



CLEAN SWEEP

Don Wood and Chris Stansbury will be a familiar sight on the streets of Acton this summer. They've been hired by the B.I.A. to look after the planters along the streets and sweep sidewalks and curbs. Wood and Stansbury were hired last week and expect they'll be employed full-time until they go back to school in the fall. Both boys will be attending Grade 12 at Acton High School.

Strong showing at Voyageur Cup

Canoes paddle home

With only mild disappointment, Acton's paddling Voyageurs returned home from the Canadian Canoe Festival in Ottawa last week confident that a little extra effort in the coming year will carry them to victory next time around.

The local teams, consisting of Acton High School staff, students and ex-students placed consistently well in a variety of competitions against canoeists from across Canada, earning the most recognition for their authentic portrayals of several prominent pioneers.

What started out several years ago as an extension of history studies at AHS—a re-enactment of the groundbreaking Voyageur enterprises—has since turned into full-scale involvement in competitions at the uppermost level.

AHS teacher Dr. Paul Tamblin led a contingent of staff, students and alumni to the Festival, held June 30 and July 1 on the Ottawa River, the Rideau Canal and Dow's Lake. Thousands of spectators took in the events.

Encouraged by a strong showing in all categories, the teams plan to spend the coming year building their strength and stamina and building their bank account as

well in the hopes of buying a faster canoe.

In the Young Voyageur Cup competition held June 30, eight teams from Quebec and Ontario, representing canoe clubs, correctional facilities, canoe builders and high schools vied for top spots in several categories.

When it came to donning their pioneer costumes and presenting skits, the Acton team earned a second-place finish. The test of skilled and technical paddling won Acton a third, and a demanding race in a strong current and rough water brought another third.

Third place

Ending up with third-place overall, the Acton student team consists of Jim Johnston, Dirk Schrader, Jeff Balkind, Cathy Johns, Steve Harkins, Steve Parker, Sandy Munro, Tom Kranendonk and Tom Steer.

July 1 saw the Voyageur Cup competition attract 19 teams from seven provinces and the Northwest Territories for a full day of trials before a crowd that ranged in size from 500 to 9,000.

Captain Tamblin and staff members took the Ontario Recreational Canoe Association Trophy for their first-place finish in a competition designed to test the crew's ability to handle a 28-foot "canoe du nord".



Forget the Tall Ships, Acton's own high school Voyageurs turned a few heads of their own at the Canadian Canoe Festival in Ottawa on the Canada Day weekend. While their paddling skills earned recognition, it was the high school staff's pioneer costumes that grabbed the most attention. The student team is shown here.

The Acton grads team, captained by Jane Forbes, came in third.

Between 7,000 and 9,000 spectators watched the canoe paddlers down the Rideau to the National Arts Centre that afternoon. A flotilla of 25 fur trade canoes—the largest group of 26- and 36-foot canoes assembled in Ottawa since 1875—was involved.

Winning Team

The same day featured a costume display and historical skit, for which the AHS staff, again headed by Tamblin, won the National Parks Commission Trophy. Jane Forbes' AHS grads team took third, with Forbes portraying Francis Ann Hopkins, a prominent painter among the Voyageurs.

As well as Tamblin's depiction of Samuel de Champlain, the winning staff team featured Dave Boycott as Etienne Brule, Renata Brillinger as Brule's Indian wife, Rachael Bride as Brule's Indian child, Tom Birss as Pierre Esprit Radisson, Wayne Bridle as William McGillivray and Murray Kittman and Peter Harris as voyageurs.

In a canoe race that followed, Tamblin came in sixth, hot on the heels of Rockwood's Malcolm McMillan.

Expect 800 names on peace petition

With most Acton households canvassed, local anti-nuclear protesters expect to have 800 signatures on a petition seeking an end to Cruise missile testing, among other objectives.

Eldon Comfort, chairman of Acton's HAND (Halton Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament) committee, told this newspaper that everyone approached for the Acton canvass June 23 to 30 was well aware of the issues involved.

About 65 per cent, he said, signed the four-point petition, which will be added to those collected across Canada this summer for final presentation to Parliament in the fall.

Known as the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign, the canvassing was launched by a coalition of anti-nuclear groups and includes HAND's Acton and Georgetown chapters.

The petition's four points seek an end to Cruise missile testing in Canada, the declaration of Canada as a nuclear weapons-free zone, the diversion of "wasteful spending on the arms race into the funding of human needs" and ratification of the above three points through a free vote in Parliament.

Pointing out that a Halton riding survey by MP Otto Jelinek found that 80 per cent of respondents believe Cruise missile testing should continue, Comfort has written the MP to advise him of HAND's own results.

While 65 per cent of those contacted for the peace petition responded positively, Comfort said, a significant number of those who did not felt they could not support all four points, as was required.

Most stopped short of endorsing the petition because of its demand for an end to Cruise testing, which many people believe is either necessary to Canada's NATO commitment or else is a "fait accompli", Comfort said.

There has been no indication that additional Cruise tests will take place in western Canada, where an American Air Force bomber flew a missile, without a nuclear warhead and never detached from the jet, earlier this year. Anti-nuclear organizers believe additional tests are inevitable.

Comfort added that HAND members will be attending candidates' meetings expected to be called once a federal election date is set to pose pertinent questions to Jelinek and other candidates.



A LITTLE SELF-RESTRAINT

Strawberries galore, but not one to eat. Diana Thomson (left) and Marlene Cribar had the unenviable job of preparing the strawberries for the shortcake at Knox Church's strawberry "dessert" social, but not being able to eat any of them until the shortcake was made and those who dropped in for dessert had had their fill.

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