



Sheila Jollicker, 3, was more content chewing on the discus than in competing in the Playmobile Junior Olympics.

This week thru the lens



Put the boots to it. Lisa Ball, 5, takes a swipe at the ball during the distance events.



Lisa Ball tosses the discus.



Janet Ollivier holds the hoop while Paula Witherly, 10, does a summersault at the start of the obstacle course.

Speyside Playmobile Olympics

Photos by Dave Dorken



Kim Newman shows her style with the hula-hoop at the Junior Olympics at Speyside schools.



Lisa Thurston crawls through a tire during the obstacle course competition.



Amy Kranendonk, 5, takes a mean kick at the ball during the distance championships.

Parvo virus hitting area only mildly

Last year's epidemic of the killer dog disease Parvo Virus is hitting the area only mildly this summer, according to Dr. Tony Pacevicus, of Halton Hills Veterinary Clinic.

Dr. Pacevicus attributes this to the fact that most area dogs have already contracted the disease and lived through it, or have been vaccinated. He noted the Parvo Virus vaccine is automatically included in the annual group of shots dogs are given. The cost of the total shots is up, but if the virus vaccine was given in addition to the regular shots, it would cost much more.

Another reason for the control of the disease is that the vaccine is much more effective, having been developed in the dog cell lines. Previous serum was made from feline cell lines, and while offering effective coverage, it was not perfect.

Kitchener and other areas still have the problem of Parvo that this area underwent last year, but it's "not as devastating as last sum-

mer", Dr. Pacevicus said. The dogs in the Acton area which are still contracting the disease are the puppies, he said.

Heartworm is the disease expected to hit this area hard this year. So far there has only been one case of it in town, but more are expected. Dr. Pacevicus admitted there is no serum to prevent heartworm, but there is a preventative medicine which can be given.

But in spite of the dangers of Parvo Virus and Heartworm-disease, the local vet warned that rabies is still the number one danger in dogs. While rabies is always in

the area with stray animals such as foxes, there is not always outbreaks in family pets. But with the danger there, pets should be vaccinated regularly against this disease.

Dr. Pacevicus explained that rabies is considered the number one danger because of its dangers to humans. Of all the animal diseases, it is the only one humans can contract.

The rugged terrain of this area is a natural attraction to wild animals, some of which have rabies, he said.

The safest thing to do is to have pets vaccinated against all these diseases, he concluded.

'Bad' kids decline in Halton schools

The number of "bad kids" in Halton schools is declining.

These "troubled and troublesome" young teenagers are the ones identified by Halton Board of Education committee studying why some students leave school before the age of 16.

Chairman of the Committee, Burlington Trustee Cam Jackson, patted himself and fellow educators on the back Thursday at a board meeting, saying the decline "may indicate our system is more responsive to the needs of this young group of students."

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