



INSTRUCTOR THORSTEINN EINARESSON briefs his Icelanders prior to a competitive demonstration of glima (wrestling) for members of the Toronto-Icelandic club which assembled at



GLIMA, THE ICELANDIC brand of wrestling is demonstrated here as two contestants head for the grass. (Staff Photo)



THE FLAG OF ICELAND flew as spectators at Sunday's Icelandic picnic relived some of the spirit of their ancestors with members of the dance and acrobatic group direct from Iceland. (Staff Photo)



DRESSED IN TRADITIONAL Icelandic dress these brawny young men danced and sang one of their native airs for Canadians of Icelandic origin Sunday. (Staff Photo)

Free Press Feature Page

Icelandic picnic

Demonstrate dancing, glima at Rognvaldson farm Sunday

Twelve young men direct from Iceland demonstrated Icelandic dancing and "glima" (wrestling) for Canadians of Icelandic origin at a picnic on Sunday afternoon at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Rognvaldson, R.R. 4, Acton.

Sponsored by the Icelandic government, these brawny descendants of the Vikings, Canada's first white settlers, delighted their audience, mostly members of the Toronto Icelandic Club. They were in Canada for a week — to demonstrate native dancing as part of Scandinavian Day at Expo.

Five Scandinavian nations celebrated the special day last Thursday, June 8, and the Icelandic group demonstrated practically the same program they put on at Expo for the picnicers Sunday. Included was dancing in native costume, accompanied by their own voices, and robust wrestling bouts on the lawn.

Spectators exposed to this type of entertainment for the first time, marvelled at the skill and strength required. The men ranged in age from 17 to 25 and all but one were from Reykjavik, capital city

and chief port of Iceland. One other was from the northern part of the island.

Two of the group are university students, one is a sailor and the rest are craftsmen. Competitions were held in Iceland for places on the team.

Thorsteinn Einaresson, director of physical education at a Reykjavik high school, directed the demonstration in native Icelandic costume while another member of the group held a large Icelandic flag.

An unusual wrinkle for Mrs. Gurden Jons Dottir - Paciorek, a visitor from Niagara

Falls, N.Y., was the presence of Mr. Einaresson. She recognized him as her high school teacher in Iceland.

The group marched on to the lawn in front of the Rognvaldson home, singing, to demonstrate dancing. Then they changed to gymnastic costume for "glima".

Icelanders differ on the origin of this form of wrestling. In modern glima, the wrestlers wear glamufot, consisting of socks and a combination pants and shirt, with a protective cover around the groin.

Each wrestler wears three leather belts — one around the waist and one around each thigh — those around the thighs being fastened by straps to the one around the waist.

They shake hands and each takes hold of the waist-belt of the other with his right hand. The left hand grasps the belt around the right thigh of his opponent.

They stand erect, right foot advanced. They look over each other's shoulder, never at the feet. Wrestling is done by touch and feeling, not by sight.

A signal is given and contestants seek to throw each other by causing his opponent to lose his balance. Each tries to hook a foot around a foot of the other or place it in front of his feet and trip him. He may heave him into the air and by skilful use of his feet prevent him from alighting on his.

There are seven ways of throwing an opponent. The contestant who falls to the floor, loses.

The Iceland troupe were brought to Acton by members of the Toronto Icelandic Club with whom they also billeted.

The picnic, favored with fine weather, gave those of Icelandic origin a chance to learn more about the traditions of their forefathers.



PREPARING FOR A ROBUST bout of glima (Icelandic wrestling) these two modern descendants of the Vikings demonstrated much skill and strength at Sunday's picnic. (Staff Photo)



MOST GORDON ROGNVALDSON leads the applause as the Icelandic dancing and acrobatic troupe march out for the first number on his 25 highway farm, south of Acton. (Staff Photo)

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Harley re-elected
to vet's committee

Halton's M.P. Dr. Harry Harley, Oakville, has been re-elected as chairman of the federal government's standing committee on veteran's affairs.

Dr. Harley has also served as chairman of the Commons' special committee on drugs, and headed the committee on health and welfare last year.

O.P.P. hold parade in Aldershot Sun.

On Sunday, June 11 at 11 a.m. No. 3 District Ontario Provincial Police held a Centennial Church Parade. This was an inter-denominational service held at West Plains United Church, Burlington, Ont., under the direction of the Rev. William Barrie Dunbar, B.A., B.D.

Close to 100 O.P.P. and Auxiliary Police assembled at the Towers Store in Aldershot at 10 a.m. and marched to the church, accompanied by a pipe band. After the service the officers paraded back to the Towers Store.

Officers attending from Milton and Acton were Sgt. C. J. Parkinson, Cpl. J. L. Kneash, Cpl. R. Mason (Acton), and Prov. Consts. C. H. Wright, T. R. Penrice, W. H. Jordan, A. E. Jordan and G. W. Bourne.

26 injured, seven big fires recorded in Halton in 1966

Halton County had seven major fires in which 26 persons were injured during 1966, according to the past year's fire facts contained in the annual report of the Ontario Fire Marshal, M. S. Hurst.

There were no fire fatalities in the county in 1966.

Large fires reported to the O.F.M. included four in Halton — one each in Burlington and Georgetown and two in Oakville — which caused a total of \$515,841 estimated loss.

The Halton County Fire Prevention Bureau and the Milton and Oakville Fire Departments were among Ontario groups commended by the Fire Marshal for winning prizes in the annual National Fire Protection Association fire prevention competitions.

Major fires in buildings are all reported by local fire brigades to the Fire Marshal. His annual report lists each municipality in Ontario. The following indicates the number of fires in 1966, the year's fire loss in dollars, and (in brackets) the five-year average loss from 1962 to 1966.

Acton 11 fires, \$1,452 (\$7,778); Burlington 177, \$507,711 (\$358,146); Georgetown 27, \$109,059 (\$39,128); Milton 13, \$7,312 (\$51,057); Oakville 143, \$380,275 (\$297,453).

TRAFFIC SURVEYS

The Ontario Department of Highways has been conducting origin-destination surveys in Halton and four neighboring counties to determine future highway needs for the district.

Motorists have been stopped and asked their origin, destination and the purpose of the trip.