



**ET ON S'AMUSE**

La Ridaïne just about brought the house down with its admirable repertoire of French-Canadian folk songs and selections of their own music during a performance at the John Elliott Theatre Sunday. The Toronto-based group are (left to right) Catherine St. Cyr, Ben Basara and Real Theriault, and they helped get French Week in Halton Hills off to a good, rowdy start. French Week continues until Saturday and is filled with events for youngsters and adults.



A performance by Sacre Coeur School choir opened the entertainment portion of French Week festivities at John Elliott Theatre Saturday, following speeches by French and English VIPs and preceding a performance by a Toronto folk group. Activities honoring Halton Hills francophone community continue throughout the week. (Herald photo)

**Politicians brush up school French, express best wishes for French Week**

"Soyons fiers d'être français", the theme of this week's French Week in Halton Hills, was emphasized strongly by both English and French VIPs attending opening ceremonies honoring the town's and the province's francophone culture and heritage. In brief speeches before approximately 175 residents at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown Sunday, special

guests stressed that within the English plurality of Ontario, the French community must maintain its culture, which is so important to the fabric of the country. Speakers included provincial secretary of state M.Y. Arseneault, Elaine McDermid (speaking on behalf of her husband Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid), Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed, Mayor Pete Pomeroy, Sacre Coeur parish priest Serge Vinet and Mauricette Spicer, president of the Sacre Coeur school parent's association. Halton Separate school board superintendent Luciano Piovesan and separate school board trustee Irene McCauley added their best wishes for a successful French Week. Following speeches, the audience enjoyed a brief performance from the Sacre Coeur School choir which provided a talented "opening act" for the Toronto-based folk group, La Ridaïne. La

Ridaïne dipped into a rich pool of French Canadian folklore and the music inextricably attached to it, a tradition which stretches in some parts of the country 350 years into time. In addition to its broad repertoire of French Canadian and French European folk songs, La Ridaïne (Catherine St. Cyr, Ben Basara and Real Theriault) performed several moving pieces of their own composition. Tonight (Wednesday), French Week celebrations continue at the Elliott theatre with a special showing of Claude Jutra's highly acclaimed film, "Mon Oncle Antoine". The show begins at 8 p.m., the admission is free and discussion on the film will follow. Friday night at 8 p.m. there's a "Cafe Chantant" at the Sacre Coeur church hall on Guelph Street (just above the Mill Street traffic lights). Admission is \$4 per person. Bring the children to the Elliott Theatre again Saturday at 2 p.m. as closing ceremonies for French Week feature clown-guitarist "Eglantine".

**Lady Diana beats Victoria to royal altar**

Hummingbirds were the topic of conversation Thursday at Speyside Public School, winning Grade 6 student Andrea Syberma of Georgetown Christian School first prize in the junior division of the public speaking contest.

Muspratt, 11, of St. Joseph's Separate School in Acton came in second for her speech on getting beaten to



Sponsored by the Georgetown Optimists who provided the trophies and medallions presented to the six winners, the contest was organized by the North Halton Public Speaking Association. Eleven children converged at Speyside school to take part in the north Halton finals. Second prize winner in the junior division was Alex Caccia of Holy Cross Roman Catholic School who spoke on acid rain. Third prize in the junior division was Peter Armatrong of Speyside school who spoke on farming. In the senior division, Karinnelle Mahatoo, 13, of Brookville Public School, won first prize for her speech on Terry Fox; Victoria

the royal altar by Lady Diana; and Julie Carney, 12, of Holy Cross came in third with her speech on alcoholism. Milton, Acton and Georgetown private, public and separate schools took part in the over 20-year old competition.

**Acton robberies**

Two 16-year olds have been charged with break, enter and theft in separate home robberies in Acton last week. One was charged in connection with a break-in at a Storey Drive home, the other in connection with break-ins at Tyler Avenue and Tidey Avenue in Acton.

**Musical ministry**

Continued from page A7 current director Dr. Donald Ellsworth, chairman of the music department, this group of highly skilled young people has become one of the most popular musical organizations in the College's 50-year history. The group has appeared a number of times in several national conferences in addition to their weekend and tour ministries. In 1978 and 1981, their musical ministry was enlarged as they completed a concert tour around the world, singing concerts and holding music seminars in California, Hawaii, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Italy, Germany and England. The program provides a balanced variety of sacred music from different time periods and of different styles. Recordings of the Chamber Singers will be available at the concert. Dr. Ellsworth received his Bible and theology training at Baptist Bible College, his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Ithaca College and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Church Music from the University of Southern California. His book Christian Music in Contemporary Witness (Baker Book House) was released early in 1980. Baptist Bible College is located on a 145-acre campus in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountain area of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The college and seminary have 800 students presently studying. The college specializes in training students for the Christian ministries and encourages a world-wide ministry. Alumni now serve in 46 different countries. The public is cordially invited to attend this program at Maple Avenue Baptist Church, March 18 at 7:30 p.m.

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