

Double drowning at lake

Tragedy struck Monday afternoon as two 7-year-old boys were found drowned at the beach at Fairy Lake within an hour.

Brent Patey, age 7, 44 Victoria St., was pulled from the water around 5 p.m. Acton firefighters immediately upon their arrival at the scene, began rescue efforts. The little boy was taken away to Georgetown Hospital by ambulance and pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

An hour later the body of Nikola Dimik, 7 Kingham Rd. was pulled from the water in the same vicinity following a search by human chain.

Police cordoned off the area and firefighters dragged the waters in front of the beach in two boats for about an hour beginning at 7 p.m. Next police divers went in the water. They were attached to the shore by a rope. This went on for about 90 minutes.

Contrary to rumors, the water wasn't dragged and divers sent in for a search for a third or even a

fourth victim. Police were checking to see if there was a hole or rocks which might have caused the drownings. Nothing was found.

Results of a post mortem conducted Tuesday morning revealed both victims had drowned. There was no sign of foul play, Staff Sergeant Les Graham said.

Brent's father Clarence said in an interview that from talking to people who were at the scene he believes life guards responded too slowly. Graham said he believes there were two lifeguards at the beach, which was crowded, at the time of the drownings.

He is not satisfied with what the police have said.

Linda Patey, Brent's mother, said there were picnic tables in the water and kids were diving off.

The two victims, did not know each other, but she thinks they were playing in the water together. Lots of times children have come out of water

with broken glass and beer bottles, she said and it should be cleaned up.

Brent, who was going into grade 2 at St. Joseph's school this fall was at the beach with a babysitter. Mrs. Patey was summoned to the scene by the babysitter's father.

The two lifeguards on duty at the time, Gwyneth Gibb and Linda Kilpatrick have refused comment. They have channelled all requests for information either to the police or the Recreation Department.

Graham said the police have no idea what caused the drownings "and I don't think we ever will." He said in his opinion one boy pulled the other down, but that can't be proved because none of the people at the scene whom police have interviewed noticed anything.

Both bodies were found in shallow water in the vicinity of the buoy line at the beach on the far left side near the overhanging willow tree.

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Halton Regional Police scuba divers searched the bottom of Fairy Lake Monday evening looking for anything which may have caused the drownings of two local boys.

The Acton Free Press

A Metroland Community Newspaper



One Hundred and Eighth Year — Issue 2

Acton, Ontario, Wednesday July 21, 1982

30 Pages — Thirty Cents



The Halton Hills Recreation Department offers several programs for young people in the summer months and one is 'Playmobile'. The Playmobile travels the rural areas bringing arts and crafts to youngsters. Front row l. to r. at the Limehouse Playmobile last Wednesday are Colleen Swindlehurst, Jeff Passchaert, and Wendy Dixon. Back row are students Kristen McKay and

Janet Swindlehurst while 'Leader-in-Training' David Geneau and Instructors Corrina Moreau and Michelle Sykersma look on. The Recreation Department has seen a decline in the use of 'Playmobile' this year and unless attendance picks up the program will be cancelled.

Denise Dilbey spends a year absorbing Japanese culture

Denise Dilbey returned from a year in Japan July 9 with more knowledge of the Japanese culture than most of the native people.

Denise was Acton's first outgoing Rotary Exchange student. She was also the first Canadian student accepted by Japan, and was only there on a trial basis. She figures she must have passed, the country is accepting two more Canadians for the coming year.

In the 11 months Denise was in Japan, she totally immersed herself in that country's culture, learning some of the endangered arts in which the young people are no longer interested.

Besides being fluent in the language, and earning a brown belt in karate, Denise also is adept at the "Tea Ceremony", and tying of obis for kimonos, which the young people shun. In fact, she says, her friends would ask her what the ceremony was like, and how to tie the obi. She also took Japanese dance lessons, flower-arranging and calligraphy.

The first few weeks were very frightening, Denise recalls. The 14 hour trip from Toronto to Tokyo was full of apprehension about who would be picking her up. The apprehension was heightened when she arrived and her driver took her to Yokohama, instead of Kawasaki, where she was expecting to be staying. Because of last summer's mail strike in Canada, the change could not be relayed to her before she left.

The first variation from the Canadian norm Denise noticed was upon her arrival in her first host home. She picked up a grape and popped it in her mouth. Her family's reaction was one of astonishment, she remembers. In Japan, they peel all fruits, including grapes.

She was asked her name, but soon found out it could not be translated into Japanese. She told them to call her Denny, for short, and squeals of laughter followed. The American 'Denny's Restaurant chain is just becoming popular in the country.

Her first day of school was more of a culture shock than entering her first home.

She recalls how she was up on a stage to be introduced to the student body. There were 1,500 girls, all wearing navy and white uniforms, all



Denise Dilbey

with dark hair, about the same length, and all with Oriental characteristics. They kept shouting 'Kawaii' at her. When she got home that night she learned it meant cute.

Denise was put into grade 11 at the Baptist Christian School, even though she had completed her grade 12 in Acton. In April she advanced to grade 12. But she wasn't prepared to go to an all girls' school with uniforms.

She wasn't allowed to wear make-up, or jewellery. She balked and was given the special privilege of wearing one family ring and a necklace. Her hair had to be up all the time and she had

to wear the school uniform.

Some of the girls would come up to her in the hall and grab her hand and shake it. They would walk away gazing at their hand, awestruck they had touched the Canadian. Denise said she felt she was in a zoo, or a movie star with people staring at her all the time. Some of the smaller children would take loose hairs off her clothing to save.

What really was obvious to Denise was how the people are all alike. She explained they are very opinionated, but will not listen to other's opinions. They all want to be better than the next person, but do not want to be different. It was very confusing, she said.

Status symbols are very important to them, Denise points out. Almost everyone who is anyone, golfs. And with a \$10,000 annual membership fee, it is indeed a status symbol.

As much as she loved the country, the culture and the people, Denise also found some things annoying and even "disgusting."

In Japan, she explained, they give gifts to symbolize "it is from the heart." However, she continued, they give the gifts so readily, they do not really mean anything. Some of the four homes she stayed in had rooms and rooms of unused gifts given "from the heart", which meant nothing to the receiver or giver. Denise tried to explain to them in Canada a verbal thank you from the heart means so much more than a gift. And when gifts are given, she told them, they mean something special.

She is "disgusted" by the way the Japanese idolize the United States. Yet, she says, they will not visit there on vacation because "it is too dangerous", preferring instead to come to Canada.

In one of her host homes, the husband thoroughly dominated the wife. He would come home from work and sit in his chair and clap his hands until all the females of the family surrounded him, dropping everything they were doing to wait on him.

Denise found this appalling, yet she knew she could not say anything. Only once did her "father"

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Are re-instated quotas too little, too late?

Only time will tell if the re-instatement of leather footwear quotas by the federal government recently was "too little, too late" for leather tanners and shoe manufacturers, according to Beardmore President Peter Dunham.

He said in an interview this week in the wake of the quotas being put back on, that it will certainly be a "psychological boost" to the industries. He said it can be stated that Ed Lumley's reversal of Herb Gray's previous decision to lift the quotas near the end of last year was a "step in the right direction."

Ed Parent, head of Local 0470-P United Food and Commercial Workers at Beardmore, said union brass has informed him that Lumley's announcement didn't contain everything they wanted but will be of some help. He noted the unions and industries asked for quotas for another five years and wound up with a little over two years.

Retailers have stocks of imported shoes now and will stop buying Canadian in the last half of 1984 as it comes towards the time for quotas to be lifted again, so Parent figures at the "extreme end" the quotas will help the industries for about 18 months.

Dunham echoed Parent's comments. He said there is a "feeling retailers were aware" the government was going to take action so they "may have loaded" their import buying. He noted shoes paid for already or already in the "pipeline" from foreign countries will be allowed in over the quota so until it is known how many shoes will come in under this provision, it can't be determined how soon the industry will be aided by the re-instate-

ment of quotas.

The industry has "certainly" lost fall shoe orders which are made in the spring, Parent said, adding since next spring's line work begins in the summer they may have missed out on that market too.

How effective the measures will be will depend on how closely the government controls the flow of imports. "If they keep on top of it this will help. If they have shoes heading here now sent back it will help. Otherwise it will be like everything else government does. Government acts in mysterious ways," Parent declared.

Lumley's announcement was a clear recognition on the part of the government that the industries were right last year when they warned thousands of jobs would be lost if quotas were lifted, Dunham said, adding 7,000 jobs were lost.

He said it will be three or four months before the full impact of the quotas will be felt.

The government has said there will be no further extensions of the quotas, but Dunham noted, this government may not still be in power when this extension runs out.

It remains to be seen if the industries can regroup and totally modernize in the period the quotas will be in effect since there is a lag time to manufacture new equipment and some must still be designed to make the industries more competitive.

A critical matter for the leather tanners was that leather uppers be included in the quota and Dunham noted fortunately they were.

Two in intensive care following farm accidents

Two Wellington County men are in hospital in intensive care following two separate farm accidents last Tuesday morning.

Arthur Simpson, 58, RR 2 Hillsburgh, is in Hamilton General Hospital after becoming entangled in a portion of his hay mower and tossed around six times before being thrown clear, according to Guelph OPP.

Police say Simpson received very severe injuries to his groin area. He was taken to Guelph General Hospital, but transferred to Hamilton shortly after.

Simpson was cutting hay about 11 a.m. when he experienced problems with his machinery. As he was attempting to repair the equipment he

became entangled, according to police.

The injured man then managed to disconnect the mower from his tractor and drove his tractor over three farm fields to get help, police report.

Just one hour before that, at 10 a.m., Douglas Cross, 55, RR 4 Rockwood, was assisting with repairs to a hay mower and was standing too close to the machine, police state. When it was started up, Cross was caught by the revolving drum and pulled forward into it. The equipment severed his nose and caused severe lacerations to his chest and shoulder.

He remains in intensive care in Guelph General Hospital.

New Free Press publisher

John Baxter, president of Metroland Printing and Publishing Ltd., is pleased to announce the appointment of Ken Bellamy as publisher of The Acton Free Press. Mr. Bellamy has been associated with community newspapers for many years, latterly as publisher of The Georgetown Independent and prior to that as advertising director of The Oakville Beaver.

Mr. Bellamy succeeds Don McDonald who has left from the company.

Mr. Bellamy said he hoped to continue the fine tradition of The Acton Free Press and looks forward to meeting people from all walks of life in Acton and area. He will also remain publisher of The Independent Georgetown.

Mr. Bellamy is married and he and his wife Arlene have a daughter Stacy. He started in the newspaper business with the now defunct Toronto Telegram and later joined Inland Publishing Co. Limited where he specialized in servicing advertising accounts.

Mr. Bellamy announced he had named two new staff members to The Acton Free Press. Don Ryder, who has been advertising manager of The Independent has been named Advertising Director of the two Halton Hills Metroland newspapers while Hartley Coles, editor of The Independent, has been named



Ken Bellamy

managing editor of both newspapers. Both are former Free Press staff members and residents of Acton.

Bill Cook has been appointed retail advertising sales manager and Gordon Murray will remain editor of The Acton Free Press. All changes are effective this week.

Police property is vandal's target

Halton Regional Police suspect the same person is responsible for damage done to a cruiser and a police station window on Friday evening.

Police say a rock was thrown through the windshield of a cruiser between nine and 10 p.m. About the same time someone broke the window in the door at the Mill St. office.

inside

Archery is an individual sport. Turn to page B1.

Two students are visiting from Quebec. Turn to page 5 for details.

The new St. Joseph's School is still on schedule for a fall opening. More on page 6.

Buffalo bull on page B1.

Leaves are dripping honeydew all over. See page 12.

Sabres name Bill Richardson as their new coach. Story on page 10.



Family bound by armed men

An Eden Mills family escaped harm Monday after being tied up during a robbery in their home. Guelph OPP say the family returned to their home about 9 p.m. and were confronted by two men. One was brandishing a rifle and the other a butcher knife.

The family members were tied up, and the men left in a car belonging to the victim. They also took cash, jewellery and credit cards.

A warrant for armed robbery is out for two escapees of the Guelph Correctional Centre.

Police are currently looking for the suspects and a 1982 Oldsmobile Cutlass.