The Glengarry News

JULY 24, 2002 — SPECIAL GLENGARRY HIGHLAND GAMES EDITION — ALEXANDRIA, ONT.



THE SKIRL OF THE PIPES: Spectators watch as a pipe band marches past. From entering competion to performing in the Tattoo and with the Massed Bands, there is plenty to keep pipe bands from near and far busy over the two day Highland Games. The skirl of the pipes is an important part of our heritage and proves a great draw year after year.

STAFF PHOTO

Two full days of events for this year's Games

A few short years ago, Friday events were exclusively the site of the Highland Dancing competitions and the Piobaireachd piping. For most people, the Games got under way on Friday evening with the traditional Scottish Concert and Tattoo followed the next day with the main events of piping, heavyweight events and entertainment. Over the past three years, Friday has slowly taken on its own identity until this year, it offers a full day of excitement and activity. The events are as diversified as one could want from the amateur heavyweight events to sheep dogs corralling a stray lamb to a re-enactment in period military garb. From eight in the morning until late in the evening, there will be old and new things to discover on Friday.

For the finest in solo piping, be sure to drop in to the Piobaireachd Competition that will be held at the United Church and the Presbyterian Church, both on Main Street in Maxville, beginning at 8 a.m. Friday and continuing all day. This contest is the sole competition in North America to have the Piobaireachd Society's endorsement and because of this, draws the very best professional pipers from Canada, the United States and abroad, and has become the premier solo piping contest in North America.

Starting at 8:30 a.m. Friday and continuing on Saturday, one of the enduring traditions of the Games occurs with over one hundred and fifty Highland Dancers competing in the Primary, Beginner, Novice and Intermediate, and Restricted Premier classes. Enjoy the excitement of the Highland Fling, the Sword Dance and the Seann Truibhas as you watch the young dancers carry out their intricate steps.

A relatively new event that is quickly developing a large following is the Amateur and Masters' Heavyweight Competition that will take place in the infield throughout the day. Starting at 8 a.m., ten amateur athletes from the area will compete in events including the sheaf and caber toss. Their efforts will be followed at 2 p.m. by a competition involving seven veterans of the heavyweights including Rod McLeod, Sr. from Vankleek Hill.

A new addition to the Heavyweight events this year is a demonstration of strength and endurance by five women as they try their skill at the traditional men's contests. Be sure to be there Friday at 12:30 p.m. and throughout the afternoon in the infield to watch these women as they attempt the stone throw and the popular sheaf and caber toss.

For animal lovers, this Friday's activities provide two new events that spotlight Scottish breeds. Werner Reitboeck's Sheep Dog Demonstrations will take place in the infield with thirty minute shows at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Watch these canny border collies as they herd wandering sheep into their pens. Over to the north of the Clan Barns in a shady enclosure, several of the rugged, long-horned Highland cattle with their shaggy red coats can be viewed along with one of this year's calves.

Military buffs won't want to miss a chance to see the Olde 78th Fraser Highlanders Regiment present a re-enactment of battle formations and drills from the 1700s. In 1757, members of the Fraser clan formed the 78th Fraser Highlanders Regiment to serve King George II in North America during the Seven Years' War (1757-1763). The Regiment played a major role in this conflict between France and England, from the siege of Louisbourg in 1758 to the battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759.

This historic version of the regiment was recreated in 1965 and is now composed of students drawn from local pipe bands. To the haunting skirl of the pipes and the beating of the drums, the Olde 78th Fraser Highlanders perform daily every summer at Ile Sainte-Hélène's Old Fort, located directly across the St. Lawrence River from downtown Montreal.

This historic regiment will perform their drill sequence with the Brown Bess musket, the weapon which holds the record for being used the longest in British history, more than 150 years. Wearing uniforms that are replicas of the ones worn more than 200 years ago, they execute an elegant drill which has the soldier load and fire his musket in 27 movements, all accompanied by pipers and drummers. Catch one of the three twenty minute shows at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 p.m. located in the Grade One Piping Circle just behind the Information Booth.

To provide a background of pipe music wherever one goes at the Games on Friday, the SD and G Highlanders Pipe Band will be playing at various times and at various locations throughout the day. They can also be found providing a twenty minute concert in the Grade One Piping Circle right before each performance of the Olde 78th Fraser Highlanders.

Also on Friday,, the Glengarry Historical Society can be found in the concession row between the Grandstand and the Angus Gray Centre. Anyone who visits there can check up on their family tree or find that distant relative who moved to the area long ago. For those who want to be more involved, join Sine McKenna's workshop and try learning a few words or a song in the Gaelic language or listen to the Children's Gaelic singing. This interesting workshop can be found in the Angus Gray at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

After a full day of activities, eveyone will be ready to sit back and be entertained by the finest in local and international Scottish talent. This year's line-up is headlined by the world-renowned Simon Fraser University Pipe Band from Burnaby, BC. This band has played for the Queen and is the first pipe band to play in concert at Carnegie Hall..

The Friday night Concert and Tattoo at the Glengarry Highland Games are fast becoming a must-see event in our Eastern Ontario summer. In the past few years, the Games have offered the Rankin Family, LEAHY, and last year's favourite, Kelli Trottier. This year's show will continue that tradition with another world-class display.

At 6:30 pm for a prelude to the Tattoo, the massed fiddlers take to the stage along with Ian MacLeod's fiddlers and highlighting Ashley MacLeod. After a welcome from the Games president, the Tattoo begins with anthems and sky divers who descend into the infield bearing the Canadian, American and Scottish flags. The Tattoo then gets off to an impressive start with the Massed Bands followed by the Brigadoons and two hundred MacCulloch dancers.

The applause will swell again as the World Champion Simon Fraser University Pipe Band enters the field to perform its first of two twenty minute sets. Calasaig, a traditional Celtic band direct from Scotland will join the Scotia Dancers to entertain the crowd between the sets. Rounding out the evening's Tattoo will be the Band of the Ceremonial Guard combined with the Ottawa-Carleton Police Pipe Band.

When the last pipes and brass notes fade away on the evening breeze, get ready for more excitement as the Tattoo closes with a dazzling fireworks display.

Saturday will continue to be the highlight of the Games with the North American Pipe Band Championships, the individual piping and drumming competitions, and the very popular Heavyweight Competitions. Again, this year the Games will welcome a record number of pipe bands for the largest gathering of massed pipe bands in North America.

New president eager for his first Games

BY TODD ANDERSON
News reporter

Maxville resident Mike Villeneuve is excitedly anticipating his first Glengarry Highland Games as president.

With his extensive background with the event he is looking forward to the task at hand.

"I'm definitely ready for the challenge. We have a great group to work with and the bar has been raised over the past couple of years. People seem to be going back to cultural festivities more and more."

Mr. Villeneuve said he is happy with some of the recent changes to the Games but hopes more activities will make the upcoming weekend even more successful.

"We're going to keep on trying to build up Friday night even more. We want to attract more people and have more events. The junior heavyweights have been doing very well since being introduced two years ago and there seems to be more dancers and bands every year."

Mr. Villeneuve and the rest of the committee have had their hands full with the projects on the table leading up to the games and he knows people like former president Bill Shields can be thanked for getting the ball rolling.

"Bill did an excellent job and he was very busy with it all. He represented us quite well and was well-liked by everybody. I hope I can do as good a job."

The Games board of directors elected Mr. Villeneuve as their new president in November of 2001 filling in for outgoing president Bill Shields whose two-year term came to an end.



Mike Villeneuve

Mr. Villeneuve, 48, vacated his duties as the Games' first vice-president but continues to hold down his job as grounds chairman which he has been doing for more then 10 years.

Mr. Villeneuve is also a past president of the Kenyon Agriculture Society which owns the property on which the Games are held annually.

Also receiving new positions on the Games 'executive this year were the new first vice president Perry McConnell and second vice president Kent MacSweyn.

Neil McCormick (secretary), Betty McCormick (assistant secretary), Brian Arkinstall (treasurer) retain their positions.

Mr. Villeneuve has been working with Expertech Network Insulations for 31 years and has also been occupied with a family farm his entire life.

He is married to Cornwall native Susan Clarke and they have two children, Leanne, 23 and Michael, 30.

Dr. Keon to officially open 55th Highland Games Aug. 3

Dr. Wilbert J. Keon, O.C., M.D., R.R.C.S., will officially open the 55th Highland Games in Maxville on Saturday., August 3 at 1.45 p.m.

Dr. Keon, who is also a Senator of the Parliament of Canada, is well-known in this area for his dedication to heart patients locally and internationally, and as founder of the world-renowned University of Ottawa Heart Institute.

Born in the Ottawa Valley in Sheenboro, Quebec, Dr. Keon had plans to be a hockey player until his mother intervened, without consultation, sending him to college in preparation for medicine. He received his medical degree in Ottawa, surgical training at McGill, cardiovascular surgical training at the University of Toronto and surgical research experience at Harvard.

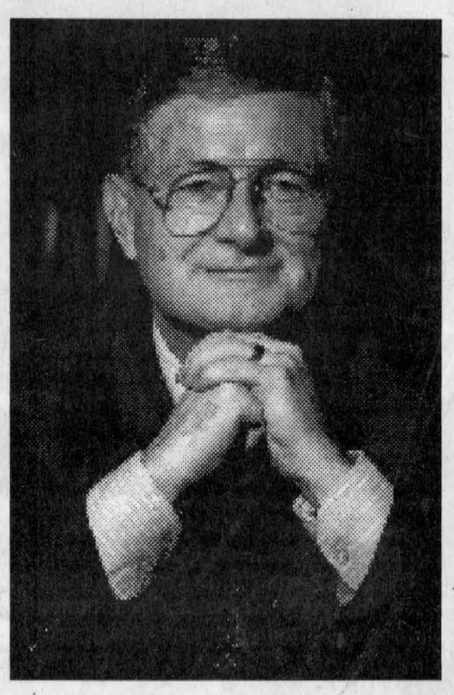
In 1969, he returned to Ottawa to direct the newly formed Heart Institute at the Ottawa Civic Hospital. Over the past thirty years, building this Institute into a world leading academic and health care centre has been Dr. Keon's primary goal. It is now recognized as an internationally renowned teaching and research centre in addition to its role as a provider of exceptional care for thousands of people in the Ottawa area and beyond.

As well as building the Heart Institute into a world-class facility, Dr. Keon pioneered heart failure techniques. He was the first Canadian to implant an artificial heart into a human as a bridge to transplant. The artificial heart, also known as the Jarvik heart, was implanted into Noella Leclair, a 41-year-old Orleans woman, on May 1, 1986. Dr. Keon was one of the first surgeons to use emergency bypass surgery during an acute heart attack to get the blood flowing back into the heart muscle. He was also the first to use the excimer laser to unblock clogged coronary arteries. Dr. Keon and his colleagues were also some of the first to use balloon angioplasties to clear arteries and restore blood flow. His tireless energies and his dedication to his patients have become legendary and he is admired by both the professional and non-medical population of the region.

Along with his professional accomplishments, Dr. Keon has played a leadership role in national and international professional associations dealing in health care. He is Past-President of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society and past Vice-President of the Medical Research Council of Canada. In honour of his fifteen years as Professor and Chairman of the University of Ottawa Department of Surgery, the Endowed Keon Chair of Surgery was established. He continues to participate nationally and globally as a lecturer and visiting professor and has published over thirty books and one hundred and forty papers.

Throughout Dr. Keon's career he has chosen to work for a modest salary while returning several million dollars from his clinical earnings to the University and the Heart Institute for academic development. As well, he actively participates in fund-raising activities such as the annual Heart Institute Telethon.

Dr. Keon was been honoured by his province with the Order of Ontario, and by his country as an officer of the Order of Canada and, in 1990, as a Senator of the Parliament of Canada. He has also received a Papal appointment as Officer of the Order of Malta by Pope John Paul II.



Dr. Wilbert J. Keon, O.C., M.D., R.R.C.S..

2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION

Great entertainment has something for all

This year's entertainment lineup at the Games will provide a little of the old and new, something for the young and young-at-heart, and something for the party-goers and for those who prefer a quieter pace.

Entertainment starts early on Friday in the Arena when the two Paddys take to the stage at 1 p.m. Throughout the afternoon they are joined by the Scotia Dancers, Calasaig and the Greenland Wailers. Right after the Gaelic Workshops in the Angus Gray, Bob and Ducky are ready to entertain from 3:30 until 6:30 p.m. along with the Trillium Academy of Irish Dancers.

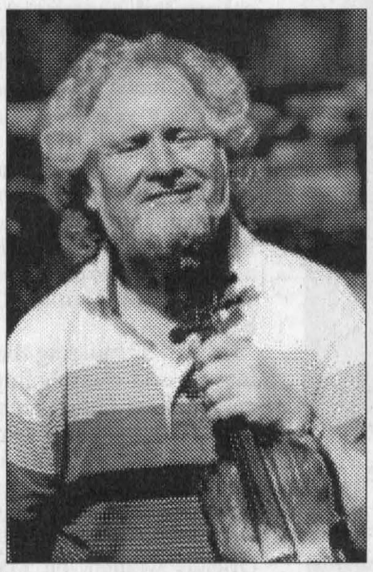


The Brigadoons

The Angus Gray, the Arena, the Beer Tent and the Ceilidh (unlicenced) Tent will all provide entertainment for your Friday night dancing pleasure. Enjoy the Brigadoons, Brandy and Port, McMartin Fiddle, Hadrian's Wall and more. The Tent entertainment begins right after the Tattoo ends, with the Arena and the Angus Gray dances getting under way at 9 p.m.

Saturday entertainment starts at 1:30 p.m. and continues until the Massed Bands. Check out the best in local Celtic entertainment in the Arena and Beer Tent or relax in the Ceilidh tent. A great dancing night is promised in the Arena when Salty Dog and The Peelers take to the stage.

The entertainment lineup is drawn from our own Glengarry mix of great talent with some added groups from the Ottawa and Montreal area along with Calasaig direct from Scotland. Calasaig are a five piece Scottish band, playing traditional music from Scotland, Ireland and England as well as their own compositions. The band has toured extensively in Scotland, as well as playing live studio sessions for BBC and commercial radio stations. They completed a successful Canadian tour in August 2001 and recently recorded their third CD (Near & Far).



Gerry O'Neill of McMartin Fiddle

Gerry O'Neill from Glengarry, the mainstay of McMartin Fiddle, gathers a crowd no matter where he plays. He once remarked that his largest audience was over a billion people – as part of the opening ceremonies with seven other fiddlers of the 1976 Olympic Games. Gerry's music can pull at your heart strings, or in an instant, set your feet to dancing a frenzied jig.

The Brigadoons have been entertaining across Canada, the United States and the Caribbean for over 25 years. People in the area have grown up with this music and their children are now doing the same. The band has seen many changes over the years with Rob Taylor the only original member of the band, and Denis Carr close behind with over twenty years, but they have never lost their magical sound and their ability to cause a ceilidh wherever they play.

Brandy and Port has been Ottawa's premier Celtic band for 12 years running. They have played extensively in Eastern Ontario and are regular performers at Highland Games on both sides of the Canada/US border. There have a number of recordings to their credit and you will no doubt be well entertained by their high energy Celtic mix.

Bob and Ducky have been performing at the Highland Games for the past five years. Their love of the traditional Celtic Music lends itself to an atmosphere of easy listening with a unique blend of the old Scottish and Irish favorites. Their style has made them a very popular duo in and around the area. They have recently released a CD featuring a wonderful version of "After All These Years," the title song of the recording.



Hadrian's Wall

The two Paddys are a talented duo who add a lot of musical diversity to their performances. Paddy Kelly plays fiddle and guitar, along with bodhran and penny whistle on occasion. Paddy Maher plays several instruments, which include guitar, bass and the Irish bouzouki. Paddy and Paddy bring traditional flavour to their Irish music which include tunes, ballads and the usual old Irish favourites. Certainly a duo to relax to and enjoy.

Bringing a balance between tradition and change, The Peelers based in Kirk Hill, Glengarry County have been kicking up their own brand of musical sawdust in pubs and clubs for the last three years. With their rumbunctious folk-rock-punk revival sound, they will have everyone dancing from their first note until their last.

Take four strong voices, a rocking rhythm section, and a foot-stomping fiddle, and you have one of the best, most asked-for Celtic acts on the circuit today. With their unique blend of traditional Celtic roots and modern rock/pop beat, Hadrian's Wall has quickly become a featured attraction at some of the most popular music festivals and Celtic music venues throughout North America.

The term "Crooked Horn" refers to the top part of a moonshine still. Bob McGinnis' Irish heritage and Frank Guertin's Franco-Native origins make them the brew masters of the most unique sound of "toe tapping, knee slapping, hand clapping, jump-up-on-the-table, good time fun." Their show combines the best of traditional Celtic music with their own style, infusing them with an energy that becomes contagious.

McCormick and MacLeod's roots go deep in the musical history of Glengarry and district. Both Dave and Darrel played as sidemen with a variety of groups and are often the accompanists for the MacCulloch Dancers. As a duo they have played their brand of Neo-Celtic music from Toronto to Antwerp and from Ottawa to Vankleek Hill. A CD, "Knotwork", was released in 1997. When joined by Martin Gaudet, a bassist and vocalist, they call themselves Sixmilecross.

Salty Dog from Montreal, have been together for the past twelve years and call themselves an almost-traditional folk group. The focus of their music moves towards fun-time Maritime and Celtic foot-stomping songs and tunes, enhancing the more traditional Irish/Scottish folksongs that are their mainstay. With the original members, Rocky and Tim, they have evolved from a trio into the present quartet over the past couple of years.

Growing up around Glengarry County, Ontario, the boys in The Crofters have been raised on a healthy dose of traditional Scottish, Irish and Acadian music. With a blend of these elements, as well as facets of Canadian folk and contemporary favourites, The Crofters present an original sound that is both dynamic and conducive to many a night of foot stomping entertainment.

The Crofters look to entertain, and thus are very serious about providing fun for all!

Greenland Wailers are an easy-listening group from Cornwall whose vocal harmonies and crafted instrumentations blend melodiously to produce your favourite Celtic tunes. Formed originally by teachers from local schools, they have added a fine vocalist to their group from outside the chalkboard. Enjoy a relaxing performance for your mind and your ears with the Wailers, who definitely do not live up to their name.

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION



GATHERING OF THE CLANS: A clan parade will be held in front of the Grandstand, led by a pipe band at 12 noon on Saturday August 3, 2002. That same day there will be entertainment in the clan building starting at 2 p.m.

STAFF PHOTO

TOLHURST & MILLER
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BLAST FROM THE PAST: Connie Kippen (now Blaney) with Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, at the 10th Highland Games in 1957. Mr. Diefenbaker also opened the Games in 1975.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Connie Blaney has "been there from the beginning"

By Kristina Wilson
News reporter

Maxville area resident Connie Blaney, nee Kippen, is somewhat of a Glengarry Highland Games expert. After all, she has, as she says, "been there from the beginning."

Gearing up to attend th 55th edition of the Games, Mrs. Blaney said the fundamentals haven't changed all that much over the years.

"It's more the same than it has changed," she said.

"It's gotten bigger and better, but it's still the same basic Games, with competitions, pageantry, dancing, heavyweight events, piping and drumming and massed bands."

One aspect which has changed is the scope and size of the games.

"In 1948," Mrs. Blaney said, "there were eight (pipe) bands. Now we have 71."

The Games also draw from a much larger area, she said. The pipers and drummers, bands and dancers used to be mainly from Ontario. Now they come from across the country, the United States and as far away as Scotland, Australia and New Zealand.

"There is also more peripheral entertainment, such as Celtic bands. That draws more young people, mainly," said Mrs. Blaney.

"I hope it keeps its original focus: Scottish arts and related activities."

Mrs. Blaney, whose father was a piper, has been involved with the Glengarry Highland Games since the very beginning, when she was a competitive piper, one of the few female pipers of the day.

"There were no female pipers when I started," she said.

That trend did change over the years and Mrs. Blaney even had the opportunity to be pipe major of an all-female pipe band.

"We won our grade that year," she said.

She also formerly served as piper for the Games' Highland dancing competitions.

Mrs. Blaney said she still occasionally picks up the pipes, usually when her son Bruce, who still plays, visits from Michigan.

"When you don't practice, you don't like what you hear," she laughed.

When her competitive days were over, Mrs. Blaney's involvement with the Games included the posts of director of bands, secretary, for two different terms, and president. She remains associated with the bands and various other committees and serves as liaison between the Piper Society in Toronto and the Games.

She is also a self-titled historian.

"When you've been around (the Games) as long as I have, you get to be a historian," she said.

Mrs. Blaney said while she cherished her involvement with the Games, now she simply enjoys attending.

"I enjoy the bands and the competitive part of the Games," she said, adding the enclosure in which the Grade 1 and 2 pipe bands compete is a great venue to spend time in.

"You get to hear the top bands in the world," she said.

This year, one of those bands is the world's best, the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band which currently holds the title of world champion.

A new feature this year, which Mrs. Blaney is looking forward to, is a competitive Grade 5 category.

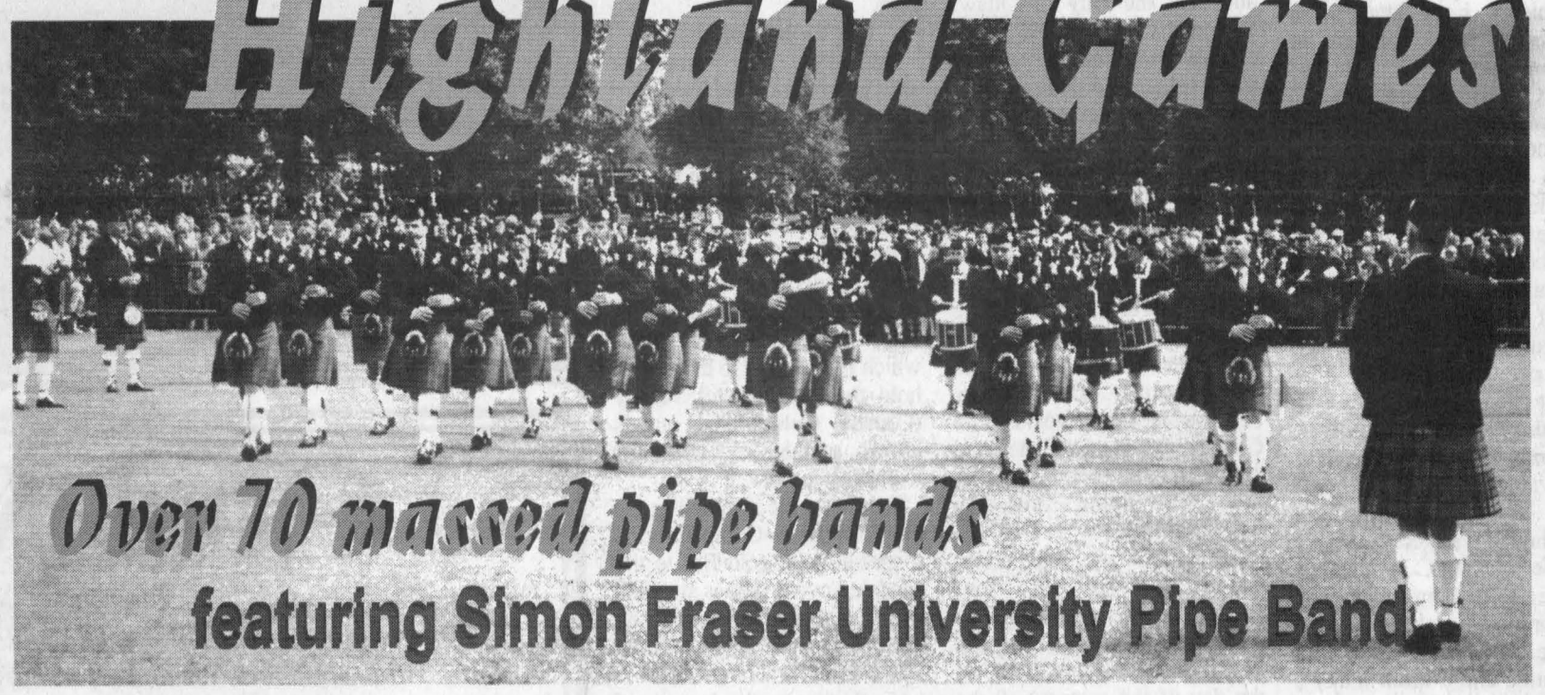
In previous years, Grade 5 bands only attended to play in the Massed Band.

"Now they can settle down and compete. It's a good experience."

She also looks forward to reuniting with her Games friends.

"I really like the association with people. You get to see them every year and talk shop."

GLENGARRY HIGHLAND GAMES
55th Annual
Glengarry Highland Games



Friday, August 2 and Saturday, August 3
Maxville, Ontario

Friday, August 2nd
ADMISSION $20
8:00 am - 2:00 pm Amateur Heavyweights
Amateur Women's Heavyweight Demonstration
9:00 am Highland Dancing Competition
Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal (Canada)
1:00 pm Entertainment begins in Angus Gray Centre
2:00 pm Master's Heavyweight Competitions

Also at various times and locations throughout the day
Duty Pipe Bands hourly, Sheep Dog Demonstrations
Genealogy Workshops and Information
Gaelic Language & Singing Workshops

6:30 pm Pre-Concert Entertainment
7:30 pm Games Concert & Tattoo featuring
The Winners of the 2001 World Pipe Band Championships
The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band
along with Calasaig, Scotland's Newest Traditional Band,
Glengarry's own Brigadoons and the MacCulloch Dancers,
Band of the Ceremonial Guard,
Massed Pipe Bands & Massed Violins

Saturday, August 3rd
ADMISSION $15
8:00 am Individual Piping Competitions, Individual Drumming Competitions, Highland Dancing
8:30 am World's Invitational and Canadian, Scottish, Heavyweight Championship
10:00 am Fiddler's Workshop
12:00 noon Clan Parade
12:45 pm Official Ceremonies, "Dr. Wilbert Keon"
1:15 pm Massed Pipe Bands, Massed Highland Fling

1:45 pm North American Pipe Band Championship
Pipe Band Competitions, Drum Major's Competitions
Massed Bands, Massed Highland Fling, Track and Field
Ceilidh Tent Entertainment (Non-Alcoholic)
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6:30 pm Closing Ceremonies including
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ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
Calasaig Paddy Kelly and Paddy Maher McMartin Fiddle
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Brandy & Port Peelers Hadrian's Wall Crooked Ham
Scotia Dancers Bob & Ducky

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION

Competition remains the heart and soul of Highland Games

The Glengarry Highland Games holds the North American Pipe Band Championships. These competitions take place on Saturday August 3, 2002 following the Official Ceremonies at 12:45 p.m and the Massed Band performance. Massed Bands are also held at the end of the day when awards are handed out.

Different grades of pipe bands compete with required music for each grade.

Grade One

Two Sets (2/4 march/ strathspey/reel) and Two Medleys (5 to 7 minutes in length)(The choice of Set or Medley in Grade One will be determined by a draw on the contest field.)

Grade Two

Two Sets or One Medley (4 to 6 minutes in length)

Grade Three

One Set or One Medley (3 to 5 minutes in length)

Grade Four

Either one Medley of tunes (3 to 5 minutes in length) or one March Medley of tunes played in quick time (2 minutes 45 seconds to 4 minutes 30 seconds in length)

Grade Five

For the first time ever a Grade Five Pipe Band Competition will be held at The 2002 Glengarry Highland Games. There will be a maximum of twelve bands in the competition. The first twelve bands entered will be accepted.

There will be no non-competitive bands recognized and bands who do not compete will not be given the usual free admission and mileage. Organizers hope that these bands will now compete in Grade Five.

Champion Supreme

This award is given to the pipe band in each category by the Pipers Society of Ontario for accumulating the most points at five designated highland games over the summer season.

Because of the size and prestige of the competition at The Glengarry Highland Games, more points are awarded here than at other games.

Individual Piping and Drumming Competitions

Individual competitions begin early in the morning on Saturday. These competitions include marches, strathspeys and reels, piobaireachds, jigs and hornpipes.

Snare, tenor and open bass drumming and a drum major's competition are also held. Both Professional and Amateur competitions are included.

The Amateur Piobaireachd will be held on Friday.

Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal

The Piobaireachd Society (Canada) Gold Medal Competition was first introduced at the City of Ottawa Highland Games in 1973. The contest later moved to the Cambridge Highland Games before settling in Maxville in 1995 under the direction and sponsorship of the Glengarry Highland Games.

The Piobaireachd Society (Canada) Gold Medal Competition is the sole competition in North America to have the Piobaireachd Society's endorsement. For this reason, the competition draws the very best professional pipers from Canada, the United States and abroad and has become the premier solo piping contest in North America.

Competitors are required to submit a list of four Piobaireachd from a list of competition tunes issued by the Piobaireachd Society. Only on the day of the contest will the competitors learn which of the four tunes he/she is required to play.

The medal, known as "The Piobaireachd Society (Canada) Gold Medal" is solid gold and shows the figure of a piper on the face and the Glengarry Highland Games logo on the back.

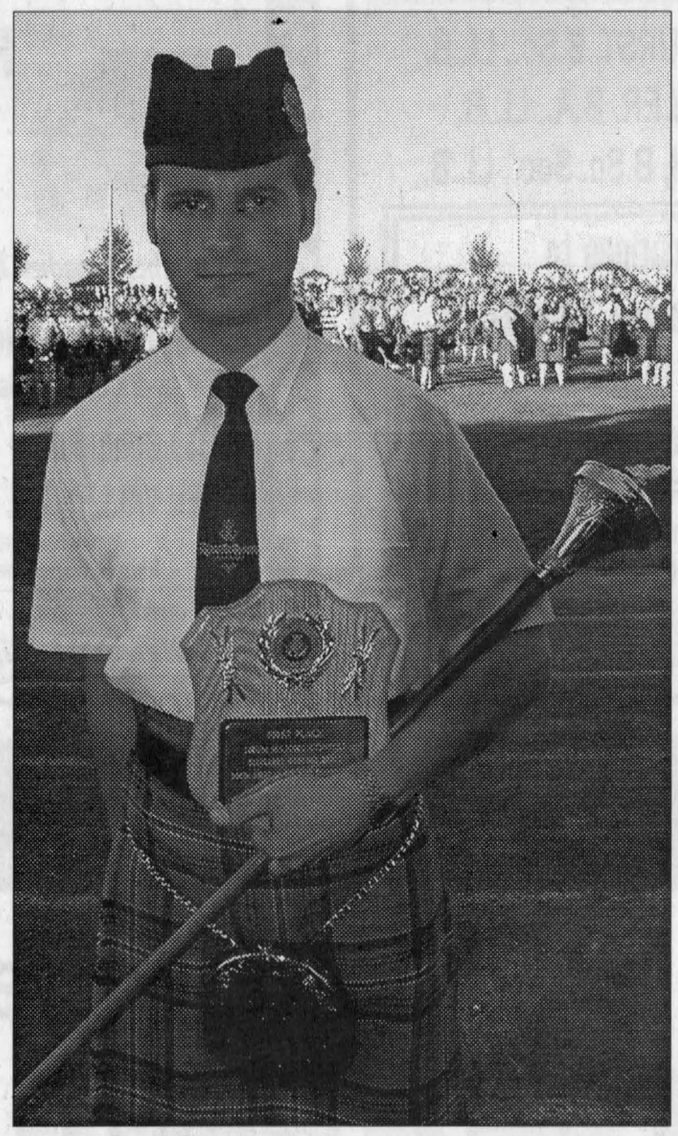
Bar to the Gold medal

Until 1982, any competitor who earned the Gold Medal for the second time received a Clasp instead of another Gold Medal and each subsequent award was another Clasp.

In 1982, the Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal Committee was sanctioned by the Piobaireachd Society to establish a second, confined contest which is restricted to those who hold the Piobaireachd Society (Canada) Gold Medal, and is known as the Gold Medallist Competition.

The first prize awarded in the Gold Medallist Competition is a special solid gold Bar to the Medal. Anyone who is awarded the Gold Medal is eligible, on the same day, to compete in the Gold Medallist Competition.

In addition to the honour of being awarded the Bar to the Gold Medal, the winner of the Gold Medallist Contest is considered for invitation to the prestigious Grant's Invitational Contest in Scotland sponsored by William Grant and Sons Distilleries of Scotland.



FIRST PLACE WINNER: The competitions are what brings many a musician to the Glengarry Highland Games each year in the hopes of taking home a first place win like this young man who received first place in the Drum Majors Contest last year.

File Photo

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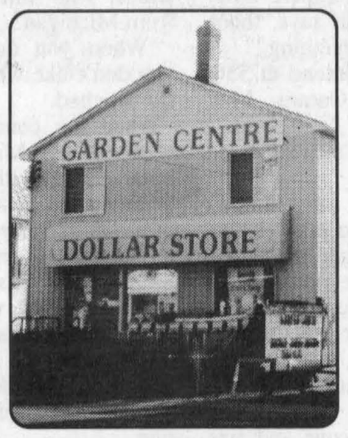

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION

Former PM Mackenzie King attends 1st Glengarry Games

More than 20,000 people – the largest audience in Glengarry's history to that date – attended the first Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville in August 1948.

Among the guests was the Prime Minister of Canada, William Lyon Mackenzie King who officially opened the Games.

"This day will live in the memory of all who attended the Games," said the Prime Minister.

"It is with a great deal of pleasure and pride that I now declare the Glengarry Highland Games officially open."

Glengarry was Mackenzie King's own riding, and his address that day – in which he officially welcomed the province of Newfoundland to Confederation – was to be his final public address before the Liberal convention in Ottawa when he would relinquish the leadership of the party.

His arrival on the Saturday afternoon of the Games was delayed by a steady flow of incoming traffic as crowds thronged from across Canada and even the world to attend the grand revival of what used to be the Caledonia Games.

The Prime Minister was forced to spend several hours in his private car on the station siding waiting for the crowd to abate.

The crowds were, in fact, the only drawback to a glorious day.

According to an August 6, 1948 *News* report of the event, "the record crowd in itself prevented the day from being an unqualified success. Jampacked...the thousands present were pressing to get a view of proceedings. As a result judges and dancers on the dancing platform were completely hemmed in and it was almost impossible to get to the stand.."

Despite the almost 100 pipers on the grounds that day, it ended up being two pipers who piped all day for the dancers as relief pipers could not reach the stand.

The huge crowd also forced demonstrations and events to be transfered to other parts of the field. Even the food ran short with the unanticipated numbers. An Ottawa catering firm had prepared for between 10 and 15 thousand, but had run out of food by early afternoon, forcing emergency supplies to be rushed in.

Despite all of this, the day was considered an unqualified success by all who attended and went down as one of the greatest events in Glengarry's history. The last of the special trains that had been laid on for the event pulled out of Maxville at midnight after a street dance was reluctantly brought to a halt.

"The music of the massed pipe bands in the late afternoon made all discomfort of the day a minor matter and the opinion of the great majority is that there has never been a day to compare with it in Glengarry's history," the *News* article concluded.



CLAN COLOURS: This 1947 photograph from *The Glengarry News* archives shows former Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King at the inaugural Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville. Wearing the Mackenzie clan colours on his lapel, he makes what was to be his last public address as party leader. Behind him stands Major Angus MacDonald, Reeve of Alexandria and Chairman of the Games Committee.

File Photo

That tradition – established 54 years ago this year – continues today with the Glengarry Highland Games being the number one tourist attraction of the area, drawing people from around the world.

In the words of former PM Mackenzie King, "the event has given an opportunity for many ex-Glengarrians to revisit their home county."

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READY TO LET GO: Number 27 gives it all he's got in the 28 pound weight for distance event at the Glengarry Highland Games.

File Photo

KAS involved in Games right from the start

By Kristina Wilson
News reporter

The Glengarry Highland Games would probably not exist without the Kenyon Agricultural Society (KAS).

Better known perhaps for operating the annual Maxville Fair, the KAS is also the parent company of the Highland Games.

KAS president Eric Metcalfe said the two groups work closely together.

"The Games are part of the KAS, but still a separate entity," he explained.

"We stand behind the Games 100 per cent."

The fairgrounds and buildings which are home to the Highland Games are the property of the KAS.

KAS secretary Janice Blaney said the Highland Games is actually a committee of the KAS. The president of the Games is a member of the KAS executive, but the Games committee members don't necessarily have to be KAS members.

Both groups often work together on joint ventures, such as when the RCMP Musical Ride performed at the Maxville Fairgrounds in May.

The two groups are so closely linked, in fact, the Highland Games constitution is embedded in the KAS constitution.

"The two executives meet regularly to work together," Ms. Blaney said.

"If one group needs something, the other group will help out."

While the Highland Games do operate independently of the KAS, they are still accountable to the parent group to a certain extent.

"They can't just tear down our buildings," Mr. Metcalfe quipped.



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2001 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION

Doug and Harry MacDonald the men to beat

By Todd Anderson
News reporter

Antigonish, Nova Scotia resident Doug MacDonald enters the 55th Glengarry Highland Games professional heavy events competition as the favourite.

It won't come easily though as his closest rival will undoubtedly have something to say about Doug's hopes of repeating.

Doug won the Canadian and overall championship in 2001 (85 points) after a two point victory over nine-time champion Harry MacDonald of London, Ontario.

In the 2000 Games event Harry was the victor as the two battled in the first of what was to be many close encounters.

Harry won over Doug in 2000 by four points.

After last year's win Doug spoke about his respect towards Harry and gave out a secret that he believes helped him win.

"He's an awesome thrower and since we're so close there's a rivalry that exists in every games. We push each other and it helps us get better. I ate a can of tuna everyday for a year leading up to this. I think that was my secret weapon."

The duo showed complete dominance over the rest of the field as the two competitors paired up to win every event of the competition.

The two were so much in a class of their own in fact that they finished in the top two of every category.

Doug captured first in the caber toss, 16 pound sheaf toss, 56 pound weight for distance, 16 pound hammer, 56 pound weight for height and challenge caber.

In order to compete in the challenge caber an athlete must have at least one successful toss of the regular caber.

Harry was first in the 28 pound weight for distance and the 22 pound hammer.

In 1999 Doug missed the entire season of competition because of injury.

He made his Glengarry Highland Games debut in 1998 as an amateur.

Rounding out the rest of the competitors from 2001:

Ottawa's George Chiappa was third (57.5 points), Franklinville, N.Y.'s Mark Palmer was fourth (54 points), Alma's Warren Trask was fifth (51.5 points), New Glasgow, Nova Scotia's Glen Dewtie was sixth (51.5 points), New Glasgow, Nova Scotia's Kirk Hurford was seventh (41.5 points), Sherbrooke, Que.'s Marc Morin was eighth (37 points), Kitchener's Christoff Wand was ninth (32 points) and Greenfield's Lee MacKinnon was 10th (27 points).

Morin was making his professional Highland Games debut after capturing the amateur championship in Maxville a day earlier on Friday.

MacKinnon finished third in the sheaf toss after a lengthy battle with the big boys Harry and Doug.

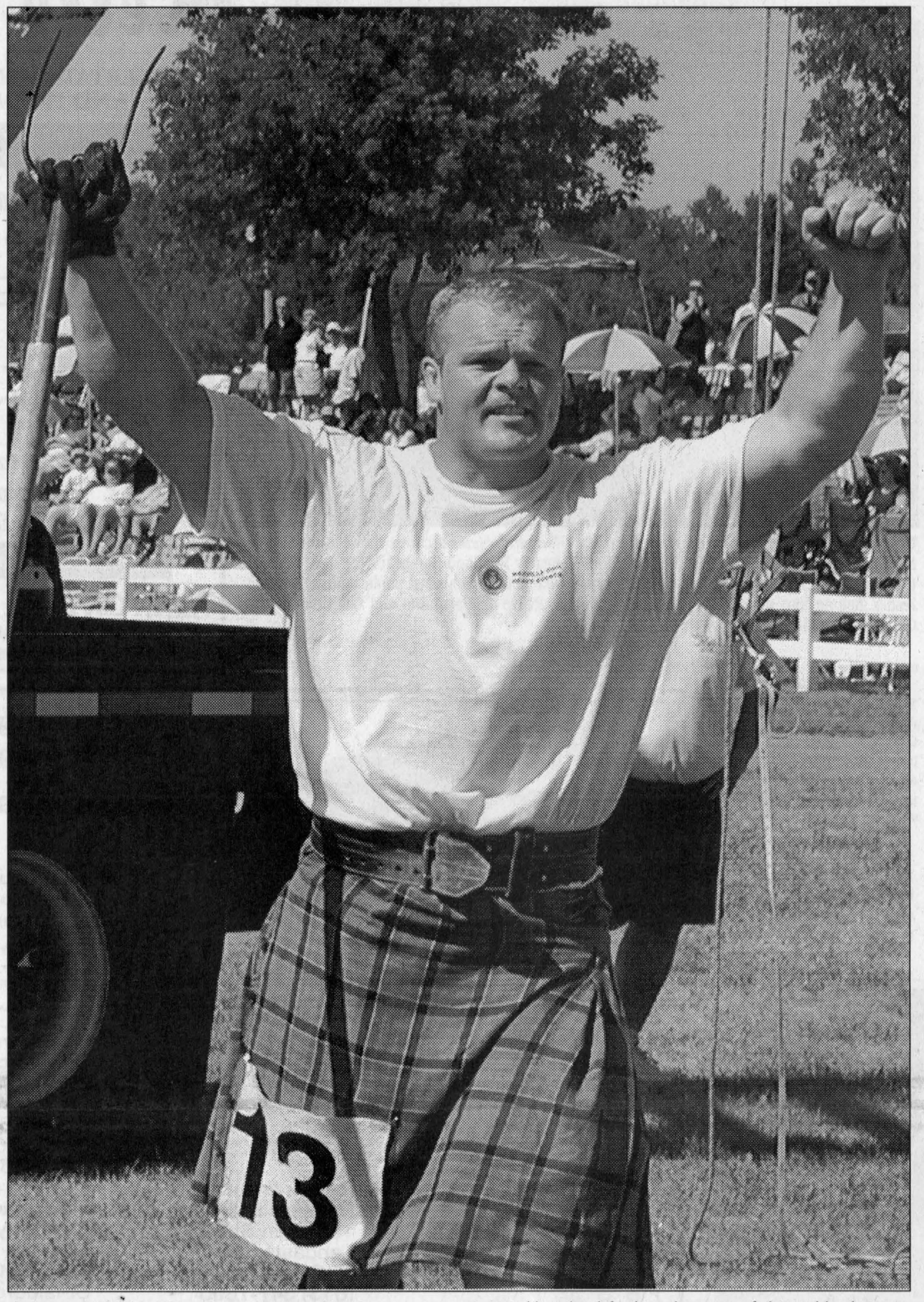
Every one of the competitors will be back to the Highland Games events this year.

Middleton, Nova Scotia resident James Peppard will also be taking part.

The event takes place on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. inside the main infield.

The head judge for the event is Bill Knox of Fort Erie, Ontario.

Competitors participate in the event by invitation only.



DEFENDING CHAMPION: Antigonish, Nova Scotia native Doug MacDonald is the defending champion of the Highland Games Canadian championship after getting past nine-time champion Harry MacDonald of London, Ontario in Maxville last year. Both competitors will be participating at The Glengarry Highland Games again this year. File Photo

Harvey Barkauskus looks to become Master's double winner

By Todd Anderson
News reporter

Last year the Glengarry Highland Games introduced a new category for gentleman over the age of 45 who still wanted to compete in highland games.

The master's division took its turn for the first time last year as six men took over the infield immediately after the amateur events were decided.

London's Harvey Barkauskus became the first champion of the event as his 35 points were tops for the day.

Grand Valley's Gordon Vandergrinton finished a close second just three points back.

Barkauskus finished first in four events including the: 42 pound weight for height, 42 pound weight for distance, 28 pound weight for distance and 16 pound sheaf toss.

Watford's Ken Fisher finished first in the caber toss.

Vandergrinton was the top competitor in the stone throw.

Capping off the list of competitors Fisher finished third (31 points), Hawkesbury's Rod McLeod Sr. was fourth (19 points), Nassau N.Y.'s Gordon Willard was fifth (16 points) and Constantia, N.Y.'s Pat Lyn was sixth (14 points).

The 2002 event will be judged by Fort Erie native Bill Knox.

Every competitor but Pat Lyn will be back this year.

Port Hope, Ontario's Les Moore and Fort Erie, Ontario's Bill Campbell are both joining the division this year.

The event will take place on Friday afternoon from 2 p.m. (approximately) to 6 p.m. at the main infield.

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION



A SUCCESSFUL RELEASE: McCrimmon's Eric MacSweyn focuses in on the weight he releases during the 2001 Glengarry Highland Games. MacSweyn, along with most of the same characters from 2001, will be returning to Maxville this year.

File Photo

It may be Rodger Chapman's turn

By Todd Anderson
News reporter

After the graduation of two-time defending champion Marc Morin of Sherbrooke, Que. in 2001 and perennial threat and past champion Lee MacKinnon of Greenfield in 2000, another Greenfield resident Rodger Chapman may be ready to take over the rest of the competition in the amateur highland games division.

The rest of the field won't lay back though as the field continues to become more and more talented every year.

One up-and-coming talent is Williamstown native Rod McLeod Jr. who finished fourth in the event last year but because of his youth has several more years of competition ahead of him.

His father is the organizer of both the professional and master's divisions.

It's Chapman who each competitor will be trying to beat though as he has finished among the top of the points leaders for several years in a row now.

Last year Chapman finished just six back of champion Morin a day before he moved up to the professional division.



PURE STRENGTH: Amateur events veteran Rodger Chapman will be tough to beat in 2002. Here he competes in the hammer throw at the 2001 Games.

File Photo

Morin captured first place in the stone throw, 28 pound weight for distance and 16 pound hammer.

Chapman was top participant in the 56 pound weight for distance, the 16 pound sheaf toss and the 56 pound weight for height.

Adam Denny of Fergus, Ontario finished first in the 22 pound hammer throw and Almonte, Ontario's Neil Lowry was the best participant in the caber toss.

Rounding out the rest of the participants placements: Lowry was third (76 points), McLeod Jr. was fourth (75.5 points), Denny was fifth (65.5 points), Williamstown's Hamish MacDonell was sixth (57.5 points), Vankleek Hill's John Kerr was seventh (38.5 points), Dalkeith's Lyndon MacNaughton was eighth (37 points), Fort Erie's Bill Campbell was ninth (32 points), MacCrimmon's Eric MacSweyn was 10th (31 points), Glen Sandfield's Mike McKenna was 11th (24.5 points) and Maxville's Paul Bouffard was 12th (16.5 points).

This year Morin (professional division), Campbell (master's division) and Denny are not competing.

Joining the loop are Dale MacDonald of St. Eugene, Ontario and Ottawa's Ian McNaughton.

The event will be held on Friday starting at 8 a.m. at the main infield.

Bill Knox will be judging.

An optional farmers' walk will be part of the competition.

New event proves sport isn't just for men

By Todd Anderson
News reporter

Last year the junior highland games events took centrestage as youngsters were able to imitate the "big guys" in similar events with obviously quite a bit less weight involved.

New this year to the Glengarry Highland Games is the women's competition.

The competition won't be as fierce as in the amateur or professional divisions though as the women's division is being conducted as a demonstration event.

The first-time competition is being organized by Sherry Palmer of Franklinville, N.Y.

She is the wife of professional participant Mark Palmer.

There will be five women taking part in the inaugural event.

They are Palmer, Candy Starr of Newfane, N.Y., Amy Kabala of Kenmore, N.Y. and Christa Fisher of Watford, Ontario.

Candy and Anne are mother and daughter competitors and Christa is the daughter of master's competitor Ken Fisher.

The events included in the women's competition include: the 14 pound stone throw, the 28 pound weight for distance, the 12 pound weight for distance, the 16 pound hammer, the sheaf toss and the 28 pound weight for height. The event takes place on Friday starting at 12:30 p.m. in the infield and will run on and off throughout the afternoon.

The junior competition (aged four to 12 years of age) will be held Saturday morning.

Registration at the ball field west of the arena is from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. with a demonstration in the infield from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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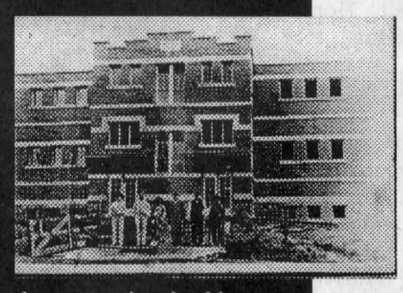

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION

Dignitaries past and present

A list of the past presidents and dignitaries who have opened the Glengarry Highland Games over the past 55 years.

President

1948- Peter MacInnes
1949- A.S. MacIntosh
1950- C.L. MacGregor
1951- Ken Barton
1952- D.D. MacKinnon
1953- H.A. Quart
1954- John Jamieson
1955- John Jamieson
1956- John Jamieson
1957- D.N. MacRae
1958- D.N. MacRae
1959- Cecil MacRae
1960- Cecil MacRae
1961- Dr. D.M. Gamble
1962- Dr. D.M. Gamble
1963- Wm. R. MacEwen
1964- Wm. R. MacEwen
1965- Leslie Clark
1966- Leslie Clark
1967- Hugh Smith
1968- Hugh Smith
1969- R.W. MacLennan
1970- R.W. MacLennan
1971- Walter Blaney
1972- Walter Blaney
1973- Garry Smith
1974- Garry Smith
1975- D.E. MacMaster
1976- D.E. MacMaster
1977- D.E. MacMaster
1978- Ian MacLeod
1979- Ian MacLeod
1980- Brian Arkinstall
1981- Brian Arkinstall
1982- James Campbell
1983- James Campbell
1984- David Munro
1985- David Munro
1986- Murray S. MacQueen
1987- Murray S. MacQueen
1988- Allan MacEwen
1989- Allan MacEwen
1990- Connie (Kippen) Blaney
1991- Connie (Kippen) Blaney
1992- Don Bond
1993- Don Bond
1994- Finlay McDonell
1995- Finlay McDonell
1996- Jean (MacInnes) Campbell
1997- Jean (MacInnes) Campbell
1998- Jim MacEwen
1999- Jim MacEwen
2000- Bill Shields
2001- Bill Shields

Opening guests

1948- The Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, P.M. of Canada
1949- Lt. Col. W.J. Franklin, M.C.V.D.
1950- The Hon. Leslie Frost, Premier of Ontario
1951- The Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner
1952- The Hon. Angus L. MacDonald, Premier of Nova Scotia
1953- John Fisher
1954- Robert H. Saunders, C.B.E, Q.C., Chairman of Ontario Hydro
1955- Dave Grundie, Canadian Grand Chief of The Sons of Scotland
1956- Elmer Ferguson, Montreal Newspaper Columnist
1957- 10th anniversary-The Hon. John Diefenbaker, P.M. of Canada
1958- Grant Campbell, M.P. for Stormont
1959- W.A. McPherson, Organizer of First Glengarry Highland Games
1960- King Gordon, Son of Ralph Connor
1961- Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod
1962- General Sir Gordon H.A. MacMillan, Clan Chieftain
1963- The Rt. Hon. L.B. Pearson, P.M. of Canada
1964- Angus H. McDonnell, Chairman of the Glengarry Highland Games
1965- Mrs. Kathleen Ryan, wife of the late Frank Ryan
1966- T.C. Douglas, M.P. NDP Leader
1967- Kathy MacEwen, Maxville Centennial Queen
1968- The Hon. Robert Stanfield, Conservative Party Leaders
1969- David MacDonald Stewart of Clan Stewart
1970- Alex Hutchison, President of St. Andrew's Society of Montreal
1971- George MacMillan, son of Sir Gordon, The Clan Chief
1972- Senator George James McIlraith
1973- Jean Believeau, Sportsman and gentleman
1974- Chief Justice Kenneth Charles MacKay
1975- The Hon. John Diefenbaker, Former P.M. of Canada
1976- Mrs. Alice MacNab of MacNab of Clan MacNab
1977- Terry Kielty, Vice-president and general manager of Radio Station CFRA
1978- Larry Robinson, Sportsman and gentleman
1979- James J. MacDonnell, Auditor General of Canada
1980- Allan J. MacEachern, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
1981- John Jamieson, Secretary for 25 years
1982- James Laird Erskine, Commissioner, Ontario Provincial Police
1983- The Rt. Hon. Edward Schreyer, Governor General of Canada
1984- Paul Heron Robinson Jr., Ambassador of the United States to Canada
1985- The Hon. Flora MacDonald, Minister of Employment and Immigration
1986- The Hon. Lincoln M. Alexander, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
1987- The Hon. John Eakins, Minister of Tourism, MLA, Victoria-Haliburton
1988- Maureen McTeer, Noted Lawyer and Author
1989- Ken "The General" Grant, 25th anniversary as Master of Ceremonies
1990- The Hon. John A. Fraser, Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada
1991- General A. John G.D. de Chastelain CMM, CD Chief of The Defence Staff
1992- Max Keeping, Vice-president News and Public Affairs CJOH TV
1993- Lloyd Robertson, CTV News Anchor and CTV Radio News
1994- Major General Lewis MacKenzie (Ret.)
1995- Col. The Hon. Henry Newton Rowell Jackman, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
1996- Russell S. Jackson, Sportsman and educator
1997- Lord Macdonald, Macdonald of Macdonal, Chief of Clan Donald
1998- The Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien, P.M. of Canada
1999- The Hon. Don Boudria, M.P of Glengarry-Prescott-Russell
2000- Col. The Hon. John Matheson, OC., C.D., Q.C., LL.D.
2001- Jim Watson, President and CEO., Canadian Tourism Commision



BEAT OF THE DRUM: The sound of drums will echo through Maxville in August, setting the stage for the Highland Games.
FILE PHOTO

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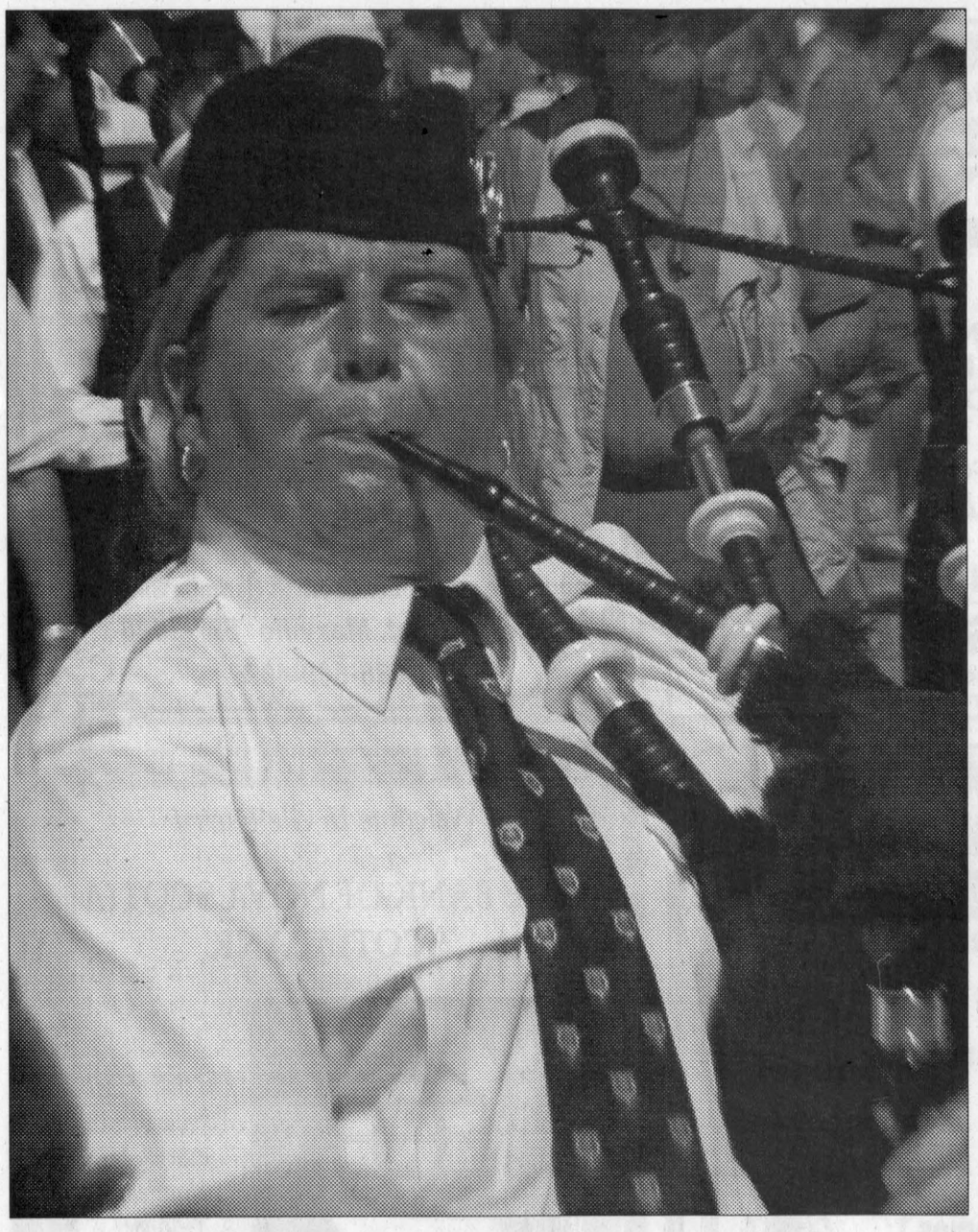
2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION



PIPING UP: Pipers from around the world will be gathering at the 2002 Glengarry Highland Games to participate in competition. The Highland Games is the largest gathering of massed bands in North America.

STAFF PHOTO

Schedule of events

There is plenty to see and do at the 55th Glengarry Highland Games. With a full day of events Friday and Saturday, the Games are shaping up to be better than ever this year.

The Glengarry Highland Games officially kicks off on Thursday, August 1 with the Tartan Ball. The social hour begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7.30 p.m. followed by a dance.

On Friday, August 2, 2002, the following schedule of events takes place.

The Duty Pipe Band is to play at various locations throughout the day

8 a.m. – Amateur Heavy Events

9 a.m. to 7 p.m. – The Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal Competition

9 a.m. – Highland Dancing Competition runs throughout the day

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. – Genealogy Workshop at the Glengarry Historical Society Booth

10 a.m. to 10.45 p.m. – Sine McKenna/Gaelic Workshop and Singing (Children's Workshop)

11 a.m. and 2 p.m. – Sheep dog demonstration

1 to 2:30 p.m. – Gaelic Language Workshop and Children's Gaelic singing

2 p.m. – Entertainment at the Angus Gray Centre

6.30 to 7.30 p.m. – Pre-concert Entertainment

7.30 p.m. Friday Night Tattoo

On Saturday, August 3, 2002, the schedule of events is as follows.

8 a.m. – Individual Piping Competition, Individual Drumming Competition, Highland Dancing Competition

8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Canadian Scottish Heavyweight Championship

12 noon – Clan Parade

12:45 p.m. – Official Ceremonies

1:15 p.m. Mass Bands and Massed Highland Fling

1:45 to 5:30 p.m. – North American Pipe Band Championships (TM), Drum Majors Competition

2 p.m. – Scottish Fiddle at the Angus Gray Centre, Track and Field Events

The Closing Ceremonies including the Massed Bands are to be held at approximately 6.30 p.m.

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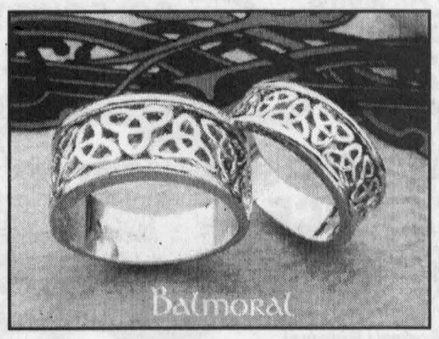

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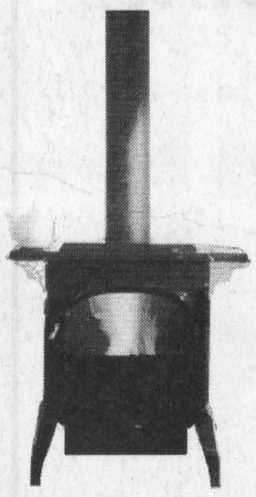


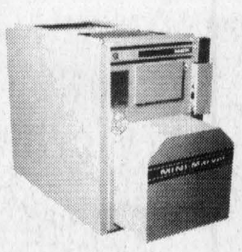

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION



HIGHLAND DANCERS: Highland dancers light up the stage every year at the Games. This year's dancers will appreciate the newly constructed dancing stage that provides a larger dancing surface and has been re-designed to ensure stability and safety.

STAFF PHOTO

Get your copy of *The Man from Glengarry*

A wonderful collaborative project that will be part of this year's Games, brings together a piece of Glengarry history with a relatively new business interest in Maxville.

Most Canadians and certainly those in Eastern Ontario remember reading Ralph Connor's books as part of their schooling.

Mr. Connor was born at the Presbyterian manse in St. Elmo and grew up to author more than twenty books. None was more popular than *The Man From Glengarry* which chronicled the life of early Scots' settlers in the Indian Lands that run through this area of Glengarry and indeed through the Games site itself.

Selling over three million copies, this one book originally published in 1901 was definitely a Canadian bestseller.

Early in 2002, Michael Baxendale moved his publishing company, Optimum Publishing International, to Maxville and his first publication in his new home is an illustrated edition of Ralph Connor's *The Man from Glengarry*.

This new version will be a special Games edition with a portion of the sales donated to the Games.

Party starts early in Glengarry

By Todd Anderson
News reporter

Local establishments aren't waiting until Friday to enjoy the companionship of fellow Glengarry residents and visitors of the Highland Games.

The event calendar starts Wednesday night when King George Hotel in Maxville will be hosting a night of entertainment with Paddy Kelly and Pat Maher from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Call 527-1717 to reserve.

On Thursday night entertainment will be held at two different locations.

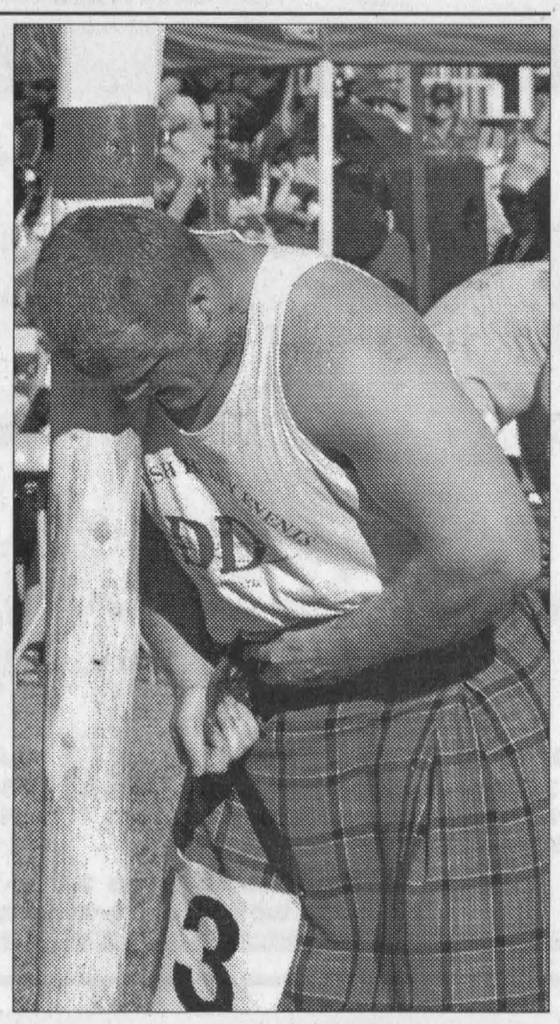
In Alexandria the Atlantic Hotel will host what they're dubbing as 'The biggest pre-Games party in SDG'. The Peelers and McMartin Fiddle along with pipers and more will entertain the crowd.

Also that night Kelly's Sports Bar in Maxville will host Bob and Ducky (featuring Bob Burnie and Gary McDonald) from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

On Friday night Kelly's will have Green Road perform from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

On Saturday night Chieftain Restaurant, located next door to King George Hotel will be hosting a roast beef buffet from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On Sunday the Atlantic will be host to the Games Hangover Party headlining Hadrian's Wall (featuring Neil Emberg, Richard Irwin, Terry O'Farell and Jay Weiler).



SHOW OF STRENGTH: Tossing the Caber is a traditional event at Highland Games around the world. This year for the first time the Glengarry Games offers a women's caber-tossing demonstration event.

STAFF PHOTO

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YOUR INVESTMENT TEAM: Back from left: Luanne Nadeau and Barry MacDonald, financial advisors. Front, Noëlla Picard Claude, administration.

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2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION

Maxville's stalwart bagpiper stands tall

By Pete Bock
News Correspondent

There will be many pipers coming to Maxville to participate in the 55th Highland Games, but none of them stand quite as tall as Piper George.

The blond haired giant stands 13 feet four inches tall from feet to the top of his pipes.

Carved from an old spruce tree, his feet firmly anchored into the ground by the tree roots, Piper George is the project of Pat and Brenda Doucet of Maxville.

What started as a front yard beautification project led to a recent submission to the Guinness Book of World Records.

With the help of friends and neighbours, the Doucet's transformed a spruce tree which had seen better days, into Piper George.

And the couple hopes he is "the largest Piper carved from a tree, with roots in the ground, and sound.

"We are waiting to hear from them (the Guinness Book of World Records)," Mr. Doucet said, "to find out whether it is a legitimate submission, or if we got beat."

Whether they go into the record books or not, the Doucets are pleased with the change to their property.

They felt the old tree that dominated their front yard was an eye-sore. A year ago they came up with the idea of carving it into a piper.

Mr. Doucet explained, "We knew Danny MacDonald (Maxville neighbour) made pipers, because we bought a smaller one from him.

"But we didn't know if it was possible to build it out of a stump."

Mr. MacDonald began making wooden pipers a couple of years ago. They can now be seen all over Maxville and Glengarry.

The couple kept their idea to themselves until New Years, when they approached Mr. MacDonald. Convinced that it could be done, the couple started the project in earnest in mid-March.

Neighbour Bryan Michaud de-limbed and cut the tree so that all that remained was a 16 foot trunk.

Mr. Doucet stripped all the bark off the still-rooted tree and then let it dry out for four weeks.

After the drying period, under the direction of Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Doucet began carving the tree with a chainsaw.

Without sketches on paper, the two worked off the tree. Mr. MacDonald marked sections out (the kilt, the jacket, the neck, the head, the hat) with a felt marker, and "then would drop by and go away," as Mr. Doucet whittled away the 16 foot rooted log. His wife and daughter held the ladder as he took on the top.

It took three or four days to complete the legs, before he moved on to complete the neck and head. Mr. Doucet used a planer to even out the tree and blend in its limbs.

A blow torch helped speed the drying time of the sap, before the piper received his initial coat of primer.

Additions to the standing piper were made later. First a pom-pom was added to his hat, then cedar logs were turned on a lathe to create arms and hands.

Then the painting began. Team work prevailed as Mr. Doucet painted the green jacket and the red for the base of the kilt and Mr. MacDonald painted the flesh tone for the face, hands, and legs and also tackled the kilt, the socks, the face and all the fine details.

Mr. Doucet created a nose for George in his workshop, and over a 16 hour stretch installed the hair, one string at a time. It is double-layered for thickness and made out of a burlap-like twine.

Another neighbour, Gary MacQueen, supplied the Doucets with a large piece of cedar for the bag and smaller ones for the pipes.

Mr. Doucet hollowed out the bag and installed a speaker for music.

Piper George was completed two weeks before the Maxville Fair took place, when Mr. MacDonald attached the sporran and sock garters.

Now Piper George stands tall, piping out music, for all to see at 15 Robert Street. The couple is thrilled with their new front yard.

With the work and process completed, Mr. Doucet is saddened, but thinks, "he turned out just perfect."

George gets his name from the fathers of both Mr. and Mrs. Doucet. The piper's kilt is of the O'Neil tartan, which is Mrs. Doucet's maiden name.

"It is my wife's piper," Mr. Doucet added, " I made it for her."

With a name like Doucet, the retired serviceman joked, "The only tartan I can wear is the air force tartan."



PIPER GEORGE: Maxville has a new giant wooden piper thanks to a front yard beautification project. With help from their neighbours, Brenda and Mel Doucet created the piper out of a spruce tree. He was named after the fathers of Mr. and Mrs. Doucet.

TODD ANDERSON PHOTO



END OF THE DAY: After a day of excitement at the Glengarry Highland Games, this young lad takes advantage of a convenient set of steps to lean back in his stroller and take a well-deserved nap.

FILE PHOTO

What is a strathspey?

A strathspey is unique to Scottish music. While the Irish also play jigs and reels, strathspeys only exist in Scottish fiddle music.

They appeared around 1749 and were known as "slow reels", characterized by a slower tempo and a snap of the bow which gives the music a life for dancing. They were named for the region in Scotland where they were first developed – the strath (flood plain) of the river Spey.

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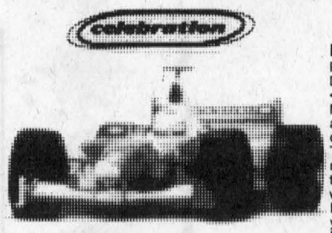

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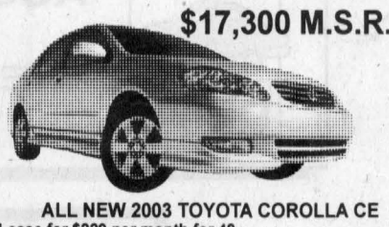

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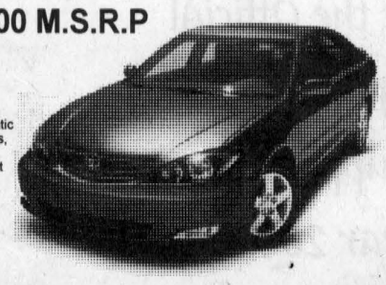

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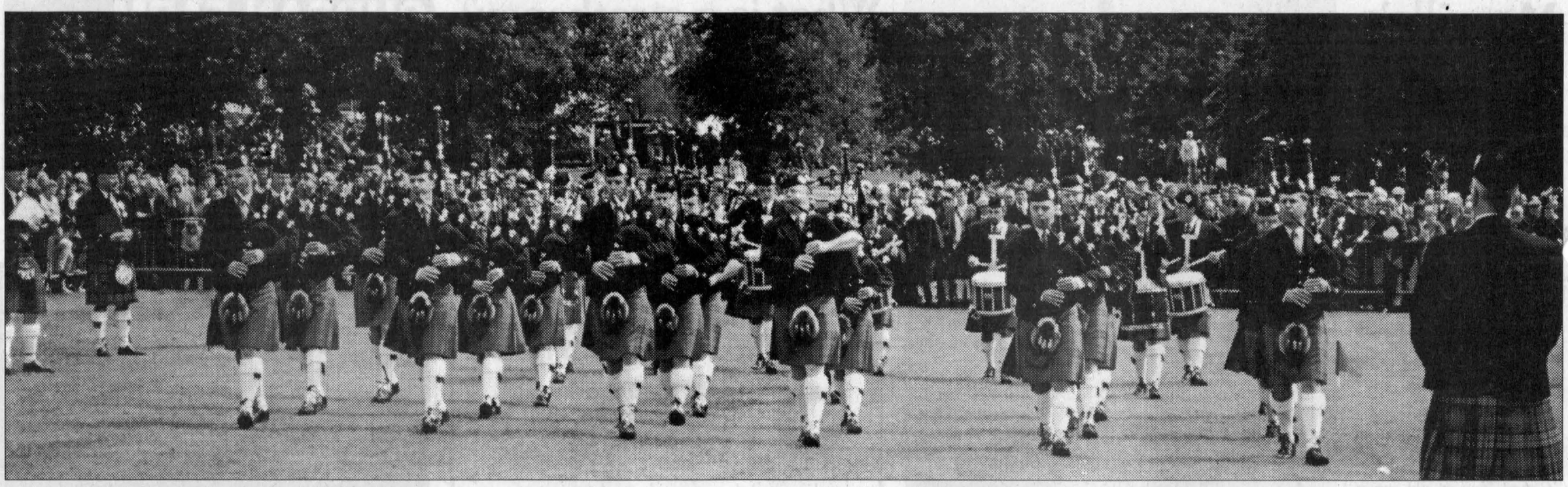
2002 Glengarry Highland Games SPECIAL SECTION



The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band

INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM: The 2002 Glengarry Highland Games welcomes The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band of Burnaby from British Columbia, Canada to its fifty-fifth Games. Formed in 1966 during the University's inaugural year, it has become a respected institution in the community and has brought fame to B.C. and Canada with its capture of national and international prizes.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SFU Pipe Band headlining 55th Highland Games

The Games are proud to announce that the world-renowned Simon Fraser University Pipe Band will be performing both at the Friday night concert and on Saturday. This pipe band from Burnaby, British Columbia includes in its accomplishments a concert at Carnegie Hall, performances for Queen Elizabeth, and winner of the 2001 World Pipe Band Championship.

The 2002 Glengarry Highland Games welcomes The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band of Burnaby from British Columbia, Canada to its fifty-fifth Games. Formed in 1966 during the University's inaugural year, it has become a respected institution in the community and has brought fame to B.C. and Canada with its capture of national and international prizes.

Led by Pipe Major Terry Lee and Lead Drummer J. Reid Maxwell and wearing the ancient Fraser tartan, the band consists of a talented core of over thirty players. All players are of a Professional or top Grade One level, with many of the pipers having won in the Gold and Silver Medal competitions in Scotland. Pipe Sergeant Jack Lee has won the Clasp, Silver Star and Gold Medal at Inverness, the three highest awards for solo piping in the world. In 2001, Jack won the Gold Medal and the Senior Piobaireachd at Oban.

In 1982, the band won the Grade One North American Championship at Maxville, the top prize on the North American Continent. In August 1995, at Glasgow, Scotland, the band captured the ultimate prize on the globe, the Grade One World Pipe Band Championship.

A year later, the band returned to Scotland and captured the title again becoming the first pipe band from outside the United Kingdom to win the World Championship more than once. In 1999, the band regained the World Championship title, winning the World Drum Corps Championship in the process, and most recently, the SFU Pipe Band won the World Championship in 2001. The SFU also won the Australian Pipe Band Championship in 2001.

The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band has always pioneered many events to bring the University, British Columbia and Canada to the world stage in pipe band performances. The university motto truly indicates this determination: "Nous Sommes Prets." (We are Ready)

It goes without saying that the Glengarry Highland Games "are ready" to receive and host the Simon Fraser Pipe Band in eastern Canada, for the 2002 Friday Night Tattoo and the Saturday Games.

The Glengarry News
wishes good luck to all Highland Games Competitors

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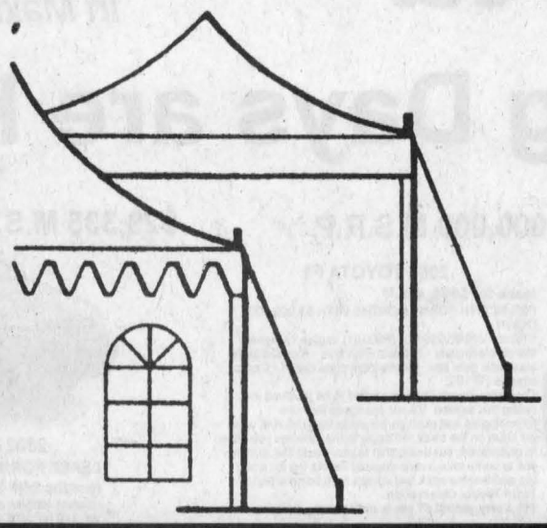

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