

Model airplanes dogfight over Acton skies Sunday

It sounded like a giant swarm of bees swarming stores but it turned out to be a successful model airplane competition at Acton Park Sunday.

A Cincinnati, Ohio man, his engines setting a hot pace went back over the border with the \$200 first prize and accompanying trophy for the top man in the fast combat competition. Dan Patton topped David Adamaki of Detroit and Jim Bisson of Toronto in the moneyed class. Runners-up received \$25 and \$10 respectively.

Entries for the first annual event staged by the Acton HI

Flyers in conjunction with the Acton Chamber of Commerce, came from as far away as the state of Kentucky, Morristown, West Virginia, Verona, Pennsylvania, Cincinnati, Ohio, Rochester and Trumansburg, New York, and Detroit, Michigan, as well as Canadian points.

Both the Acton HI Flyers and the Chamber of Commerce were pleased with the success of their first venture into this type of competition and they intend to repeat the show again next year on the same date—the Labor Day weekend. Officials estimated there were about 500

spectators during the afternoon. The event ran from 10 a.m. until 7:30 in the evening.

Contestants, too, were pleased with the facilities and the caliber of the competition. Some camped at Smallwood Acres for the weekend and others booked in at the Cedar Springs Motel on highway 7. Weatherwise the contestants couldn't have asked for anything more ideal although the heat probably reduced the number of spectators.

Councillor Peter Marks welcomed the contestants and spectators to the event and congratulated the Acton model buffs and Chamber of Commerce for putting Acton's name on the map in a different manner.

The HI Flyers, in addition to running the show, had four of their own number in the competitions and vice-president Ron Malcolm's wife, Bob Toth competed in the slow combat and president Peter Puchyr, Ben Switzer and Ron Malcolm all were entered in the fast combat competition.

President Peter Puchyr, spelled off by Jim Jennings, handled the announcing chores, and could barely utter a whisper by the time the last plane had landed.

The Balsa Beavers from Toronto took the team trophy for the competition which kept spectators heads wagging from side to side in a strained upward position. Combat flying was often invigorating exercise for the model plane buffs as they attempted to cut the streamer on their opponent's tail.

On at least four occasions a model escaped from the captive wire and crashed perilously near spectators. One collision sent a plane spinning between lawn chairs holding very surprised spectators. St. John Ambulance men were on hand in the event anything did happen but outside of some minor cuts, suffered by contestants, were never needed.

Clem Boudreau of the Toronto Balsa club won first prize in the Federation Aeronautics Internationale competition which had 10 entries. Al Baker of Brantford was second and Ross Malhuish of Toronto Balsa Beavers finished third.

Jim Morway of Detroit was top flyer in the slow combat competition which had 32 entries. Wayne Petrean of Toronto, also best Junior pilot, took second and Charles Ashcraft of Kentucky, U.S.A., landed in the third spot.

Chamber of Commerce president John Shadbolt made the presentation of trophies and prizes. Trophy winners also received prizes of merchandise. Next year's event? "Bigger and better," HI Flyer Ron Malcolm prophesied. "And a little different."

He's also hoping the Acton club will expand to include several new members over the year.

Acton Meadows

Seven Acton Meadows members journeyed to Doon Valley Golf and Country Club, near Galt, on the weekend, for a tournament.

The Acton lads brought home a total of four prizes.

Mike Prystaz won low gross in the second flite with an 80.

Jim Timleck and Jim Bulough finished second and third in the 1st flite low gross with a 77 and 78 respectively.

Dan Arbic took 3rd low net in the 3rd flite.

Other Acton members competing were Ted Pratt, Keith Ranney and Norm Dickenson.



Disaster



MRS. DAN PATTEN was one of the women which attracted hundreds to the park Sunday contestants in the Acton Combat Exposition afternoon.—(Staff Photo)



THE NAME OF THE GAME is combat and several hundred spectators might have wound up with strained necks following Sunday's exhibition of flying. A Cincinnati, Ohio, man, Dan Patton, took the \$200 prize, outflying 31 other contestants including his wife and two other women.—(Staff Photo)



DON PATTON of Cincinnati, Ohio, received the \$200 first prize for finishing first in the Acton Combat Exposition fast combat competition from Chamber of Commerce president John Shadbolt, right.—(Photo by Jim Jennings)

Fun day real fun for Trail Riders

On Sunday, around 80 people converged on Pat Dales' farm, north of Rockwood, to either watch or participate in The Rockwood Trail Riders' Fun Day. The show was planned for the benefit of riders who wanted to try their horses at the various games without entering into any serious competition, and a few EBHO members joined in. The shenanigans provided the spectators with much enjoyment.

The events were judged by Harvey Pettitt of Rockwood, who also did some sideline coaching which was much appreciated by the novice riders.

The first event was a relay race around a pasture, with three riders in each team. On the winning team were Buzz Ellis, Babs Ellis and Jean Pettitt. Second: Ken Tuck, Barry Shea, Mo McGuiness. Third: Mike Dales, John Dales, Dave Taylor. Fourth: Pat Parker, Barb Lockyer, Jim Lockyer.

In the Hop Sack Race, entries ran their horses up the arena, dismounted, climbed into a sack, then hopped back, leading their horses. Junior winners were: John Dales; Adele Hatfield; Beth Thomson; Kenny Tuck.

Senior winners: Mike Dales; Barry Shea; Pat Parker; Mo McGuiness.

Keyhole racing was designed for horses who can stop on a dime. It is a timed run up the arena and turn in a large keyhole marked in lime without the horse going out of the circle, then run back. First, Jean Pettitt; 2, Jim Lockyer; 3, Mo McGuiness; 4, Wendy Thomson.

The fourth event was barrel racing. The horses ran a prescribed course, circling three barrels in a rough clover leaf pattern. This was timed. Jean Pettitt won with 20.2 seconds. Dave Taylor came second, Mike Dales was third, and Mo McGuiness was fourth.

Junior Barrel racing: John Dales; Buzz Ellis; Kenny Tuck; Adele Hatfield.

The watch race was a novelty event. Entries rode up the arena, dismounted and bent over while their partner sewed a patch on the seat of their pants. The partner then climbed on the horse while the first rider led it back to the finish line. Ken Tuck and Babs Ellis; Wendy Thomson and Alice Hatfield; Beth Thomson and Adele Hatfield; Mo and Agnes McGuiness.

The horses with the most training were obvious in the pole bending. They were weaving in and out of five poles set about 8 feet apart, and to do this quickly, had to change leads at every pole. Dave Taylor; Mike Dales; Jean Pettitt; Mo McGuiness finished in that order.

Jean Pettitt came first in the

Scurry Race which had three low jumps. 2, John Dales; 3, Pat Parker; 4, Dase Taylor.

Harvey Pettitt had a hard time picking the winners of the Steady Hand Event. Although entries were asked to carry a glass of water at a walk, a trot, and a canter, few spilled much water. He then set them to galloping and reversing at a canter. Finally, after Jean Pettitt came in first and Barb Lockyer fourth, he had Ken Tuck and Barry Shea mounting and dismounting, holding their glasses, to break the tie for second and third. The climax of this event was the sight of the honorable judge running down the arena as fast as he could on foot, with losing entry John Dales and his pony hot on his heels with a glass of water. The judge got out of his predicament by grabbing a bucket of water to retaliate.

Winners of the junior and senior water races were the riders who emptied the most water in a milk jug in three minutes, after carrying it in a cup from a bucket at the far end of the arena. Juniors: John Dales; Adele Hatfield; Beth Thomson; Jim Thomson.

Seniors: Mike Dales; Barry Shea; No McGuiness; Dave Taylor.

Buzz Ellis and John Dales seemed to be heading for a draw in the Balloon Event, but Buzz finally got the best of John. Each entry had a balloon tied to his waist at the back, and was given a pin to break everyone else's. Third and fourth Adele Hatfield; Beth Thomson.

Two riders were used in the pick-up race. The object was for the first rider to go the length of the arena then swing a second one up behind him (without falling off himself), in the least amount of time. 1, Dave Taylor and Keith Denismore; 2, Mike Dales and John Dales; 3, Barry Shea and Buzz Ellis; 4, Ken Tuck and Mo McGuiness.

Winners of the flag race (pulling a flag out of a barrel and putting it in another) were: Dave Taylor; Mike Dales; Barry Shea; Mo McGuiness.

Because there were only two entries, the junior potato race was done on foot without benefit of ponies at all. Kenny Tuck had his potatoes in his sack first. John Dales was second.

The last event was called a tire race although burlap sacks were used instead of tires. Riders were timed, pulling their partners the length of the arena on their backs. 1, Ken Tuck and Buzz Ellis; 2, Barry Shea and Buzz Ellis; 3, Jim Lockyer and Mr. Parker; 4, Mike and John Dales. Junior High Points Winner of the Day was John Dales; Senior winner, Mike Dales.



RON MALCOLM, a third place finisher in Canadian National Exhibition competitions recently, and a prime mover in re-establishing Acton HI-Flyers is watched by an interested audience.—(Staff Photo)



BOB TOTH and John Van der Kooy are models of concentration as Ron Malcolm works feverishly on a model to get it in shape for competition. Hundreds watched the nine hour show.—(Staff Photo)

Kite flight quite sight

Excited children pounded on a Free Press staffer's door recently with the information that a U.F.O. was plainly visible in broad daylight and rapidly travelling across town.

Wide-eyed and trembling with excitement they suggested a picture in The Free Press could kill a host of speculation.

Simultaneously, in a nearby block two other boys were prying skywards with empty hands. Their kite had escaped, taking with it a line of string long enough to go around the block twice. They followed the course of their kite with their feet.

Somewhere the paths of the two groups met and it was determined the U.F.O. was Sandy Pratt's kite.

Don't have a one-track mind. Especially when you are waiting for a slow freight train to clear the crossing. Remember that an express may be coming down the other track.

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