husband, she is survived by her children Achmed (Verna) of Alberta, Rosemaire of Greely, Harold of Valemont, B.C., Sue Mulder (Rob) of Cornwall and Sandra Bourdeau (Jacques) of Orleans. She will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren and great-grandson.

Mrs. Hauch was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Dunbar. A service was held at Daniels Funeral Home in Chesterville on April 2 with Rev. Diane Raddatz officiating.

Interment was at Maple Ridge Cemetery. Pallbearers included her sons and sons-in-law Achmed, Jacques, Rob and Harold.

Velma Loucks

Velma Lottie Violette Loucks of Williamsburg died at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness. She was 88.

A homemaker, she married Walter Charles Loucks in Williamsburg on July 2, 1924. She was born to the late John Stanley Forward and Permelia Albertha Schell in Froatburn on July 8, 1907.

Mrs. Loucks was the sister of Mrs. Hazel Johnson of Scotia, New York and the aunt of Velma Rhodenizer (Richard), also of Scotia, New York. She will also be remembered by her cousins.

She was a member of the St. Peter's Lutheran Church women's group.

A service was held at Fairbairn Funeral Home in Morrisburg with Rev. Diane Raddatz officiating.

Interment was at Maple Ridge Cemetery, Chesterville.

Pallbearers included Claire Empey, Lyle VanAllen, Burrill Harriman, Craig Harriman, Glenn Pemberton and Ramon Casselman.

Sybil Isabelle Skuce

Sybil Isabelle Skuce of Winchester died suddenly Monday, March 25. She was 75.

Mrs. Skuce was born in Morewood on Dec. 18, 1920 to Robert Brown and Margaret Rainey. She grew up on the family farm in Morewood with six sisters and two brothers. She is survived by her sisters Anna Somerville and Ileen Armstrong of Winchester, Mary Stewart of Chesterville, Verda Clements of Newington and Phyllis Mculey of Metcalfe. She was predeceased by her sister Greta Lobb, and brothers Stanley and Robert Brown.

Mrs. Skuce was educated in Morewood. She married George Edsen in 1939, who predeceased her in 1986. They farmed in Winchester and Mountain townships before retiring to the village of Winchester in 1974. She is survived by her six children Margaret Jones (William) of Ottawa, Erwin Skuce (Betty) of Winchester, Edsen Skuce of Ottawa, Shelva Johnston of Nepean, Gordon Skuce (Gail) of Vancouver and Lyle Skuce (Karen) of Winchester. She was the loving grandmother and great-grandmother of 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was an avid gardener and member of the Ladies' Aid of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, the Women's Institute and the Golden Years Society. Mrs. Skuce will be sadly missed by her many friends at Millview Apartments.

A service was held on Thursday, March 28 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church with arrangements made by Daniels Funeral Home in Winchester. Rev. Heather Jones conducted the service.

Pallbearers included grandsons Brian Jones and Terry Johnston as well as nephews Dwaine Armstrong, Joe Racine, Fred Lobb and Milton Lacelle. A spring interment will take place at Springhill Cemetery, Metcalfe.

Be wise... advertise

Area seniors receive life membership plaques

by Muriel Reoch

WINCHESTER — The March 21 meeting of the Golden Years Society was held in the Lions Hall with 54 members and six guests present. The president, Doris Cross, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting by all singing O'Canada and repeating the Lord's Prayer.

A minute of silence was observed in memory of Mary Prosser. Happy Birthday was sung to seven members. Doris read two readings entitled *March* and *The Size of Your Heart*. Muriel Reoch read the minutes, followed by Gladys Clark with the treasurer's report.

A successful euchre was held on March 22 and bridge on March 19.

Bill Riches and Jean Ball received the Life Membership plaque on the occasion of their 90th birthdays. Eric Ball received this plaque on behalf of his mother.

A trip is being planned to attend the Canadian Showcase Chorus production *Out of This World* in Ottawa on May 25. Anyone interested in going should contact Myrna Cinnamon as soon as possible.

Estella Rose presented the society with a generous cheque from the John Stewart Estate Memorial Trust Fund, which was greatly appreciated.

After singing grace we enjoyed a potluck dinner convened by Nick and Bets Beuman and committee. Following dinner we were entertained by the Acres family — Dwayne, Laura and daughter Debbie Gallagher — something we all enjoyed. Hazel Prentice thanked the Acres and the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be on April 18.

Student employment centre to open

CORNWALL —The Canada Employment Centre for Students (CEC-S) will be open for the 1996 summer season on May 1.

The Centre will be located at 111 Water St. and will act as the focal point for information on local summer jobs or activities for the young people in the community. A student employment officer, Francine Rivette, as well as other placement officers will assist students in finding summer employment and aid employers in their search for summer help.

This Canada Employment Centre for Students is one of more than 100 points of service that will be operating across Ontario this summer, staffed by more than 300 people.

Students are encouraged to drop by the CEC-S and meet with the officers to discuss summer employment. The Canada Employment Centre for students is a free service that helps employers find qualified, skilled and reliable students to fill their employment needs this summer.

The CEC for Students is an integral part of the federal government's employment strategy for Canada's youth. The CEC can assist employers with information on government grants available to them to help subsidize the cost of hiring a student.

The centre is seeking support from the community to achieve their summer goals. Staff hope to place 1,000 students and exceed last year's total of 991 placements.

To hire a student or for more information, call the centre at 938-5731.

Dinner theatre coming April 13

WILLIAMSBURG — The Williamsburg United Church is adding some drama to its fundraising efforts with a dinner theatre program on Saturday, April 13.

Well-known Williamsburg performer and Upper Canada Playhouse Artistic Director Marshall Button will be presenting A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters* with Kymme Kerr.

Janet Carkner says organizers were looking for something a little different to help raise money for the new hymn books the congregation has ordered for this spring.

The evening at the Williamsburg church will begin with a social time from 6 pm to 6:30 pm, followed by a roast beef dinner and the performance.

Tickets, which are $15 per person, must be bought in advance.



Heartfelt effort

Sara Volks, 9, of Winchester Public School put some spring in her step to raise money for the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation last Friday. Several schools in the area recently participated in the Jump Rope for Heart Campaign. Approximately 78 Elma Public School students raised $3,724.

Press Photo — Edwards

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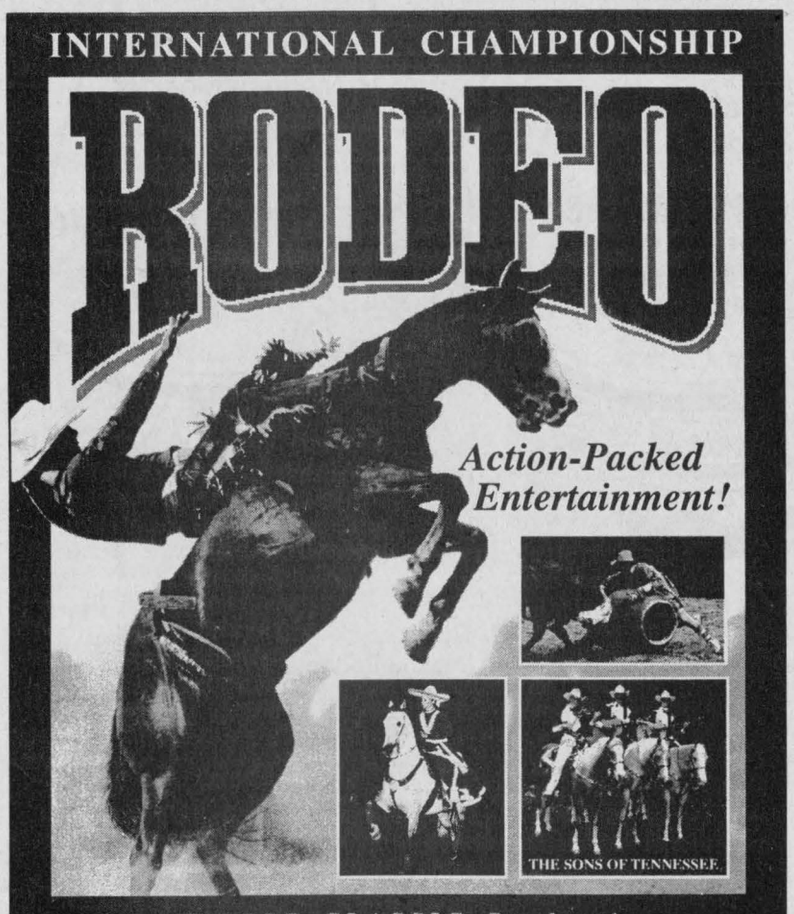

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2. Patricia Gannon, Age 11

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2. Kayla-Rose Garneau, Age 11

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2. Justin Noort, Age 9

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1. Elizabeth Mulder, Age 5
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2. Meghan Mackler, Age 8

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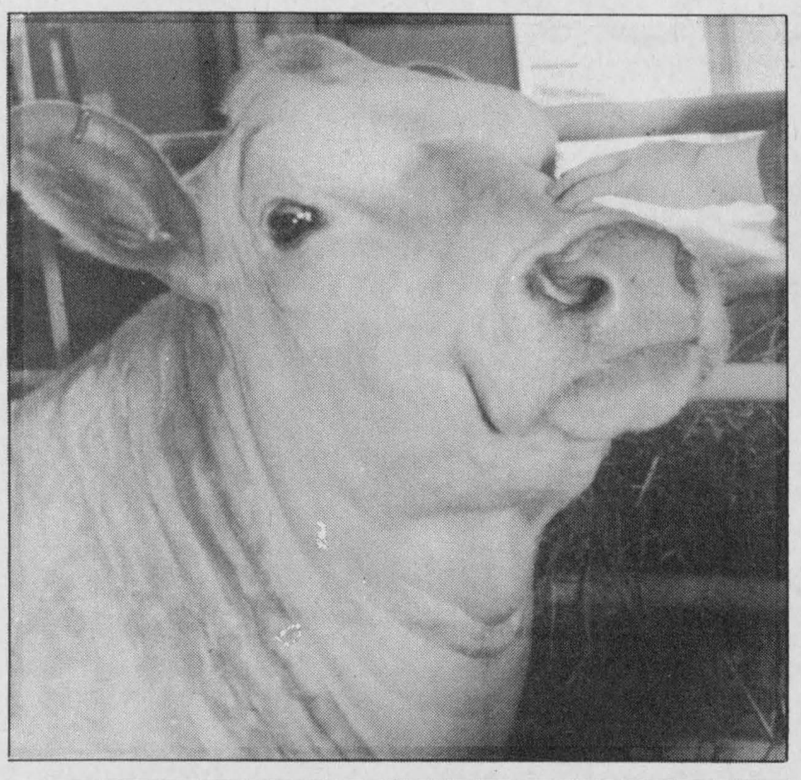
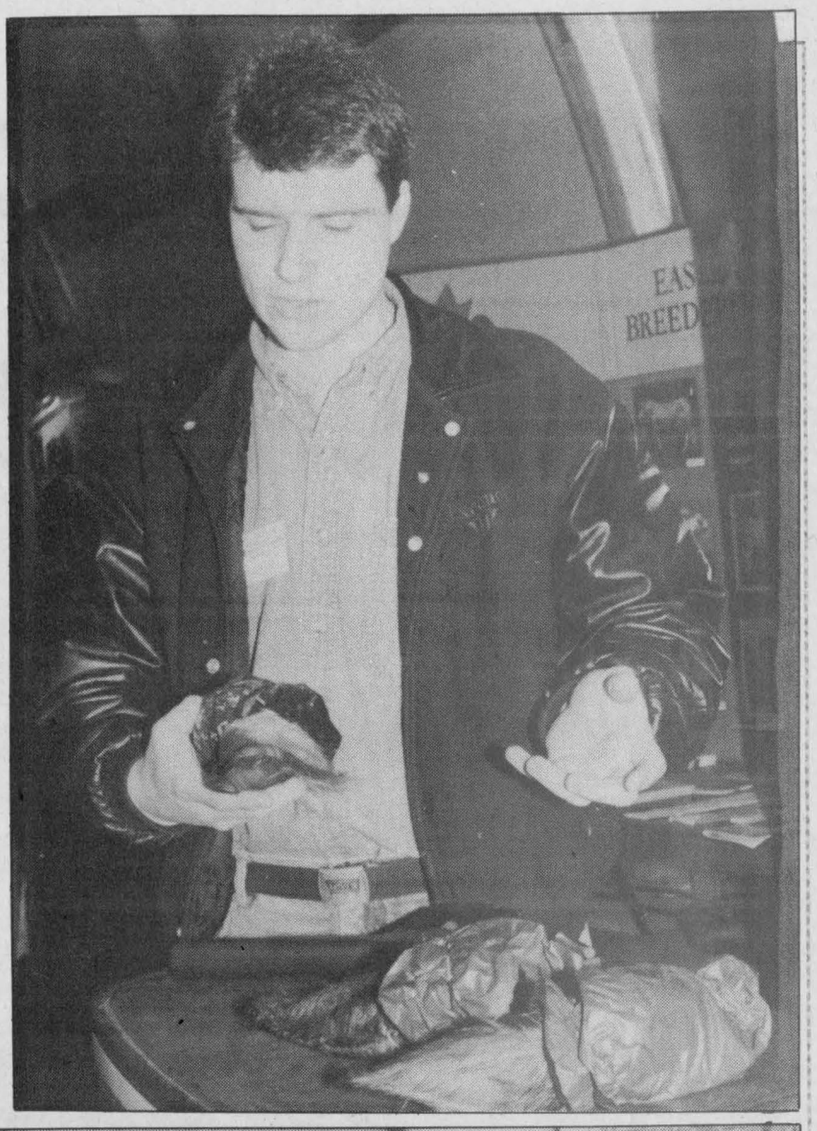
Farm update



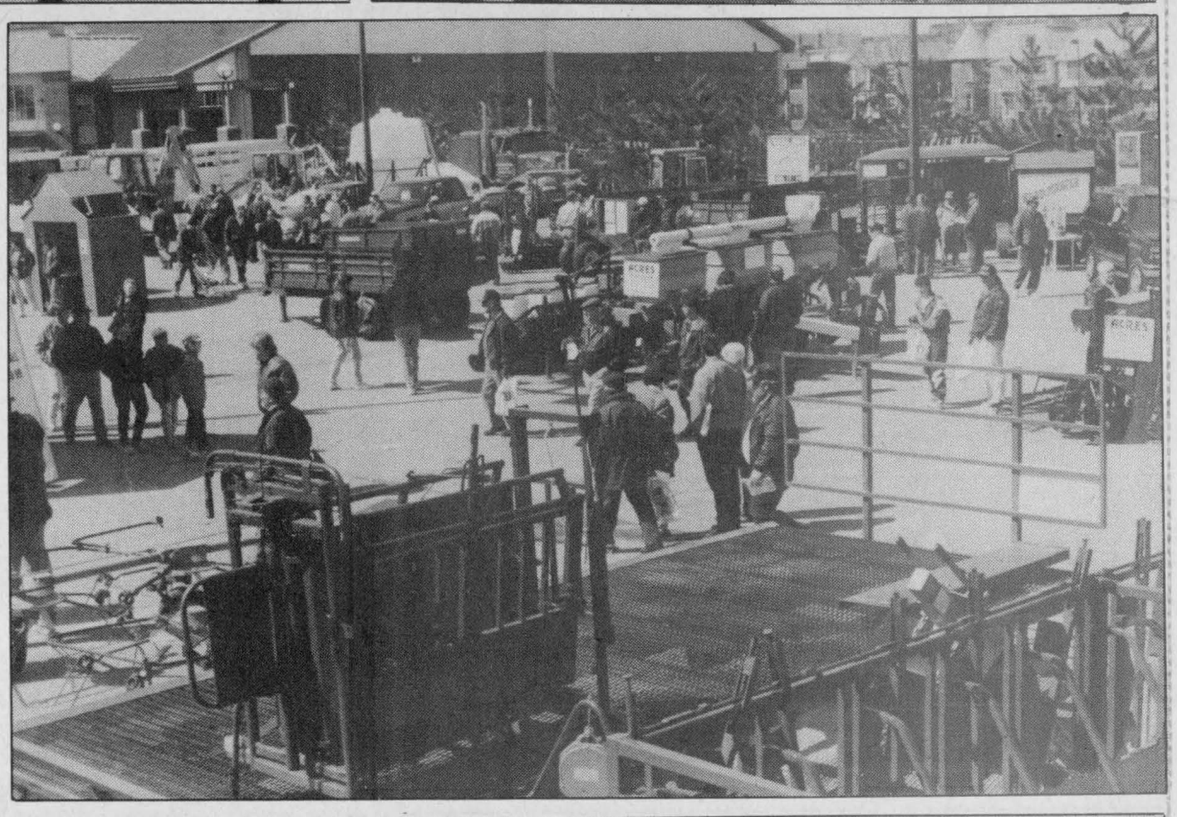






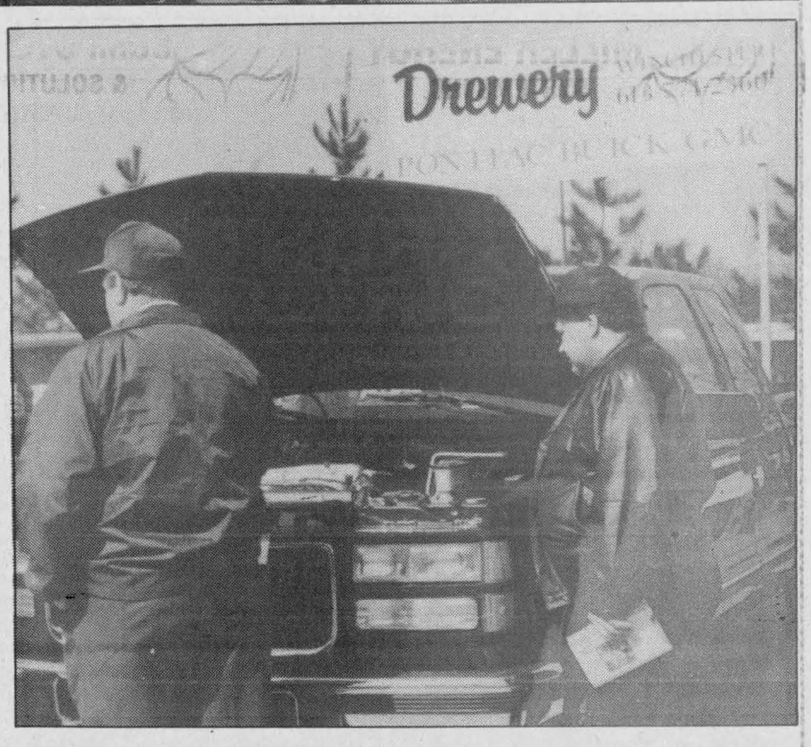
Around the show

Nice weather attracted large crowds to this year's Ottawa Valley Farm Show held March 27-29 at Lansdowne Park in Ottawa. Pictured, clockwise from top left: visitors to the livestock show in the Cattledome had the opportunity to guess the combined weight of this cow and her calf; Jimmy Vanderburg of Apple Hill tries out Alfa Laval's new EasyLine milkers; during the livestock shows veterinarians discussed the proper locations for injecting cattle; crowds look over the large display of heavy machinery and equipment set up outdoors; visitors look over a truck displayed by Drewery Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd. of Winchester; winning entries in the Eastern Ontario / Western Quebec Championship Seed Show on display; Tim Moher (left) of Agrico in Winchester chats with Ron Harrison of Winchester; and Brent of Vars sits on a new tractor. Press Photos — Fetterly









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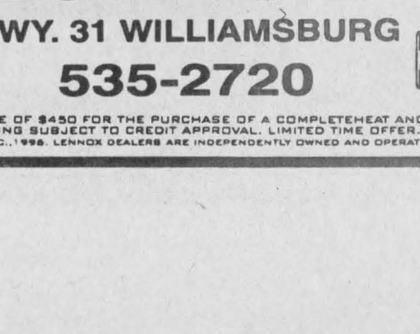

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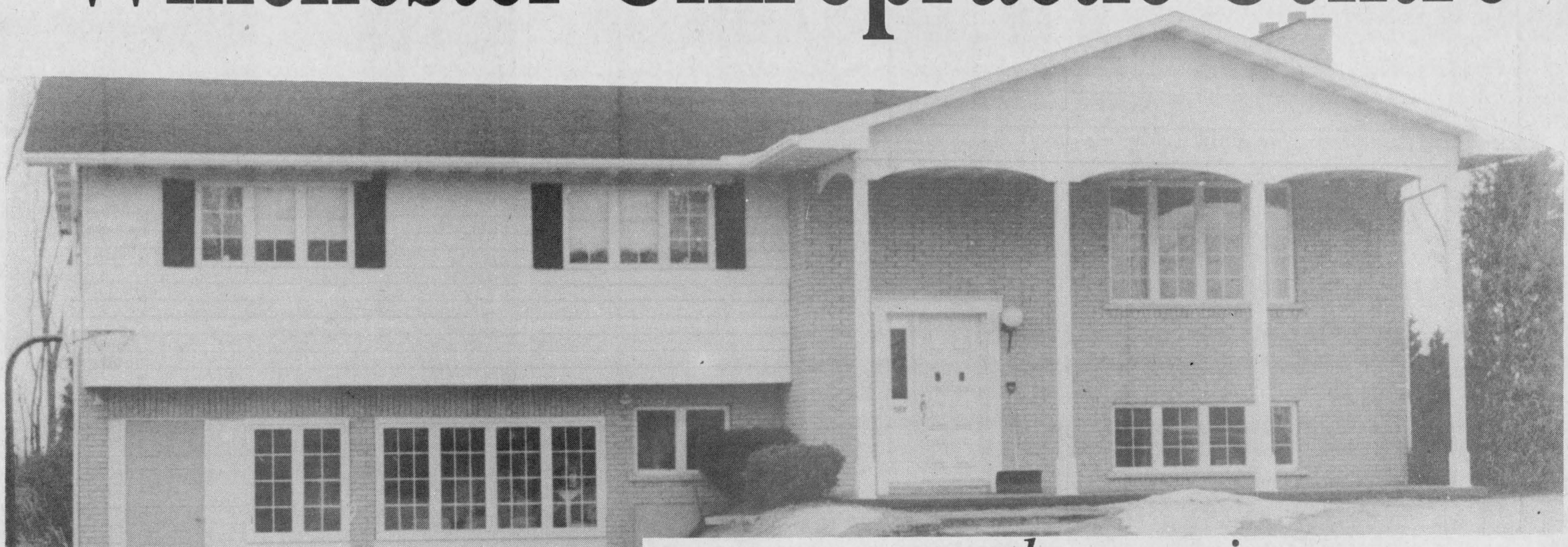

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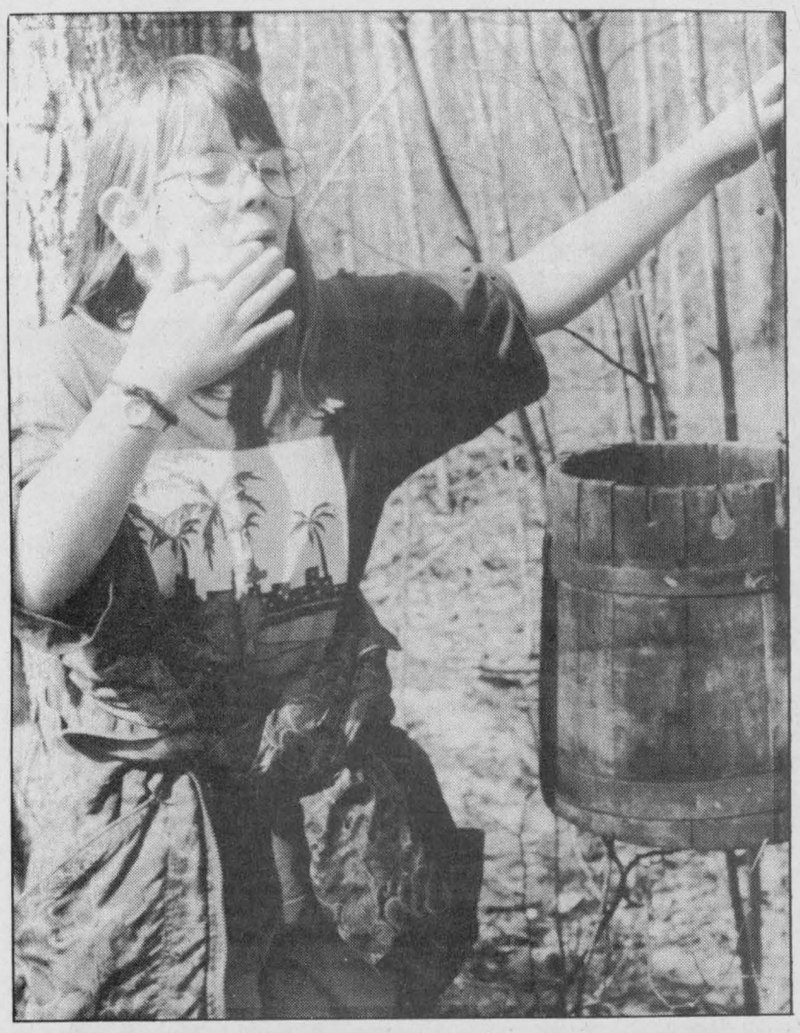
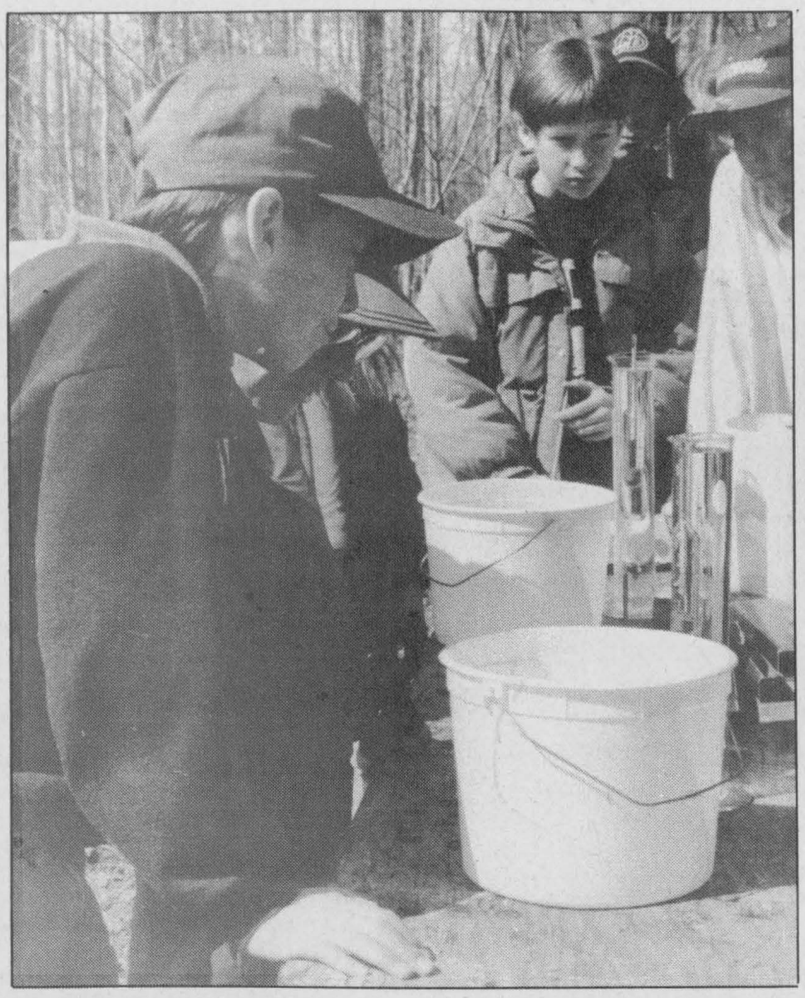


Jennifer Thompson tries a taste of sap from an antique bucket on display at Drummond's Sugar Bush and Pancake House. The sugar bush now uses pipelines to collect the sap.



Adam Besharah tests the sugar content in sap as fellow classmates look on. The Nationview students enjoyed performing experiments and playing games and quizzes during a recent trip to the sugar bush.

Press Photos — Fetterly

Students savor sugar bush trip

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

SPENCERVILLE — Children taking their annual trip to the sugar bush are in for a tasty treat at Drummond's sugar bush.

This year's hands-on tours of the sugar bush, located just west of Spencerville, are conducted by staff of the Kemptville College of Agricultural Technology. By rotating through a number of stations set up around the sugar bush, students learn the steps required in maple sugar production from tree to table.

Tour guide Dave Irving of the Agronomy Section of Kempville College, says tours are geared to the age groups of the children. Older children have in-depth discussion on maple syrup production, while younger students might learn about the various types of trees found in a bush. But whatever the age, everyone goes home with a tasty sample of maple sugar candy.

On a tour of the bush last Friday, Nationview Public School Grade 5 students used their mathematics and science skills to identify various types of trees by looking at the bark and branches; how to use a hygrometer to find the sugar content in sap; how to grade maple syrup; and how to locate the proper spot to tap a tree. They also used their social studies to locate where maple syrup is produced in Canada and the world.

Students were very enthusiastic – especially during the experiments and taste tests.

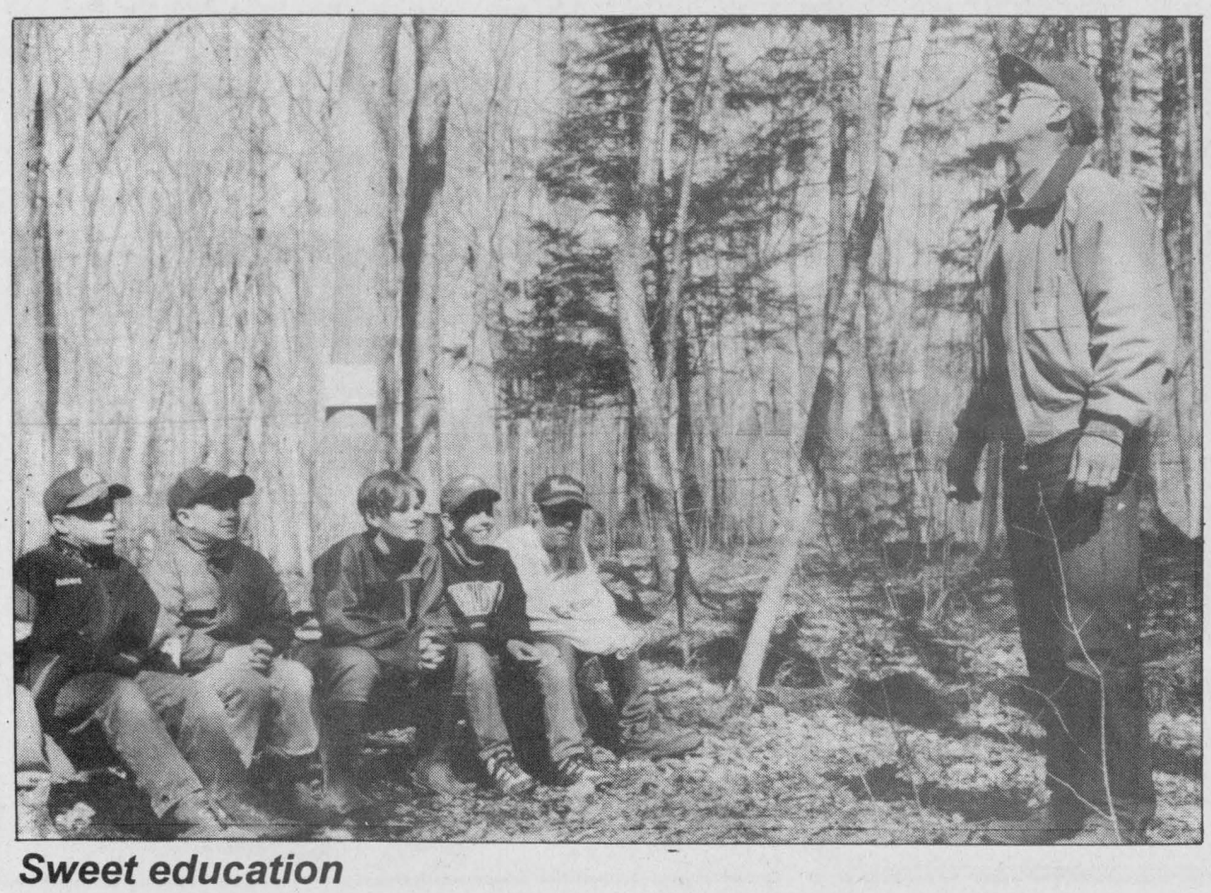
"I liked (the tour) because it was very interesting and we learned a lot of neat stuff," said Grade 5 student Matt Gilmer.

And Amy McKeen said she enjoyed herself because the instructor made the tour fun. She added she especially liked the games and quizzes.

LONG HISTORY

The Drummond family has been operating the sugar bush since 1802.

While the first sugar camp consisted of a log building containing two kettles, today the camp features all modern syrup making equipment. About 400 gallons of maple syrup is produced annually at Drummond Sugar Bush. Much of the syrup produced is utilized at the pancake house, while the remainder is sold at the farm gate. The pancake house is open on weekends during March and April.



Sweet education

Grade 5 students from Nationview Public School recently enjoyed a trip to Drummond's Sugar Bush and Pancake House near Spencerville. Pictured, a group of students learn about maple syrup production from Dave Irving of KCAT.

Ontario Spring Classic Sale features over 100 Holsteins

WINCHESTER — For those wanting to improve or add to their to their dairy herd, over 100 head of Holsteins will be sold at the Eastern Ontario Spring Classic Sale this Saturday.

Sponsored by 11 Eastern Ontario Holstein clubs, this year's sale gets under way at 11 am at Hugh Fawcett Auction in Winchester. The semen sale starts at 10:45 am.

Among other top animals, the sale features a fancy Browndale Stardust junior yearling heifer from a GP two-year-old with a 245-272-256 BCA, as well as a second calf Counselor daughter with two years BCA of 188-200-195 and seven direct dams all VG. Also a two-year-old Prelude daughter from an EX dam due at sale time and many more.

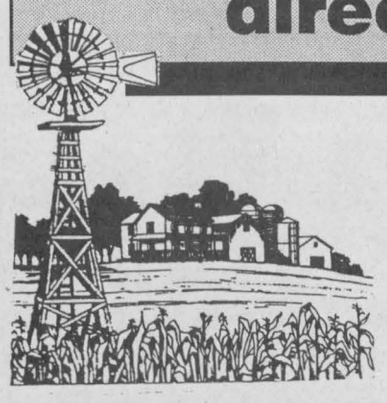
As well, 4-Hers are reminded of the two free draws for $500 to be used toward cattle purchases. There will be a number of outstanding 4-H calves from top sires at the sale. Interested members should contact Lynn Boyd before 10:30 am sale day.

Cattle for the annual sale are individually selected for type, production and pedigree.

Interested buyers can look over the animals at an open house Friday evening.

For a catalogue contact Hugh Fawcett Auctions at 613 774-5537.

Agri-business directory



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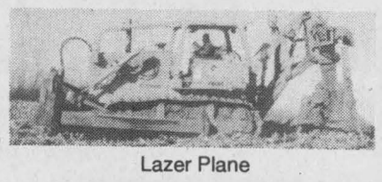

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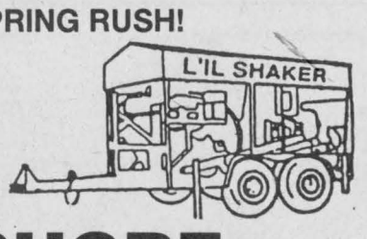

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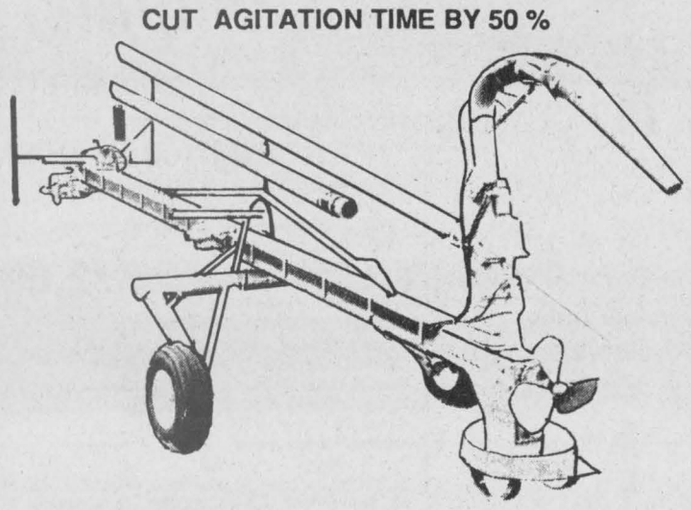

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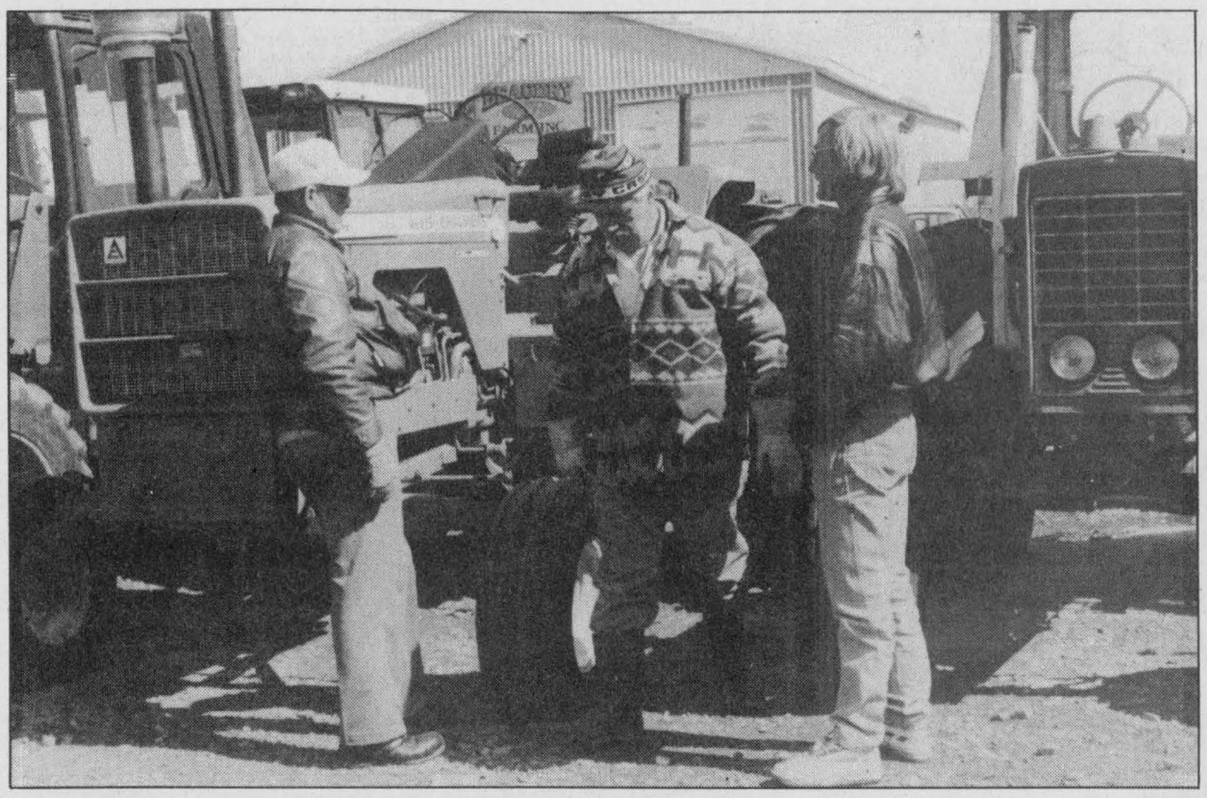

Bargains galore

Visitors to Beaudry Farm Supplies most recent consignment auction held last Friday in Winchester look over one of more than 250 tractors auctioned off throughout the day. Press Photo — Fetterly

KCAT evaluates choices in wake of OPSEU strike

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

KEMPTVILLE — While the strike by Ontario public servants has ended, it still has students at the Kemptville College of Agricultural Technology worried about their year.

"I'm concerned that we might lose the semester already started. We've paid for it and we want our money's worth, said first-year equine management student Jason Coveney of Bancroft at the student residence last week.

Classes at the college were suspended since the strike by the Ontario Public Servant Employees Union (OPSEU) began five weeks ago. But Coveney says he thinks it's ridiculous that teachers were allowed to come to work but not teach.

Coveney and six other students were hired to stay at the college throughout the strike to care for the horses used in equine studies. The remaining students were sent home.

KCAT director David Beattie says now that the strike is over, college staff will be calling students to ensure they have the opportunity to finish their semester.

"For those wanting to, we will allow them to finish up. And we'll make sure they get all the material they need," he says.

Beattie says the college can compress the remainder of the classes and still be finished by the regular time (April 26). However, they may need to cancel the formal exams week. And "we already have a half year of evaluation on the students," he says.

But Coveney says some students have given up on their semester and taken jobs back home. As well, it will be an added expense for some to have to travel back to the college to finish the semester.

Nonetheless, Beattie says the college will look at alternatives for students to complete their year.



update

Cooking clubs hold Achievement

by Pamela Morrow

CHESTERVILLE — On March 24, the Chesterville 4-H Souper Supers and the South Mountain 4-H cooking clubs held their achievement program at the Nelson LaPrade Centre in Chesterville from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Chesterville's club made a presentation of what they had done during their six meetings. Then the South Mountain club performed a play written by one of their members. Following the play, everyone enjoyed a potluck supper.

Members completing for the Chesterville Club were: Sherisse Crump, Miranda Bouck, Angela Paquette, Pam Morrow and Andrea Little.

South Mountain members were: Travis Sahl, Veronica Sahl, Nick Sahl, Leslie Weagant, Adriana Hoogenboom, Kristal Baldwin, Jeremy Caza, Paula Weagant and Sarah Tucker.

Special thanks to club leaders Ruth Szini, Florence Hoople and Sandra Weagant.

Horse Club plans a dance

by Jen Murray

SOUTH MOUNTAIN — The 4-H horse club held a meeting on Thursday, March 28 at the Agricultural Hall in South Mountain.

Plans were discussed for a dance in May. As well we talked about the idea of helping out our local food bank by collecting canned food donations at the door the night of the dance.

A video of Ed Fields' mare giving birth was viewed as well as the end of the showmanship video.

For information contact Ed Fields at 989-2235.

CDC launches Internet site

OTTAWA — The Canadian Dairy Commission (CDC) recently announced the launch of its Internet site (http://www.agr.ca/cdc) intended to further serve Canadian dairy industry stakeholders and the general public.

A wide variety of dairy information, including factsheets, press releases, annual report highlights and regular updates on production and consumption trends will be accessible through the CDC site.



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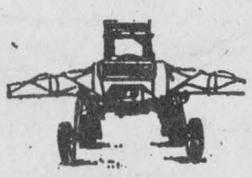
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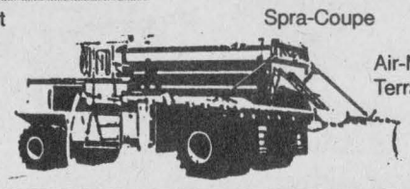
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