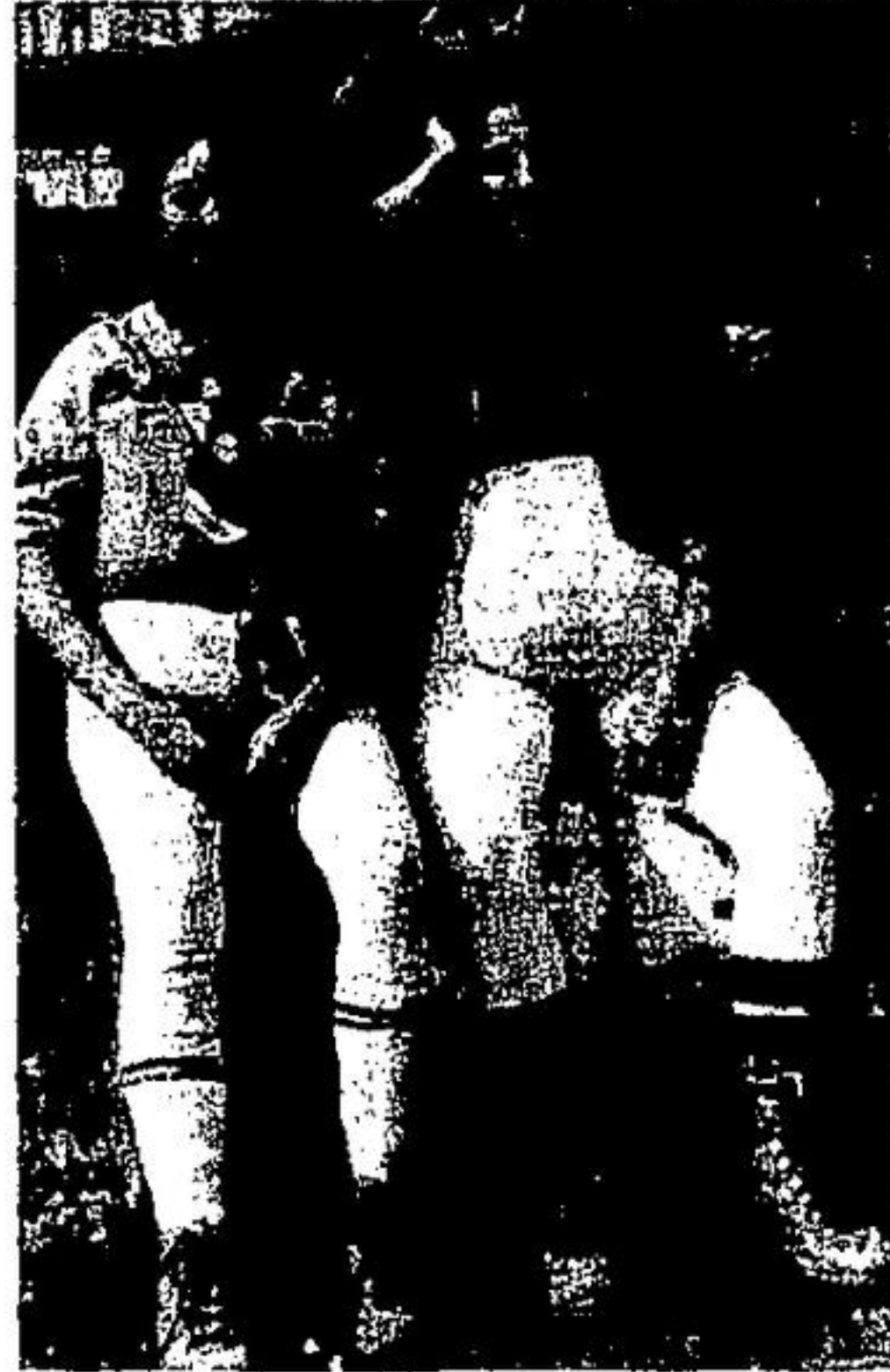




Costume class entrants in the Rockwood Trail Riders' Senior Fun Day took more off than they put on. Left to right: John Booth as the Mustached Lady; Doug Wood as some sort of Canadian New Year's

Baby; Kim Hilson, Robyn Matthews and Kathy Hurst as clowns; and Dave Morgan as an RAF officer in disguise.



Tweedledum and Tweedledee, alias Cindy Lawton and Allison Morgan of Rockwood, acted as ring clowns at the Rockwood Trail Riders Senior Fun Day Sunday.

Lawyer cautions Site A enthusiasm

Regional solicitor Dennis Perlin has warned decision makers to temper enthusiasm over Site A with caution.

"The National Sewer Pipe proposal should not be considered at this point in time as the answer to the region's sanitary waste landfill problems.

"There is a long, long road to go before the National Sewer Pipe proposal could come to fruition and be of some assistance in the region's waste disposal program," he said.

Mr. Perlin, who describes himself as a person promoting the acquisition of any landfill sites as they come available, said there are three areas which deserve special consideration.

The first, and most immediate issue to settle must be if the site is hydrogeologically safe.

Secondly, he has urged the region to come to a good financial agreement with National Sewer Pipe.

"To be satisfactory it is

the Regional staff's opinion that all of the measures mentioned and any others to be covered must be adequate and should reflect a total financial cost to the region in the way of tip-page fees, capital expenditures and otherwise which are similar to, or less than, the proposed financial cost to the region for Site F," he said.

Lastly, Mr. Perlin said the approvals process will be a "long and onerous one" which includes approvals of the Parkway Belt Regulation in the form of an amend-

ment and environmental approval, not to mention public hearings on both.

"During the process the city will have to have input, various bodies and citizens will have to have input all of which may bring up problems or concerns not known or anticipated at this time," he said.

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Trying to figure what goes next, Paul Cooper piles on clothes while Danny waits patiently during the Rockwood Trail Riders' Senior Fun Day mystery race. Paul won first place.



Anything went during the boot race at the Rockwood Trail Riders Senior Fun Day. Grown men reverted to childhood as they scrambled for mixed up footwear.

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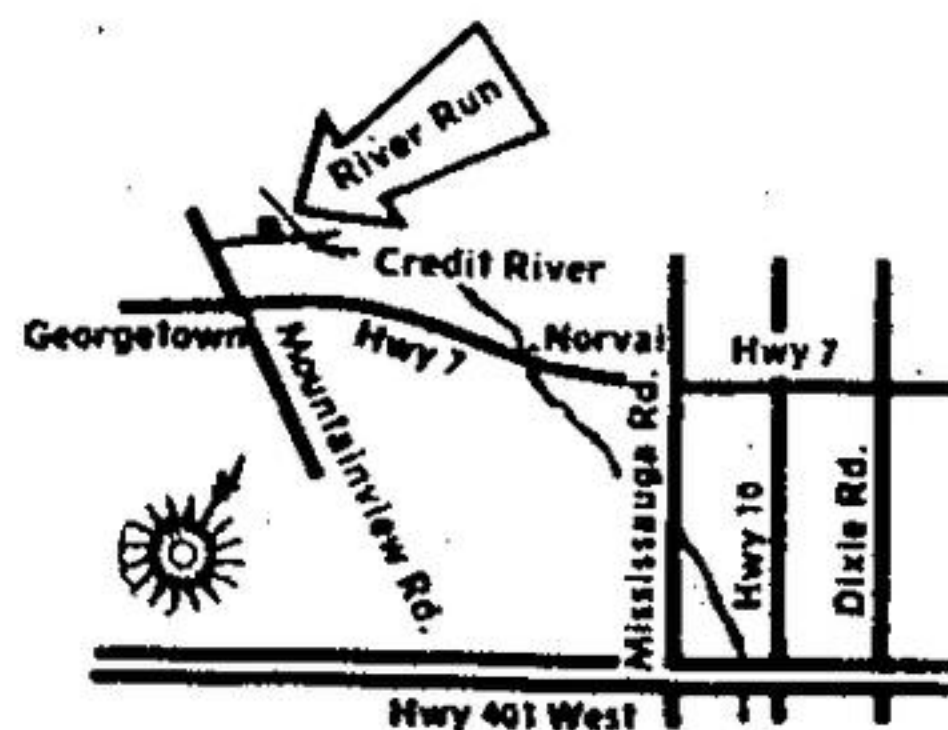


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Cultural boost for Rockwood/Guelph

by Barb Wynneck
A cultural boost is in the offing for the Guelph area when the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre opens its doors in about July 1980.

A major art gallery, meeting international special and environmental standards, the centre is located in Guelph, corner of Gordon St. and College Ave. It will be able to stage and attract the finest exhibitions of art, crafts and design. Special children's programs, seminars, lectures, studio demonstrations, tours, film and video events are planned for the new cultural centre.

Planning for the centre goes back five years when in December 1975, the Guelph Arts Council accepted a proposal to convert the abandoned Macdonald Consolidated School into an art gallery. Actual construction got underway this September.

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre is a unique project. Four public bodies, the University of Guelph, County of Wellington, City of Guelph and Wellington County Board of Education came together to establish the cultural institution.

The School Board retains property ownership and leases it to the Centre over a long term. The County of Wellington Council provides an annual per capita grant. The City of Guelph is negotiating an agreement providing utilities, repairs, maintenance and house keeping costs, plus a property tax exemption. The University of Guelph will make

its extensive art collection available and provide professional and program support staff. Estimated project cost is \$1.75 million. Approved government grants cover \$971,000 leaving \$778,000 to be obtained from public foundation and corporate sectors. A capital fund campaign is underway, with \$365,000 already pledged.

The Canadian firm Raymond Morijama Architects and Planners was selected for the highly specialized task of turning an out-of-date school into a modern art gallery.

The old school's neo-classic facade will be kept intact to preserve the buildings turn-of-the-century charm. The roofline will be maintained and the red "Price" brick will be matched on the two new wings.

A three storey skylighted gallery will be the focal point of the building's interior. With renovations and additions the Art Centre's total area will number nearly 31,000 square feet.

Macdonald Consolidated School's history is an interesting one.

The school was founded by the tobacco magnate, Sir William Macdonald, Canada's first true education philanthropist.

Around the turn of the century he saw the shortcomings to traditional one room country school-house educations. Wanting to equalize rural students' educational opportunities, he provided funds for the first consolidated schools in Canada.

At the school's official opening in 1904, the love affair was over between

Guelph and Sir William. (He had also funded both Macdonald Institute and Macdonald Hall, part of the Ontario Agricultural College.)

The school board had underestimated construction costs in planning the new school and consequently cut corners with Sir William's money. Design changes made without his knowledge resulted in a plain building with a utilitarian facade. He was so enraged that on opening day he refused to leave his carriage and on that same day left Guelph, never to return.

A few years later the trustees raised enough money to embellish the facade with a neo classical wooden porch that boasted doric columns and the school's name proudly inscribed across the front. This exterior will remain on the new art centre.

The board of education closed the school's outdated second and third floors in 1972, and until 1978 used the first floor as a special education clinic.

David Macdonald Stewart, president of the Macdonald Stewart Foundation of Montreal, continued Sir William's interest in the school. He encouraged the decision to preserve the old building and expressed interest in its restoration and development as an art gallery. The Foundation pledged a \$300,000 naming grant in 1977.

Rockwood School Board Trustee George Day, is one of the directors of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, representing the Wellington County Board of Education.

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