

Doug Magwood takes on Gary Dawkins' job



HIS FIRST DAY on the job was a busy one, as M. Z. Bennett school principal Doug Magwood found out last Tuesday. Vice principal Gus Elliott, left, and former principal Gary Dawkins gathered in Mr. Magwood's new office to wish him well. Mr. Dawkins will head the new Acton middle school.

After 16 years' experience in Halton County, Doug Magwood has been transferred to Acton.

Mr. Magwood has replaced M. Z. Bennett principal Gary Dawkins, who will head the Acton Middle School. The new principal started his job last week.

Mr. Magwood received his own public and high school education in Fergus, continued on to Sir Wilfrid Laurier to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree and went to teachers' college in Stratford.

In 1960 Mr. Magwood had his first teaching job at Woodside public school in Oakville. He remained here for six years before a one year stint at Munns public school in the same town.

Promoted

At this time, a vice principal's job awaited him in Georgetown at Chapel Street school. Two and half years later Mr. Magwood was transferred to Stewarttown school, where he held the same position for one and a half years.

Brookville school was the

next post, where he was vice principal for two years. Then Mr. Magwood was sent back to Oakville's Woodside as principal for three and a half years, the same school he began his career in years before.

From Woodside, his next school is M. Z. Bennett where he is looking forward to meeting the students, the parents and the community.

Georgetown resident

Nine years ago, Mr. Magwood moved to Georgetown, where he still lives with his wife Charlotte, daughter Colleen, seven, and son Sean, five.

The new principal believes that the individual child is the main focus. He explained that

years ago, teachers taught to groups, but now they are trying to look at the individual children.

Mr. Magwood said this philosophy carries on now that he is principal. "When you are dealing with a teaching staff, you have all different kinds of personalities, teaching abilities and interests." He went on to say the teachers have the hardest job of all because they are dealing with the students directly, striving for individualism. Mr. Magwood pointed out the pupil-teacher ratio is the big crunch that is one of the main concerns of the teachers. At the present time the pupil-teacher ratio is 28.5.



MOUTH TO MOUTH resuscitation is the subject in this elective class at M. Z. Bennett as Mrs. Marie Hargrave demonstrates with victim Calvin Robinson.

Top priority in 77-78

Managing the education system and exercising financial restraints have been given top priority for the next two years by Halton Board of Education.

Thursday, the board announced a number of aims and objectives for the 77-78 term, and running schools topped the list. The board plans to "exercise financial restraints consistent with sound educational practices and identified needs."

The board also intends to continue implementing core-curriculum throughout the schools and also evaluate its impact on teachers and students.

Free Press Youth Page

Public speaking winners named

Kathleen Nolan won the Intermediate competition and Lesley Kenny the Junior in Robert Little's annual public speaking contest Monday.

Miss Nolan's winning topic was The Bermuda Triangle and Miss Kenny lifted her trophy for her talk Acton Separates from Canada Awards were based on the knowledge of the topic and the delivery of the speech.

Other junior speakers and their topics were Laura Brillinger, smoking; James Thomas, skateboards; Chris Rosenquist, T.V. shows; Karrie Curran, discrimination and Monica Musselle, ghosts in Canada.

There were six intermediate speakers besides

Miss Nolan, Kelly White, T.V. commercials; Tatjana Jansen, holiday; Nancy Allan, Eskimos; Patti Tufford, crime; Deb Thornhill; haircuts and Patricia Henry, my brother Junior.

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Acton High notes

by Jennifer Rowe

After one week, students have settled back into the school life and plunged forward into semester two.

Last Tuesday, February 1, the buses didn't run, however, it was a regular school day for town students.

Best wishes

Twenty students have left the four walls of the classroom for this semester to join a new idea in education. The program is known as Total Immersion and gives students the chance to learn from the best teacher there is—personal experience.

There are five credits being offered. Physical Education Outdoor education, which deals with such activities as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, winter survival and camping, hiking, rock-climbing, first aid and canoeing to name a few.

The second credit is Social Science—Life styles, which involves students practising the life styles of early pioneers. Things such as logging, cooking on wood stoves, maple syrup making, weaving and furniture construction will be explored. Also work experience on modern farms will be possible.

The third credit deals with Space, Man and Technology. Here students will have a chance to reconstruct pioneer tools, build a greenhouse, plan and construct a solar heat collection system, develop photographs along with numerous other activities.

Environmental Studies, the fourth credit will focus on the investigations of the natural surroundings. Things such as map-making, trail marking, wildlife studies and micro-photography will be included here.

The fifth and final credit is Creative Writing and Expression, the students are keeping a daily journal of their experiences and their feelings concerning the day. Also a presentation to the community on Total Im-

mersion will be included. After reading through the subject matter to be covered by those students in Total Immersion it is quite evident that this semester will be a very challenging and demanding one. Good Luck to all those in the course!

Choose subjects

Friday was a short period day at the High School for the purpose of selecting next year's subjects. Many students will be leaving the "old Acton High School" for

good, however those returning will be able to benefit from the modern, well equipped new school.

With only a little over one month left, students planning to go to Rome in March are finding the time slipping by very quickly.

The group will be leaving Thursday, March 17 for Montreal, then on to Brussels where they will connect flights to Rome. On the return flight they will spend one full day in Brussels. Bon Voyage!

M.Z.B. news

by Adele Titon

Doug Magwood the new principal is now at M.Z. Bennett and is getting to know everyone. He has been visiting the classrooms and becoming acquainted with students and teachers.

A farewell party for Gary Dawkins was held at the home of Miss Carol Lawson, a grade four teacher at M.Z. Bennett, last Friday evening. It was to have been held on January 29 but due to weather conditions it was cancelled. Mr. Dawkins received a beautiful digital clock-radio for his home from the staff. A good time was had by all.

In the music department the Junior Choir is learning a selection of songs from the musical "Oliver". Such songs included are "Consider Yourself", "I'd Do Anything", "Where is Love" and "Who Will Buy". Also being practiced is a lullaby from Hansel and Gretel by E. Humperdinck. The senior choir is learning a selection of songs from the Musical "The King and I". It includes such songs as "Whistle a Happy Tune" and "Getting to Know You". They are also singing a Welsh song "All Through the Night" and Irish folk tune "Cliff of Mourne" taken from "Bend Sinister's Stream" and "My Favorite Things" from the "Sound of Music". Miss Lash is not sure yet but if all

PHYSICAL EDUCATION is not neglected in M.Z. Bennett's electives program. Ian Paul chose to spend his free Friday hour lifting weights.

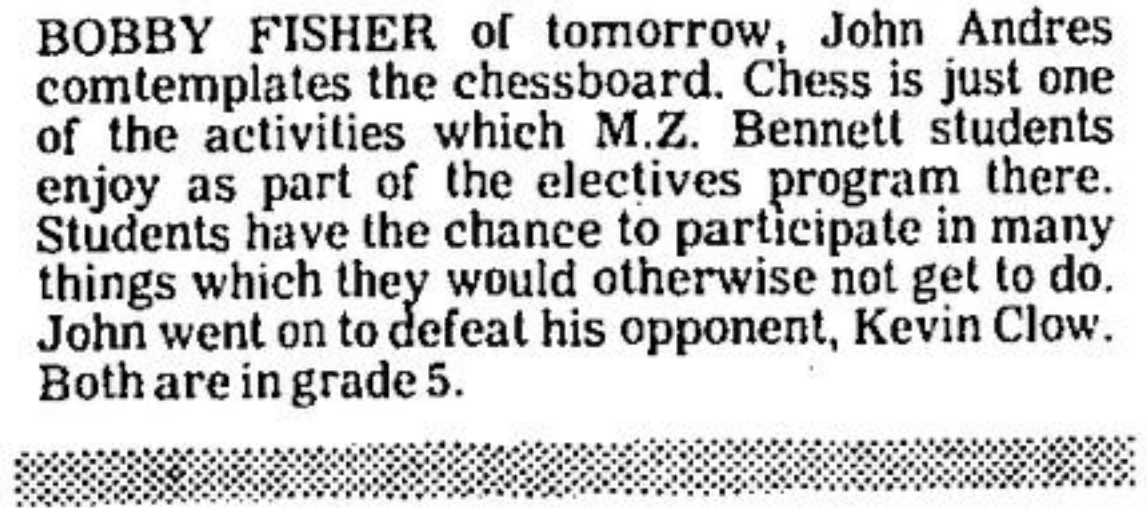
goes well a concert might be held.

Meanwhile speeches will be taking place in grades six, seven and eight starting this Monday. The winner from each class will then compete for the M.Z. Bennett Speaker Trophy, then on to a competition concerning all of North Halton County winners.

Hot dog day will be held on Friday once again. All this week classes will be making Valentines and preparing for their parties on the special day, February 14.

The girls basketball team lost to Fairview public school 40 to 8. Good try girls! Better luck next time.

BOBBY FISHER of tomorrow, John Andres contemplates the chessboard. Chess is just one of the activities which M.Z. Bennett students enjoy as part of the electives program there. Students have the chance to participate in many things which they would otherwise not get to do. John went on to defeat his opponent, Kevin Clow. Both are in grade 5.



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A winter carnival is being planned for sometime in the near future.

Robt. Little broken into

Padlocks were damaged and entries gained to the Robert Little school Feb. 4. Drawers were ransacked and a three-ring binder taken.

A door to the scout hall was pried open on Jan. 30, police were informed.

Halton to compete in games

Halton Junior Farmers will be among approximately 200 junior farmers participating in the annual Junior Farmers' Provincial Winter Games, February 19.

To be eligible for the competitions, teams must

have won championships at both county and zone levels.

The Halton squad won both the men's and the women's five pin bowling.

The general public is invited to watch the games, free of charge.

ladies' basketball, mixed volleyball, men's and ladies' bowling and a curling bonspiel.

The games will be held in Niagara Falls and Welland. Events will include men's and

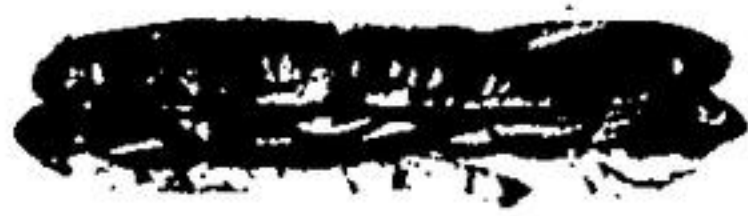
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