

By Henry Bury *Steel*

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Sarah Green is in a league of her own when it comes to the Moira Division of Girl Guides of Canada.

The 18-year-old is currently a leader, or Guider, with 1st Sidney Sparks. It's almost unheard of for someone that age to be in total charge of a group of girls.

Her transition from girl to leader came at a milestone of a Guiding graduation ceremony this past February. It was the first such graduation ceremony locally in nearly 30 years.

And she left the event with two of the highest awards in Guiding — the Commonwealth Award and the Chief Commissioners Gold Award.

Not bad for someone who's only been in Guiding eight years.

Green said she's proud of her accomplishments and what Guiding has done for her as a person.

"It's taught me to be more open-minded about world issues. It's helped me prepare myself better for my future. It's given me more confidence in who I am and what I can do," said Green, who's spending her second summer as a day camp leader for Quinte West.

She's learned a whole new set of lifeskills, like survival techniques, camping, games and crafts, various organizational skills and even patience.

"It's also given me a lot of new friends and a lifetime of memories."

As a leader now, the Grade 13 St. Theresa Secondary School student acknowledged she's in a position to instill a love of Guiding in others.

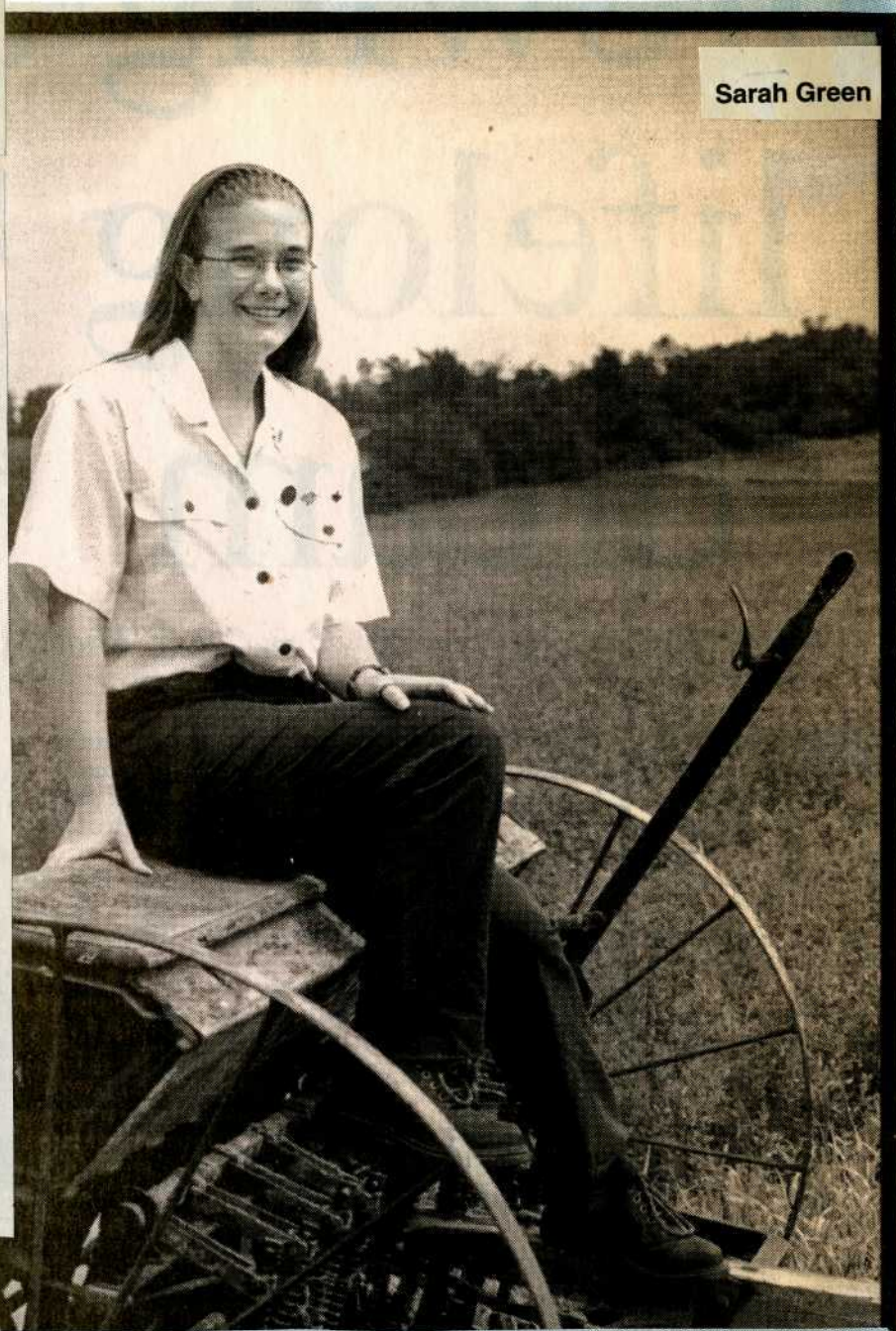
"I want them to enjoy Guiding as much as I have and to encourage them to continue on as they get older because Guiding makes you a better person," she said.

There are eight girls in her Sparks unit that meets weekly at the Sidney ward offices at Tuckers Corners. (Sparks are five and six years old).

Green is assisted by another leader.

She's enjoyed her leader's these past several months and is looking forward to next month's resumption of the program.

Sarah Green



Teenager reaches major milestone in Guiding