

Free Press

YOUTH PAGE

fresh tracks
by Barbara McIntosh

This weekend, the family witnessed another traumatic experience in the life of my kid brother. I gave him his monthly hair-trim.

At present, he belongs to an anti-barber cult and I've been appointed his personal, hip hairdresser. It's not that he has any great faith in my barbering talents. In fact, before every snip, I have to pledge a comparable chunk of my own locks if I make a noticeable mistake on his. However, he knows that the occasional trim is inevitable if he wants to live peacefully at home, and I suppose he feels I'm the lesser calculated risk.

The pre-operative procedure is always a matter of subtle psychological persuasion. By the time I arrived on the scene this time, my older brother had threatened to stop driving him to school because people might mistake him for a new girl friend. Dad was calling him "sweetie" and my mother suggested he wear a bobypin for the sake of his vision.

When I honestly admitted I didn't recognize him in the church choir until he wiped his bangs out of his eyes half way through the second hymn, he began to bend toward submission, and agreed that perhaps his sidejams could come off even with his earlobes. Once I had him in the chair, it was merely a case of pointing out the advantages of a snip here and there.

Trimming off the back above the collar was like defusing a time bomb. Every move had to be fully justified beforehand and frantically inspected afterwards. I felt the front could have come off another two inches, but he insisted that when washed and fluff-dried, it fell above his eyebrows and did a lot for his high forehead. What could I say? We both concluded that the finished look was still long enough to be "cool", but short enough to appease the old folks and leave him looking like a boy.

Longish hair for boys seems to be as much with us as brush-cuts used to be. On some, it becomes a comical indication of immaturity and revolutionary spirit but on others, slightly longer than usual hair is a definite improvement.

The fun of being young is experimenting with current trends and doing your part to buck the establishment. Around our house the word is toleration, mixed with just enough pressure to keep the hair clean and even with collar.

NOTES FROM ACTON HIGH

Open house

All are welcome to attend Acton High's Open House, April 24 at 7:30 - 10. The school will be informing you of our activities and class achievements. So plan to come and show your interest.

Sheridan tour

Sheridan College
On Tuesday and Thursday, guidance teacher Brian Skerrett organized a trip to Sheridan College.

The guided tour proved beneficial to some grade 12 and 13 students; to others a free afternoon away from regular classes.

10A assembly

For entertainment this week, 10A premiered a variety show displaying their talents.

The theme was a bed time story, "Mary Jane Goes to Grandma's House," adding spice were the Bunny Boys, and Joachim Suke, their bilingual commentator.

Mrs. Paul Martindale, closed the assembly with a religious note, singing two solos in her operatic voice.

Student - staff bowling

The teachers attempted to down the students, Wednesday at 4 o'clock for a bowling match. Obviously the pedagogues were out of shape, being defeated hands down.

Study classes

Learning how to study goes beyond sitting in the proper chair with efficient lighting.

Mr. Skerrett is introducing a psychological approach, designed to the commitment of better marks. The course should be of interest to those students who are doing poorly, or those planning post-secondary education.

The classes will be held twice a week after school, attendance is compulsory. April 11 is the deadline for registering.

Dance

There will be a dance in the school gym this Friday night featuring the Jerome Rufus Blues Band. The dress is casual.

April 30 deadline for studded tires

Although Spring is here, the Hamilton Automobile Club reminds motorists of Ontario that studded snow tires will be permitted throughout the Province until April 30. March 31 was the deadline last year with one month's extension. The extended deadline of April 30 has now been made permanent.

Elsewhere in the country: British Columbia, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island also have the April 30 deadline.

Nova Scotia's motorists must have their studded snow tires removed by April 15. Alberta, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Quebec and Saskatchewan do not restrict their use.

The H.A.C. advises motorists to remove their studded tires before travelling into the U.S. After April 1st, these tires are potentially illegal in nearly a third of all the States.

County inspectors evaluate Acton high

By Terry Curtis

After last week's visit of the "inspectors", this week the staff was confronted by the superintendents. They were, Mr. Gilmore, superintendent of instruction for Halton County Board of Education, Mr. Self, superintendent of Program, and Mr. Lavender, assistant superintendent for North Halton Schools. Their primary purpose was to comment on the inspection last week, and also to answer any questions from the staff.

In the eyes of the inspectors, Acton High appeared to rate somewhat "flawless". To some extent I agree; out in opposition, how can anyone summarize in a period of 45 minutes, the quality of a teacher's methods, methods that are certainly going to influence our society.

Questions debated were: a) the recognized need for a cafeteria b) and larger office facilities.

The Halton county Board is committed to provide educational facilities without causing an undue load on the taxpayers. At the same time, the need for a cafeteria will be considered on a list of priorities, and the staff was assured that if funds were available, every attempt would be made to provide for the need.

The present office facilities were recognized as inadequate also and will be improved if funds are available.

The gentlemen present assured the staff that the Board officials have no intention of dictating the program, or any other aspect of the school's organization. They expect that all aspects of the school will be arranged to meet the needs of the students in the community.

The structure of the administration should be clear to comprehend the importance of the officials' visit.

In January 1969, the 20 elected members of board selected highly qualified professionals in each subject of education. Our elector is Mr. Tom Watson for Acton and Nassagaweya. Their function is difficult to subdivide because educational leadership activities in an integrate system view the educational process as one activity across a broad front, continuously from kindergarten to grade 13. Any subdivision of duties tends to be arbitrary.

The superintendent of Program, Mr. Self will be responsible for: Program innovations and development; Co-ordination of program activities; Staff requirements (based upon program; Textbooks and instructional materials; School design; Instructional supplies budget; Special activities directly related to program; (i) Library Resource Centres, (ii) Oral French, (iii) Audio-Visual, (iv) Reporting to Parents (v) Educational Development Funds; (vi) Visitors to the system.

The position of Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Lavender, is a key one since he fulfills the leadership role and communication function in a local area, on a daily personal contact basis. He is concerned with: the day to day operation of the elementary and secondary schools in his attendance area; the supervision of the staff in his area; certain administrative functions assigned by the Superintendent of Directors, program commitments and subject counselled in the area of his specialty.

Under the direction of the Superintendent of Instruction the Assistant Superintendent will be responsible for staff, budget, maintenance.

Under the direction of the Superintendent of Program the Assistant Superintendent will be responsible for: curriculum, staff, budget, school design.

The role of these professionals is to assess the present practices in each area, to search out what is new and to evaluate it.

In essence, the future of the students of Acton High, will be based upon the evaluations put forth by the inspectors and superintendents.

Chemical sprays do a great job when it comes to controlling weeds and insects—but, says The Canadian National Institute for the Blind, be careful not to get any in your eyes. If some insecticide does splash in, the eye should be flooded with water immediately for approximately 15 minutes. Hold the head under a faucet or pour cool water into the eye from a glass or pitcher. Do not use an eye cup. Then have the eye examined by a doctor as soon as possible.



WAITING their turn on the ice skating carnival program was the Fairy Ballet which featured a solo by Tinkerbell, Diane Baginski.—(Staff Photo)



MICKEY AND MINNIE MOUSE were Lori DeBruyn and Vicki Bristow, two of the younger skaters on the ice at the recent skating carnival.—(Staff Photo)



ALL SET FOR A TANGO at the skating carnival were Robin Marshall, Cathy Barber, Valerie Irwin, Kim McCristall and Marilyn DeBruyn.—(Staff Photo)



SPORTING HATS FROM THE UNCLE TOM era were Kathleen Chayne, Debbie Noely and Kathy Toth for their performance in "Mammy" at the Figure Skating Club carnival.—(Staff Photo)



KEVIN PARKER played Davey Crockett in a skillful solo number at the skating carnival in the Arena.—(Staff Photo)



THE LEGS belonged to Linda Perry but the Donald Duck head was borrowed. She was a hit of the skating club carnival.—(Staff Photo)

Expect to plant million trees

The Grand River Conservation Authority plants about 300,000 to 400,000 trees each year.

At first glance it may seem like a lot of trees, but in fact, 400,000 trees means planting only 400 acres, and there are 1,500,000 acres in the Grand River watershed.

The authority is aiming to plant anywhere from 600,000 to one million trees each year. These trees are all planted free by the authority on private land. The trees are purchased by the landowner from the department of lands and forests for one cent each. One thousand trees are planted per acre, and the landowner must have a minimum of two acres to plant.

Those wishing to take advantage of the tree planting policy should contact either the department of lands and forests or the conservation authority.

Wood shrinks and swells across the grain much more than parallel to the grain.

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