

Celebration 88 honors Port Elgin and Saugeen's best



Kent Lamont (left) receives a Celebration 88 award from Grey-Bruce MP Gary Gurbin, during Friday evening's event in Port Elgin. Years of work as a volunteer in Saugeen Township and Port Elgin earned Mr. Lamont the award. By the way, we wonder how long that lovely Tory-blue ribbon remained fastened to the medal.



Murray Trask (left), of Port Elgin was recognized for his countless hours of volunteer work when he received a Celebration 88 medal from Grey-Bruce MP Gary Gurbin, Friday night. Minor ball in the summer and bowling in the winter keep Murray a very busy volunteer.

The Olympic spirit was brought home to a packed house at the Lakeshore Racquet and Recreation Centre, Friday night, when the Port Elgin and Saugeen Township hosted "Celebration 88".

Celebration 88 was created by the federal government in an effort to help communities all across Canada honour those among us who have demonstrated characteristics which are in keeping with the admirable ideals of the Olympic spirit: hard work, determination, moral character and dedication to the community.

The program was also designed to help Canadians feel more a part of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games, so ably hosted by the City of Calgary. Only a few of us would have had the opportunity to attend the Games, with even fewer having the opportunity to compete for an Olympic medal.

The Celebration 88 awards consisted of certificates and medals, with the medal's design based upon that of the official Olympic bronze medal.

The medals recognize those among us who have contributed to the development of local amateur sport, either as an athlete, sponsor, coach, official or volunteer worker.

The certificates are awarded on a broader basis; to those individuals and groups who have been an inspiration in our community, who have added to the quality of our lives and who have actively supported community activities.

Gary Gurbin, MP for Grey-Bruce, brought greetings from the Canadian government, saying that we, as Canadians, should feel honoured to be able to host such a prestigious event as the Olympic Games. He added that it was an equal honour to be able to help communities such as Port Elgin and Saugeen Township recognize the Olympic spirit at the community level.

Dr. Gurbin gave an account of his brief visit to Calgary and the Olympic Games at the beginning of the second week of the competitions.

He said that he was very impressed with the figure skating competition, saying, "The intensity, pure emotion and drive of the skaters is something I will never forget."

He was also very impressed with the facilities which were built in order to host the Games. Dr. Gurbin referred to the Olympic Saddledome as "out of this world", the luge and bobsled run as "a technical marvel", and the speed-skating oval as "perfect".

He added that these facilities will be used by Canadians for many years to come.

Dr. Gurbin also got caught up in the Olympic spirit, a feeling which reminded him of our Centennial year and Expo 67. He said the feeling of enthusiasm by the city, organizers, participants and spectators was something that had to be experienced.

He concluded his remarks by saying he hoped he had brought some of that Olympic spirit back to the communities he represents.

Brian Cleaver, of Port Elgin, gave an account of his once-in-a-lifetime experience as a torch bearer in the Olympic Torch Relay.

Cleaver said that the relay started out as an ad campaign for PetroCanada, but it became much more than that as communities all along the torch route got caught up in the event.

He said that he felt a little out of place on Friday night, alongside some of the communities' best athletes. "After all," he said, "I only had to run one kilometer." But, when he took his age into consideration, he had to admit that it was a major accomplishment.

His biggest thrill during his brief moment of glory was stopping and letting people along the route touch and hold the torch. It was even more of a thrill when he finally met up with a large group of family and friends from Port Elgin.

"I hope I represented you well," he concluded.

The presentation of Celebration 88 awards was done in three parts; youth and adult certificates and medals. A total of 40 certificates were presented, along with eight medals.

Editor's Note: we had originally planned to present a brief outline on each of the winners of the certificates, but time and space limitations are such that we find it impractical to do so.

Burgoyne news

by Jean
McCannell

Mrs. Steward Esplen received the word of the death of her uncle, Captain Peter Robson, in Owen Sound. He was raised and attended school at Invermay.

Miss Mary Jane Esplen is spending the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Steward Esplen.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Fraser and Jordan of Nepean spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Fraser.

Those attending the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto included Mrs. Eric Leslie, Marie Guyerkovics, Lucy Stevens, Patti Pawley, Mrs. Bernard Schwass, Bruce Fenton and Mrs. Ross McLean.

Jim Esplen's truck went for a drive on Saturday night and the O.P.P. located it on Monday in Tiverton.

Betty McCannell is in Toronto where she has started a new job with I.B.M.

A meeting about the new curriculum for the Sunday School is called for Thursday at 8 p.m. the superintendent, John Morrow, would like all interested in furthering the studies to attend.

Houle: Rob and Maxine are very happy to announce the arrival of their first born, a son, Zachary Robert, weighing in at 6 lbs. 9 ozs. on February 10. Third grand son for Mac and Marg Esplen, and first grandchild for Jack & Cavell Houle. Special thanks to Dr. Potvin and all the nurses in OB. 2b8p

100 to be honoured during OMAF centennial

To commemorate its 100th birthday, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food will be presenting special Centennial awards to 100 citizens during 1988. Agriculture and Food Minister Jack Riddell announced January 4th.

The awards will honour individuals or families who have rendered significant service to the province's agri-food industry.

Candidates for the awards will be chosen by a panel of agriculture and food leaders based on nominations by organizations and individuals.

"The Ministry of Agriculture and Food marks 100 years of service to the agri-food industry in 1988," Riddell said. "During the year, we are paying tribute to those who pro-

duce, process and market our food."

Those honoured, Riddell said, would include people engaged in farming, agricultural education or research, agri-business, food processing or other related agri-food industries.

A person may be nominated for a Centennial award by an organization or by any three individuals. Deadline for nominations is February 29, 1988.

Information on the nomination procedure may be obtained from any office of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Nominations should be sent to: Centennial Awards, Agricultural Representatives Branch, Guelph Agricultural Centre, P.O. Box 1030, Guelph, Ont. N1H 6N1.

Agriculture was established as a separate department of government in 1888 following a commission report on the state of agriculture in the province. At that time, two-thirds of Ontario's population lived and worked on farms.