

# Focus on co-operation

By DON BAKER  
GDHS Principal

This year's theme for Education Week is one in which I personally hold strong beliefs and convictions. The theme of "working together", if developed into specific action, holds many advantages for the teachers, students and parents of the Georgetown District High School community.

Given the present economic climate, all of us are aware of making the best use of the resources at our disposal. In education we are attempting to meet the needs of society, but only through contact and dialogue with our community can we determine what those

Education Week articles courtesy GDHS

needs are. The school must take the initiative to create those communication links.

The Parent-Advisory Council, which was established this year, has provided a forum for dialogue. It has put the school in touch with the concerns and priorities of the parents. Our monthly meetings have resulted in a critical evaluation of policy and procedures. Changes have been initiated in such areas as orientation programs, parent night, examination policies, and program

emphasis. It is my hope that next year the Parent-Advisory Council can expand to include more input from a greater number of parents.

The relationship between formal education and success in the work force must be delineated clearly. Students must be given the opportunity

to see the relationship and the relevance of secondary education in terms of improving their opportunities in the work force. A co-operative education program is one of the very effective ways in which this objective can be achieved.

For the next few years, it will be a school priority to

expand the cooperative education programs at Georgetown District High School. The involvement of the local business community in providing work locations, has made it possible for the establishment of such a program in marketing this year.

Providing students with a greater awareness of career opportunities and employment skills has been identified as a program priority for the Student Services Department. The local University Women's Club in conjunction with the school staff are already planning a most impressive career awareness program for next fall.

There are many people resources in the community which have not been tapped. It is my belief that a volunteer program at the high school level can be very effective. It is an opportunity for individuals in the community to share their expertise and for students to benefit from an enhanced learning environment. Volunteers would be very beneficial in the school library, in one-to-one remediation programs, and in a clerical and secretarial capacity. In the near future, we will be making an appeal for volunteers.

The objectives of parents and teachers are basically the same. We take great pride in the success of our young people, and if at times it appears that we are not in accord, it is a misunderstanding of each other's actions and intentions. By working together we can achieve our common goals.

## Merchants aid Grade 12 course

This past year was the first time the Grade 12 Marketing Cooperative course was run at Georgetown District High School. This course allowed students to receive experience and training in marketing while working in local businesses as well as attending classroom instruction.

Special thanks to Canadian Tire, Varian, Halton Camera Exchange, Jackies, North Halton Sports, Neil's Music, Beaver Lumber, Home Hardware, Carpet Barn, Silvers, Zellers, Co-op, Royal Bank.

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## BRONCO BUCKS AND ICE CREAM

Selling magazine subscriptions, students of Georgetown District High School managed to raise \$19,407—a substantial chunk of which is bound for a community project for senior citizens. One of the school's general business classes, as well as a "wild card" class, earned the honor of sitting down to a 20-foot banana split Thursday morning because they sold the most subscriptions. This year, the campaign took on a western theme and, judging by the final tally, "Bronco Bucks", the rip-a-sartin', chap-alappin' idea proved to be an enormous success.

(Herald photos by Harold Branach)

## GDHS Inuit experience

Georgetown District High School and the community had a rare opportunity last week to share in a unique educational event: 15 Inuit students from northern Quebec came to Georgetown to experience life in a south-

ern Ontario community. It was the culmination of months of preparation. Two weeks before, 15 of our students had made the trek north to visit with the Inuit families.

So many members of the community came forward to offer their assistance. Liz Cooper and her crew from the Recreation Department provided a fun-filled time Monday afternoon at the pool. The Georgetown Bowling alley opened its doors exclusively for us Monday so that the students could experience their first bowling game.

The Beaver Foods cafeteria staff at GDHS gave out special treats at lunch for the students on their first day at the high school. The YMCA staff acted as hosts for a "pot luck" supper for all the exchange students and their families on the final night before they left for home. Jim Broughton and his Folk Club from the high school provided the entertainment for the evening.

There were several groups in particular who were especially generous. For example, St. George's Anglican Church under the direction of Rev. Jim and Sally Boyles introduced the Inuit students to the Anglican youth group at a special dinner Sunday evening. The evening was climaxed by a special ecumenical service at Holy Cross Church at which the Canadian Anglican Archbishop, Most Rev. Scott, presided. This was particularly significant to the Inuit students who are all active in their Anglican parish at home and will have many stories to share with their families about their conversations with Archbishop Scott.

In particular the students at GDHS made a special effort to make the Inuit feel at home and to help them have a worthwhile time here. The student council gave each student a crest and "Rebel" mug which will be long treasured. In addition they funded the trip to the Metro Zoo as their contribution to the educational

experiences of these people. A special thanks to those Social Science teachers who gave their time and effort to facilitate field trips to the zoo, Science Centre, CN Tower and Niagara Falls.

The differences in our lifestyles were obvious. But over the course of the exchange we experienced a tremendous growth in our understanding of each other. What began as two separate groups of "white" and "native" kids soon became a community of close friends. It was a tearful parting as we waved them off at the airport. Already some of us are making plans for a return trip to the north this summer.

## Graph paper wars

By CHRISTIAN BOOK  
GDHS student

Invented by an American wargamer, Gary Gyax, in 1974, Dungeons and Dragons has since become the most popular and most widely played game of its type in North America.

Advanced Dungeons and Dragons has become increasingly widespread throughout Canada. It is a 'co-operative' role-playing in which the players take on the personalities of characters set in a fantasy scenario (anything from warriors to wizards).

These 'characters', by means of pencil and graph paper, set out on various adventures or expeditions, in which they must try to overcome the obstacles that they may encounter (e.g., monsters, traps, magical defenses) and reap the rewards of the effort, if they succeed, and if there are any to be gained (i.e., gold, silver, gems, jewels, and, occasionally, a magical device or artifact). The adventurers who live through the ordeals and perils of their quest, and have fulfilled their purpose, exit the adventure to gain fame, glory and wealth.

They then go on further adventures of progressively greater difficulty and challenge as they become progressively more powerful and experienced. Technically, this process can be continued indefinitely and is stopped wherever desired—like monopoly.

Imagination is the ruling concept to play. It is unique in that there is greater player interaction and co-operation. However, secret plots and counter-plots can occur. Rivalries can spring up between 'characters' of opposing factions, say good or evil. This is the spice of the game. The rules are not laid down as law, as in chess. There is an openness to them which allows flexibility in creating new additions to the system or changing the old to suit the flavour of the fantasy setting.

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