

Teens hike 40 miles for Acton cancer fund brave buffeting winds, rain, blisters, stiffness

Project Action, a teenage group with only one event under their belts, had the attention of the town and district focused on them on Saturday as they staged a marathon 40-mile walk in aid of the cancer society.

Starting at Thornhill at 7 a.m., 21 walkers completed the trek from about 80 who started out, raising over \$350 for the cancer society. Course was 40 miles along number seven highway.

Local sponsors backed the stunt to the tune of 20 cents a mile and the wearisome grind through buffeting winds, drenching rain and dropping temperatures caught the imagination of Acton and district. Crowds assembled at the corner of Queen St. E. and Churchill Rd. to greet the bonewoary marchers as they walked, stumbled and ambled over an imaginary finish line.

First home over the long course were three student athletes from grades nine and 10 at the high school. Bob Turkoz, Mike Marchment and Jack Irwin had a commanding lead as they made Acton at approximately 6 p.m., 11 hours after they left the bus at Thornhill. They were scarcely marked by the ordeal.

They were followed by 18 more who hobbled in in solos,

pairs, threesomes and quartets until 21 teenagers crossed the finish line, the last pair arriving around 10:30 p.m.

Well-wishers and parents greeted them with a car horn fanfare which in spite of cold, chilly weather and prolonged strain brought wreaths



JUST TOO WEARY and cold to emerge from the back seat was Vern Denny following his 40 mile jaunt Saturday. He was one of first in. (Staff Photo)

of smiles to faces. Some of them were hustled home for hot baths and treatments from the liniment bottle. Others stuck around to see others come in.

Acton cancer society campaign chairman Mrs. Ray Arbic and information chairman Harold Denny were on hand to greet marchers as they finished. They were joined later by vice-president Mrs. Vei ma West.

They were enthusiastic in their praise for the group and like hundreds of others heaped praise on the marchers for the pluck and endurance they displayed under adverse weather conditions.

Marchers assembled at the community centre at 6 a.m. where they were taken by a bus donated by Tyler Transport and driven by Ted Tyler Jr. to the junction of No. 7 and No. 11 highways at Thornhill. Several cars drove an overload of walkers. Drivers included Mrs. Marion Reed, Roger McDougall, Norm Braida, Larry Allen, Hartley Coles and Sue Clarke, who along with the Project Action executive dreamed up the event.

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the road with distances increasing between groups and some who developed fatigue, tight muscles and blisters early dropping out.

Most of the teenagers walked over 10 miles before drop-outs started. By the time they reached Brampton ranks were dwindled to around 30.

Susan Clarke, along with Ed Long, Guelph high school student, had a shuttle service going before long. Both clocked around 400 miles collecting drop-outs and Ed hustled up a couple of dozen pairs of mitts for marchers when temperatures dropped quickly.

Council commends teen walkers

A letter of congratulations to the youngsters who took part in the walk-in from Thornhill and Toronto to Acton last Saturday was to be sent with full council endorsement.

"The kids have got what it takes," council agreed at their Tuesday meeting.

The mayor also expressed appreciation to the local people who sponsored the walkers which resulted in over \$300 being raised for the Cancer Society.

High school teacher Bill Coats and other friends and parents of the walkers brought out supplies of dry, warm clothing and refreshments as well as helping out with transporting drop-outs.

After the first trio hit the finish line they were followed by Vern Denny, Nigel Spicer and Lyn Ferry, each on their own.

A quartet composed of Peter Marzo, Birmie Benton, Jim Cooney and Doug Allen finished the 40 miles next about 7 p.m.

Then Gord Dawe, Hans Anderson, Paul Mokrych, and Bill Semanec drifted in with darkness descending.

The first three girls who finished, Irene Severinski, Marie Timbers and Marianne Coles had made it to Georgetown by 7 p.m. and they took the last nine mile lap in two hours, finishing about nine o'clock in pitch blackness. They received a warm welcome by the enthusiastic crowd at Masson Motors.

Terry Curtis and Paul Dupuis limped over the finish line next as the hands of the clock hovered around 10.

Final finisher was weary Sharon White, a determined grade 10 student, who made it home around 10:15.

Encouragement was supplied on the last laps for late walkers (Continued on Page Three)



FRESH AND EAGER to get going, teenagers 7 a.m. Saturday morning on the first phase of poured out of the bus and cars at Thornhill at Saturday's marathon walk. (Staff Photo)



FIRST OVER THE FINISH LINE was this threesome of Jack Irwin, left, Bob Turkoz and Mike Marchment who made Saturday's 40 mile hike in 11 hours, well ahead of the slower walkers. They walked steadily although buffeted by strong winds and rain. Here they've only got about seven miles to go. (Staff Photo)

The Acton Free Press

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Sent for committee study

Proposal would reduce clerk's authority

A resolution outlining policies and guidelines for municipal business was presented by councillor Tyler and reeve Hinton. The resolution reads as follows:

"That the policy of this Council be

"1. Whenever possible, all business related to various departments of town be discussed at committee level.

"2. The various departments be informed of the decision or instructions of the committee or council via the clerk, who will act as a liaison between the parties involved.

"3. Situations of unusual nature or emergency may be dealt with by the chairman of the various committees confiding with the town superintendent or department head if other committee members are

not readily available.

"4. Situations such as the aforementioned will not necessarily be acted upon through the clerk's office.

"5. The clerk will as much as possible devote his time to the clerical duties of the town."

In speaking on the motion councillor Tyler said it was his opinion that elected councillors had less authority to deal with the works staff than the clerk-administrator. He thinks the clerk is very capable and qualified to handle the clerk's duties but felt the clerk was no more qualified to administer and make the day-to-day decisions than elected councillors.

Mr. McGeachie expressed his opinion that the passing of this resolution would eliminate his duties as administrator. Un-

der the proposed change each committee chairman would have the authority to issue instructions to the town superintendent on each work project undertaken.

Mayor Duby agreed most councillors and committee chairmen were very capable, but because they were elected were subject to change whereas the position of clerk-administrator is a permanent one and gives continuity to operations.

He also reviewed the present system whereby a committee makes the decision on what

work is to be undertaken. The committee recommends that (Continued on Page Five)

Resolutions from council

- Council at its regular session on Tuesday evening:
- Authorized the clerk to pay general accounts totalling \$8,723.95.
 - Authorized payment No. 5 on the library contract with Kerr-Construction, an amount of \$3078.77.
 - Authorized payment of \$2636.99 for the signal lights for the Mill-Main intersection.
 - Appointed L. Duby and Ted Pratt as Acton's CORDA representatives for 1967.
 - Authorized payment of \$347 to CORDA for the 1967 levy. The levy remains unchanged at eight cents per capita.
 - On the recommendation of the committee endorsed the resolution of the town of Orangeville which would have approved plans available for the building of schools anywhere in the province.
 - Endorsed another resolution from the town of Orangeville requesting establishment of a standard wage scale across the province for teachers.
 - Decided to appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board the decision of the committee of adjustment on the front yard variance allowed at a recent hearing. The council did not object to the side yard variance but objected to the front yard variance on the grounds that the proposed garage would extend beyond the front of the house.
 - Declared May 14-20 Canadian Retarded Children's Week, and authorized the mayor to issue a proclamation.
 - Authorized the purchase of the material, the hiring of carpenters for the renovation of the police office at an estimated cost of \$800. The renovations, to begin as soon as possible, include the lowering of the ceilings of three rooms, strapping and plywooding of the walls and new floors.
 - Accepted the tender from Thompson Motors for a half-ton pick-up truck at a tender price of \$1467.48 plus the trade-in of the present 1962 truck.
 - Purchased the fence material for the Churchill Road North water reservoir site.
 - Referred a resolution submitted by councillor Tyler and Reeve Hinton to No. 1 committee for study. The resolution sets out council policy and procedure.
 - On the recommendation of solicitor Aldo Braida, decided to refer the matter of the Y.M.C.A. lease to the number one committee for further study.

Oakes praises council budget

Deputy-reeve F. Oakes, chairman of the budget committee, who has been ill and was attending his first council meeting since the announcement of the 1967 tax levy, thanked and congratulated the other members of the committee for their work in preparing the budget Tuesday night.

He suggested that they had done "an excellent job" because he had anticipated a greater increase than was found necessary.

Fence reservoir

Fencing at the reservoir on Churchill Road, North was deleted from the original contract at the time of construction and it is to be proceeded with at this time, council decided at Tuesday's meeting.

In the original contract an eight-foot chain link fence was to be installed. However, the neighboring property owners at the present time are prepared to install a standard farm fence if the town will provide the fence and poles.

The work would be undertaken by members of Churchill United Church congregation. Cost to the municipality is estimated at less than \$100.

False alarm

The fire alarm turned in last Wednesday afternoon turned out to be a false one. Firefighters were sent to Church St., Acton, but couldn't locate any fire. They hunted for similar addresses and names, and investigation continued later until finally they were able to discover the child who turned in the false alarm.

Competitions in Acton

Name winners in Halton Music Festival

Students from Milton, Acton, Nassagawya and Esqueping schools competed at Robert Little Public School, Acton, yesterday and this morning (Wednesday) in the North-Halton Music Festival.

Hundreds of children from 14 schools sang their way to cups, shields and medals, in choir, solo or group competitions.

The festival was presided over by president Mrs. J. Marcoux, with past president J. M. Bell of Milton, vice-president Jack Reed of Norval, secretary-treasurer Mrs. Glenda Benton of Acton, trophy convener Mrs. Margaret Appleyard of Georgetown, inspectors W. L. McNeil and O. G. McDowell and supervisors Mrs. Mary Kidney, Glenn Banks, Mrs. Lenora Vickery and Lloyd Werner.

As adjudicated by Mrs. Vera E. Russell, Mus.Bac., B.Ed., of Toronto, the results were:

Triple duet, grades five and six, seven rooms or over, receiving the Kinette Club of



BILL SEMANEC crossed the finish line looking as fresh as the proverbial daisy in Saturday's Project Action marathon. (Staff Photo)

Start from 'The Archer'

First phase of the "Project Action" marathon walk was a real epic.

Eight boys started out from Toronto city hall at approximately 9:30 p.m. Friday night, journeyed up Yonge St. to Thornhill and then started along No. 7 highway towards Acton.

Although no one finished the almost 60 mile course, Gerry Ockenden and George Beshieri completed 54 miles before complete exhaustion forced them to quit at Silvercreek. Bob Browne, Phil Dupuis, Barrie Elliott, Stuart Johnson, Ken Owen and Bob Radford completed between 35 and 41 miles through pouring rain and strong winds.

All the boys spoke gratefully of the assistance given them during the long hike, especially by a Mr. Hill who owned a Dairy Queen on North Yonge and presented each walker with a 35c ice cream. Early Friday morning a man in Thornhill gave a thermos filled with coffee which assisted them through the tough grind.

Police, with one exception, were very courteous and encouraged the walkers with jokes and recitals of similar episodes they had known.

Review procedures for dump fire calls

Procedure on fire calls to the municipal dump was reviewed at Tuesday's council meeting and it was confirmed that the previous method of dealing with these calls would be continued.

Therefore when a fire call is received for a fire at the dump the siren is not sounded; the fire chief is advised and assesses the situation at the dump in consultation with the clerk or town superintendent and makes the decision at the site as to whether the fire siren will be sounded and volunteer brigade called out.

Mr. McGeachie in outlining procedure said the chief looks at the fire in the light of danger to life and property while the town councillors look at the dump fires in the light of their annoyance to residents.

Councillor Tyler, acting as chairman of the committee of the whole during this portion of the meeting, said he was under the impression a "fire is a fire", smoke under most circumstances comes from a fire. Fire and smoke are unpleasant to the residents in the area and he would like the policy changed.

The present method and policies remain unchanged.

Buy new pick-up truck for town's work staff

Two opposite views on the condition of the 1962 town pick-up truck were expressed at the Tuesday night meeting when council accepted the tender of Thompson Motors to purchase a new pick-up truck. No. 2 committee had recommended the purchase of the new truck.

Councillor Tyler objected to the purchase suggesting that it would be cheaper to install a rebuilt drop-in motor, install new tires, and repair the body of the present truck than to purchase a new one.

Reeve Hinton supported his proposal that the committee review the condition of the present truck, suggesting that councillor Tyler was the most qualified councillor to pass an opinion on the truck's condition.

In outlining his reasons for maintaining the present truck, Mr. Tyler said a rebuilt drop-in engine could be installed at from \$300 to \$350. (A quotation had been received by the town for the installation of a new drop-in motor at \$600.) He felt the truck needed a ring and valve job at the most since it only has 32,000 miles on the speedometer and is "far from being worn out."

He said that following the last committee meeting when the truck had been inspected at 10 o'clock at night he had followed this with an inspection in the daytime when he determined the condition was not as bad as appeared at the night-time inspection.

Councillor Williams said the truck needs a new motor, tires (Continued on Page Three)



LAKEVIEW SUBDIVISION is a hive of activity this week as builders excavate cellars, clear land and erect houses in a rapid acceleration of residential building in Acton. Forty-one building permits have been issued for new houses in the subdivision alone at an estimated value of \$410,000 but the actual figure, using the purchase price as a guide would be double that. (Staff Photo)