

Likes spirit here

"Mom" McCarroll returning to Ireland

By Corie Maxwell

Hey, there's "Mom!" That is what a few of the students have nicknamed Mrs. Ruth McCarroll, who is the new secretarial science teacher at the school. If you are wondering why the nickname, it is a direct result of her outlook on life. You see, she believes in "love". She says, "You get far more by loving people than you do by being nasty."

She really loves kids and when teaching, she finds it makes her classes much more friendly and the students respond better. "Love gets you just as much respect as fear," says Mrs. McCarroll.

that she very seldom has to break off teaching a subject because of a short period day. She feels that she is able to do a greater variety of work and therefore the students have a better opportunity to learn.

Be comfortable She thinks the school dress is fine and she says that she would rather have the students wear what they want and be comfortable. She finds that student participation and spirit is much better than at any of her previous schools. She was very pleased also, with the turnout of parents at the last parent-teacher evening.

One thing at A.H. that Mrs. McCarroll would change if she could, would be the cafeteria. That is, having hot food and hot plates — but as she said, the school is too small to warrant it. If Mrs. McCarroll were not a

teacher she says that she would choose some other line involving work with teenagers.

Returns to Ireland

Mrs. McCarroll, unfortunately, is leaving the staff and students of Acton at the end of this semester. The family is returning to Ireland. She says, though, that she has really enjoyed working at Acton High and the past few months here have been the highlight of her stay in Canada. One of her deepest regrets is leaving the students. She says that she had never taught boys before and when she found that her home form consisted of 22 grade 12 boys, she was scared! She has found that her home room, especially, have adopted her as Mother McCarroll or "Mom".

The students will certainly share the feeling of regret at her departure.



NEW SECRETARIAL science teacher Mrs. Ruth Carroll grew up in Dublin, and is expecting to return to Ireland. She will regret leaving Acton students, she says. —(Staff Photo)

Pet peeve

Her worst pet peeve is bigotry. This is one thing that really upsets her. She says, "there will never be peace in the world if everybody grows up hating someone because of their religion or their color." She finds that Acton High has a very open attitude toward differences — religious differences, personal differences and physical differences.

Mrs. McCarroll has wanted to be a teacher since she was eight years old, but when she was 16 she dropped out of school and went to secretarial college for a year.

She grew up in Dublin, Ireland, and came to Canada in 1956, just after she was married. Her husband was born in Londonderry and they have one girl, who is now ten years old. They live in Clarkson, in Mississauga.

She went into secretarial work and became an executive secretary in a large business organization in Toronto. She became bored with this and wanted to get into the teaching profession. She went to O.C.E. for three years, then took grade 13 Biology at Burnhamthorpe Collegiate (night school) in order to be accepted at the University of Toronto. She finished her first year of University last summer and has now been teaching for five years. She is 39 years old.

She has taught previously at Emory Collegiate in North York and at Clarkson Secondary School.

Various hobbies

Her hobbies are swimming, she reads quite a bit, she likes to play the piano when she's uptight because it allows her to unwind and she likes to walk. She took up ice skating and tobogganing when she was 33 years old and really enjoys them.

She likes most colors, especially yellow, but does not like purple. Her sign of the zodiac is Gemini. She likes long words that really say something and which can't be said in small words quite as well.

Mrs. McCarroll thinks the new semester system is "marvellous" because she finds

Pins and misses new game

By Cathy Ashley

When you think of pins and school girls you usually think of Home Economics. Not anymore — pins and misses refers to the game of bowling, which the grade 11 and 12 girls have taken up in their Phys. Ed. classes.

Out of a six game total for grade 12, here are the standings and points: The Alley Cats first with 4642 points, second was the Korkies with 4499 points, third was the Missits with 4286 points, fourth was Snoopy's Gang with 4160 points and fifth were the Bumbliers with 3569 points. Also Brenda Bould bowled the highest single with a score of 266.

In the grade 11 teams Bombers came first with 2348 points, Derby Duds second with 2254 points, Four Hits and a Miss came third with 2003 points and Wild Oats came fourth with 2185 points.

All in all, I think the girls had fun!

Tour of steel mill for geography class

By Helen Gunther

On Nov. 15th, Mr. J.W. May's three grade 9 geography classes left in two buses for Hamilton. Mrs. J. Misner was in charge of the first bus which went to Stelco in the morning, and in the afternoon it went on to the downtown area for an urban study.

Mr. May's bus did the urban study in the morning and went to Stelco in the afternoon.

At Stelco we had a guide to tell us all about steel and steel making.

The urban study consisted of driving up James St. and noting the homes and stores that we saw, and telling whether we thought they were in a good location to serve the public or not. There was also a couple of maps, where we had to show the escarpment, etc.

All in all it was an interesting trip.

Visit most modern school

By Ron Louttet

On Thursday, Nov. 18, Debbie Thompson, Susan Patrick and myself accompanied Mr. Shean to Lord Elgin High School in Burlington. The main objective was to view their data processing department. We sat in on one of their classes and were shown the computer, and a student of the school explained it to us. We then programmed a few simple problems and fed them into the computer which answered them in seconds.

We toured the school which is one of the most modern in this district.

This was a very interesting day at Lord Elgin School, but when I think about all the facilities they have compared to Acton High, I would still choose our school. I think there is a friendlier atmosphere in a smaller school.

Project animals

By Marilyn McArthur

On Monday, Nov. 15, Mr. Black, Geography teacher at Acton District High School accompanied his grade 10 geography class of 32 to the Royal Winter Fair, in Toronto.

The bus arrived at the school for the students at 9:30 a.m. and from there—on to the Royal. At the fair itself, each group carried out an assignment on animals. It dealt with the animal's differences, uses, etc. When each group's assignments were completed, they used the rest of the time to look at exhibits.

At 2:30 p.m., the students loaded on the bus after a very interesting trip.

On behalf of the class, I would like to say "thank you!" to Mr. Black for a most enjoyable trip.

NOTES FROM ACTON HIGH

By Corie Maxwell



Keeping it Canadian is just what Acton High is doing! Last Friday for three Acton High students and a teacher. This is the hour that Marg Slaven, Seth Armstrong, Carol Patterson and Mr. B. Skerrett left for Toronto in time to arrive for classes at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute and George Brown Community College. The students are among the many who are planning to go to University next year and in order to give them some insight into the courses they may be interested in, they sat in on some classes. This sort of thing is very beneficial to a student and as one of them said, it was "really great!" This is one of the many ways the guidance department is helping students help themselves in choosing a career.

The Theatre Hour Company is produced by the Toronto Arts Foundation with the co-operation of the Ontario Department of Education. This company shows students what can be done in acting professionally and secondly the preparation needed to do it. The "preparation" was shown in a one hour workshop after the performance.

Immediately after the presentation there was a question and answer period of which both students and teachers made good use with a continuous line of questioning.

Workshop

The workshop is structured to broaden a student's awareness of the actor's craft, stimulate his own interest in drama and suggest areas he might explore in the future. This was done basically by sense exercises—that is, in exercise, one or more senses were stressed. For example, students had to lie on the floor, relaxed, but listening intently to any sound at all; walk around thinking about putting their heel down first then their toes; shaking exercises to loosen their muscles; breathing exercises; energy exercises in which a person contracts and tightens up into a small ball, then explodes; trust falls, where a person falls and trusts someone to catch him and so on—

This shows the way that an actor can develop his ability to respond to his fellow actors while engaged in a play situation.

Some reactions

Following are the reactions of some students: "It was great!"—Wendy Hannah. "It was weird."—Steve Milne. "I thought it was better last year, but I liked it."—Lynn Marshall. "It was highly relaxing and self-satisfying."—Hank Wissenz. "I really liked it!"—Murray Turnbull. "It was really good, but I wanted to do a skit at the end, like last year."—Sue Powaduk. "It was pretty good."—Steve Mellor.

Last week two members of the staff, Mr. Boris Shean and Mr. Ian McGillivray, had a supervised tour of one of Acton's main industries, Porter's. Manager of Porter's, Mr. Bill Pendleton showed the men around both

plant and office. These teachers are trying to make a better communications relationship between school and community and they think that the business department of the school should be acquainted with such industries as Porter's.

Both men found this tour most interesting and were really amazed by its size.

7:30 a.m. came early last Friday for three Acton High students and a teacher. This is the hour that Marg Slaven, Seth Armstrong, Carol Patterson and Mr. B. Skerrett left for Toronto in time to arrive for classes at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute and George Brown Community College. The students are among the many who are planning to go to University next year and in order to give them some insight into the courses they may be interested in, they sat in on some classes. This sort of thing is very beneficial to a student and as one of them said, it was "really great!" This is one of the many ways the guidance department is helping students help themselves in choosing a career.

University information at Nelson h.s.

By Carol Patterson

Standing room only remained in the auditorium of Nelson High school as more and more people came to learn about the Universities of Ontario. Held in Burlington, on Monday, Nov. 15, this University Information Program was intended to answer questions parents and students of Halton County may have had about Universities, their programs and about student loans and grants.

The principal of Nelson High welcomed everyone and introduced 22 University representatives to those gathered in the auditorium. After a short time, the first of three 40 minute sessions began. These sessions, conducted by three representatives of 12 Ontario Universities, were held in classrooms in one section of the school. Ample time was allowed for people to gather information about three Universities, or about the student awards program of Ontario.

When most questions had been answered satisfactorily, refreshments were served in the cafeteria. This ended a very informative and successful evening.

Quebec City trip for 30 grade 13s

By Dave Pink

It was Tuesday night, November 9 at the Georgetown C.N.R. station when 30 Grade 13 students from Acton High School and numerous parents stood watching the approaching train. Quick good-byes followed and the students, along with the two chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. Swallow, boarded the train that would start the trip to Quebec City.

At Toronto we were quickly transferred to the Montreal bound train; at the same time we were joined by a student of North Toronto Secondary School. No one had expected him but he was no stranger to the people from Acton and was welcomed by everyone on the train. The earlier part of the Montreal trip was spent either seeking out interesting places on the train or visiting with other members of the group. In time everyone settled, either lengthwise across the seat or in a normal sitting position with their feet up on the opposite seat to try to sleep. Neither position was comfortable so sleep was a luxury few people enjoyed.

Oldest city

When we arrived in Montreal it felt good to get out of the coach and walk around, but we had to catch the Quebec City train. This part of the trip passed uneventfully as most of us were content to view the scenery. When we arrived in Quebec City we collected our luggage and took our bearings.

Quebec is North America's oldest city and is built mostly on hills. Those who carried luggage cursed the fact that the railway station was at the bottom of the hill while the Hotel Victoria, where we stayed, was at the top.

We settled into our hotel rooms in groups of two or three at about 11:30 Wednesday morning. Our bus tour of the city was scheduled for 1:30 so the balance of the two hours was used unpacking and visiting friends' rooms.

Bus tour

The bus tour lasted about three hours and included frequent stops to take pictures or visit museums. The bus took us through the most historic and beautiful parts of both the lower and upper towns of Quebec City. The driver took us along the Ramparts, past the Legislative Assembly, the Chateau Frontenac and numerous monuments to the people who shaped Quebec's history.

The bus tour also included a stop at the Citadelle, an old French fort along the St. Lawrence River. The Citadelle has a very important place in Canada's history. It was just outside its walls on the Plains of Abraham that Canada changed hands from French to English. Inside the Citadelle is a war

museum mostly dedicated to the battle on the Plains of Abraham. The Citadelle is still a post for the Canadian Armed Forces.

It was during the tour that the previous night's lack of sleep caught up with us and we didn't get as much out of the tour as we could have. Most of us spent Wednesday night at the hotel or walking around Quebec.

Tour legislature

On Thursday afternoon we were scheduled to tour the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Assembly of Quebec is comparable to the Parliament Buildings in Toronto. Statues of men who hold an honored place in the Province of Quebec's history are carved into the walls on the exterior of the building. Foremost, directly over the main entrance are the statues of James Wolfe and the Marquis de Montcalm.

Our group assembled in front of

the building at about 1:00 and went in together. The entire tour consisted of the two major rooms of the house, not unlike those at Ottawa and Toronto but very beautiful just the same.

On Thursday night most of our party ended up at the discotheque in the basement of the Chateau Frontenac. The Chateau is a Canadian Pacific hotel and the largest building in Quebec City. It is a very impressive hotel and serves as the major landmark of Quebec. The brown brick construction and the oxidized copper roof give it the look of a castle.

Explore city Friday and Saturday were open days.

(Due to lack of space, this story will be concluded next week.)

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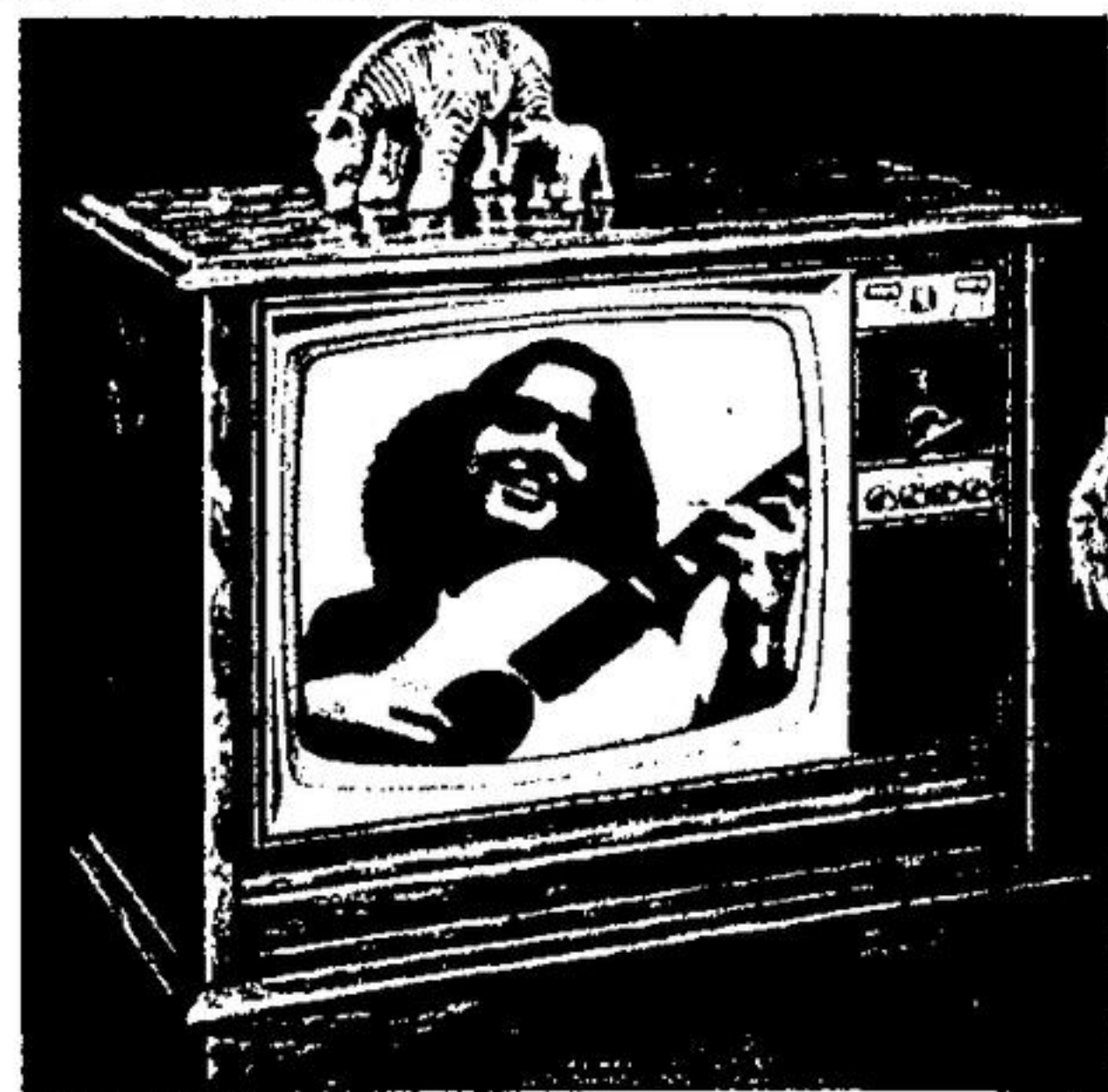
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