



Teachers faced defeat at the hands of the students last Friday in the high school Toilet Bowl. Student Derek Hodgson (left) gets a chuckle out of teachers Brian Downs, Dave Jones and Jay Kitching.



Councillor Dave Whiting, Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Councillor Terry Grubbe show off specially designed T-shirts to help sell Actario tickets and save the town hall.

Friends-in-Deed

Group sees Charlie Pride

by Emily Price
Our opening meeting was held on Tuesday, September 29, at M.Z. Bennett school when we had the Fergus Handicapped Group as our guests and the evening was spent with games of bingo and euchre being played and many prizes handed out to lucky winners and during lunch four door prizes were awarded. Our thanks goes to all the helpers who came out to help us and we appreciate it very much.

On Friday, October 9, several of our group travelled to Hamilton Place to hear Charlie Pride and from all reports they enjoyed it immensely.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 27 at 7.30 p.m. at the M.Z. Bennett School. We hope to see as many as possible out and hopefully will have an evening of fun after our meeting. It would be nice to see some good costumes, as it is so close to Halloween. New members were welcomed at our last meeting and a sincere invitation is extended to all disabled adults to come out and join us.

Handicapped swimming is held at the Lions Club pool on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. It is open to any handicapped person to take advantage of the water therapy so helpful to all.

We are still saving Zehrs and Dominion store cash register tapes and hope eventually to have enough for a wheelchair so keep saving them for us, please. They can be given to any member or left at 15A Willow St. N., or with Helen Murray at The Acton Free Press.

Clayton Curtis, 19, of RR 1, Georgetown and Bruce Lawrence, also 19, of RR 4, Rockwood were both driving on Highway 7 in the west end of the village when the crash occurred.

The Nominating Committee for the 1982 Executive was formed, and consists of Vivian Swallow, Lena Nellis, and Anne Moore. The Craft Sale progress report was given by Jane Robertson.

The meeting was then taken over by Avril Mathieson and her group, who conducted the devotional portion from the Glad Tidings. Thanksgiving Service. The hymn "O Lord of

Teens collide

Georgetown and Rockwood area teenagers escaped injury last Friday evening after they were involved in a two car collision in Rockwood.

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Council rejects grant for Optimists

Optimists blame Chamber for dance flop

Haltion Hills won't give the Acton Optimist Club a one time only grant for \$175 to cover the cost of rental of the Acton Community Centre on June 27 for their annual dance and Monte Carlo Night which was a big money loser.

Councillor Dave Whiting and Terry Grubbe urged the club to receive the grant and after council turned down the request, a bid by Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson to reconsider the issue failed.

A letter was received by the town from the club in August but held up to see if they could make up the shortfall with their food booth and draw at the recent fall fair.

Past president Dave Hall and president Walter Barlow said after the meeting that while they made money with their booth at the fair it didn't wipe out the deficit incurred by the dance. In their letter written July 20 the Optimist Club stated they lost \$480.21 with their dance. After paying bills the club would be overdrawn \$93.85 because of that event. In addition they were committed to pay \$275 for the successful soap box derby in the spring and \$125 for soccer team sponsorship so their total overdraft was \$593.95. They also sponsored a blood donor clinic this fall which cost the club \$60.

The club asked for the \$175 grant to cover the cost of arena rental. Whiting noted the Optimists stage many worthwhile projects in the community, particularly for youth. He noted an "unfortunate string of events" resulted in a poor crowd for their annual dance held on Back to Acton Days weekend. A one time only grant was the "only way to go" and money was available.

Councillor Harry Levy said he knows service clubs do a lot of good work in the community, but giving the Optimist a grant now would set a dangerous precedent. He said the town gives grants, but groups come early in the year and ask for grants, not after they have held an event and lost money.

The financial loss on the dance "indicates poor administration" Levy said, adding service clubs go out and raise more money when they lose money on an event. Service clubs are supposed to provide for the community, not the

community provide for service clubs. Barlow and Hall said the club will work to make up its shortfall and has time to raise money until it gets busy with projects again next year. They said the club is in no danger of disbanding because of its temporary financial woes.

Hall said the Optimists send out a bulletin with a calendar of events and in October 1980 announced they'd be holding a dance on Back to Acton Days weekend in 1981.

However, the Chamber of Commerce, which was aware of the date for the Optimist dance, went ahead and moved the Citizen of the Year dinner and dance to the Back to Acton Days weekend. In

February, Hall said he discussed the conflict of dates with Chamber president John Allinson and Whiting, who is the incoming president of the Chamber and organized the Citizen of the Year affair. Hall said Whiting suggested the Chamber would move its function to June 26 and would be selling only 60 tickets. However, Hall noted, the Citizen of the Year remained on June 27 and over 150 tickets were sold.

The club feels the Citizen of the Year function hurt their crowd and the Optimists would have needed to attract just 30 people who went to the Citizen of the Year to break even on their dance, Hall said.

He noted Allinson and Whiting have been trying to establish a presidents' club in Acton to improve communication between groups and set up a calendar of events to prevent conflicts. However, Hall maintained, the Chamber's actions show they aren't really interested in co-operating with other groups.

Hall also said the club asked for the grant only because Allinson and Whiting suggested that was their best move at a meeting during the summer.

In an interview Allinson said it was true. However, not knowing the Citizen of the Year selection, Ron McKnight, would draw a record crowd, the Chamber felt its function wouldn't draw people from the Optimist dance. The most people they've ever had at a Citizen of the Year in previous years was 60 people and many people are relatives or friends of the person being honored. In addition, Allinson said, Citizen of the Year crowds are usually older people who wouldn't go to a community dance anyway. The Chamber was at

"some fault" for holding the Citizen of the Year the same night as the Optimist dance but noted "there were other factors which resulted in the poor crowd" for the Optimist dance. For one thing it was billed as a

Monte Carlo night and not a dance, he said. He added Chamber officials have checked with Optimist Club members and they don't all share Hall's view that the Chamber caused their dance to be a flop.

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Legion happenings

Tickets are now available for the Remembrance Dinner on Sunday November 8. There will be more details on the parade and service later.

It will be pay at the door for the Halloween costume ball on October 31.

There will be a DJ in the lounge this Friday night.

Please turn in your beef draw stubs as soon as possible.

Jim and Lily Higgins represented the Branch Sunday at the official opening of the new library-cultural centre in Georgetown.

Ladies' Auxiliary members who are on the sick list are Eva Cutting, Doris Fitzer and Lois Gordon.

Four teams of bowlers went to Orangeville last Saturday. Two teams qualified to move to the regional tournament. Wendy Titus registered the high single of the day.

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