

Crazy boaters set for Saturday fun

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

Ab, if only one could take a bird's-eye view of the major arteries flowing into Halton Hills Saturday morning.

There will be the usual large and small cars, the odd pickup truck or two, a few tandem-trailers and, closer to Glen Williams, boats, very weird boats.

It's the annual Georgetown Jaycees Crazy Boat Race and for sailors and spectators alike, the only place to be this weekend is either in the Credit River or at some good shoreline vantage point along the stretch between the Tenth Line bridge and Glen Williams.

If you've never been at the race before, you've missed out on about 16 years of the most exciting salute to spring in the area. Every year the event has grown: it attracts good-humored men and women from across the province and the odd hippie or two from south of the border.

They vie for supremacy of the Credit in a variety of strange ships, many of which have a tendency to comically fall apart immediately after launch, regardless of how many hours of engineer-

ing and design have gone into them.

FUNSEEKERS
That's no problem for most of the people that join in - they're around for the fun anyway.

As long as everyone has a good time, the organizers aren't really concerned about specific reasons why people return year after year. There are some real veterans in the field who give stiff competition to rookies unfamiliar with the course.

What the Jaycees really like about organizing the race is the way it generates money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada. Last year, the race raised \$7,000 for MS research.

CONSISTENCY
Certainly, part of the race's annual popularity is in its consistency; with only minor variations, it has stayed pretty much the same - an informal lark in the frigid waters of a normally quiet, meandering waterway.

Swifter canoes will launch from Sideroad 27 near Cheltenham at 12:30 p.m. Meanwhile, the crazy boats and their equally wacky pilots and crews will set sail from the Tenth Line bridge above Glen Williams. In past years, the launch of

the crazy boats (at 1:15 p.m.) has been timed to cause chaos for the canoes as they slide gracefully by.

Crazy boats come in categories. The comic category includes homemade rafts, barrel boats and other oddities. Then there's a third class for boats of other wild configurations. Boats entered by service clubs and commercial operations are no longer listed in separate categories and will compete jointly this year.

Prizes for this year's race winners will be presented at Holy Cross Church auditorium in Georgetown at the victory dance. The dance begins at 8:30 p.m.

PREMIER DECLINES
Race publicity chairman Bob Sullivan told The Herald that Mayor Pete Pomeroy will open this year's race. It was hoped that Premier Bill Davis would also be in attendance for the ceremony, but his office has apparently declined the invitation.

But a couple of popular clowns who will be back this year to ensure that there's never a dull moment, even during registration, are CFNY's morning radio personalities,

Pete and Geats.

Mr. Sullivan said the response so far to the race has been great and that organizers have sent out about 300 pre-registration forms to date.

Registration at the two launch sites, one for canoes and the other for crazy boats, will begin at 11 a.m.

The \$7 entry fee will be waived if the participants in each boat manage to raise \$50 in pledges for MS on their entry form.

There are rules to keep in mind, for your enjoyment of the race as well as that of others:
- life jackets must be worn while on the water
- participants must sign a waiver absolving the Jaycees, town and other agencies of any responsibility in the event of injury or death
- participants must be 18 years and over, or have a waiver signed by their parents.

- confine your en route antics to your boat.
- Rough-housing and dunking could lead you to a disqualification
- drinking beer or booze is absolutely verboten and will get you thrown out of the race in very short order.

- at a race official's discretion, a boat may be disqualified if its crew is deemed unable to run the race safely or is not wearing the proper safety equipment.

Mr. Sullivan adds that there will be a safety patrol on shore to help anybody who gets in trouble during the race, and sweep canoes will trail the flotilla to pick up debris and anybody who has fallen overboard.

St. John ambulance will also be on hand at the finish line if sailors need first aid.

For non-medical support for hungry and weary racers, the Georgetown and District High School outers' club, Glen Williams town hall committee and the Georgetown Jaycees will hot drinks at the start and finish.

Count on 'em!

By PAM DOUGLAS
Herald Correspondent

Three Georgetown District High School math students have been nominated to participate in the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad on May 4.

Richard Belshaw, Sandra Lovegrove, and Gregg Simmons were chosen on the basis of their high school math contest results over the past few years.

Most recently the three achieved success on the Senior Math Contest (American High School Mathematics Examination) which is sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and was written on March 1.

Belshaw was GDHS's top student with 97 points while Lovegrove was second highest with a score of 84. Simmons also scored well on the test.

The math contest was a successful one for GDHS as a whole. The high school's record of 84 points on the contest was broken by Belshaw, Lovegrove, and Simmons as well as Jeff Streutker, Kevin Banks, Dalton Newcombe, Stephen Lukas, Susan Kristensen, and Peter Carson.

As a result of Belshaw's 97 point score he was eligible to write the American Invitational Mathematics Exam during the March break, but his results are not yet known.



Georgetown District High School teacher Mrs. Bowman has to be proud of Rich Belshaw, Sandra Lovegrove and Gregg Simmons who excelled in recent math competitions. (Herald photo by Harald Branch)

Library board rebuts 'overspending' remark

Concerned that remarks made by Coun. Harry Levy and quoted in the press last week give the impression that the Halton Hills library board is mismanaging funds, library board chairman Doug Magwood released

figures this week to attempt to set the record straight.

The board, he said in a press release, did not overspend its budget last year by \$30,000.

In fact, he pointed out, it ended its fiscal year

with a \$555 surplus. The board began the year with \$5,876 from 1981 and earned revenue in the amount of \$586,330 for a total of \$592,206.

It spent \$591,330 last year and ended up with the \$555 net revenue. (The town contributed \$475,049 to the library board last year of which the board spent all but \$66,361).

Mr. Magwood said he discussed the \$30,000 issue with Coun. Levy. (Coun. Levy expressed concern last week when Council reviewed the library budget, that the money could have been used for some capital expenses the board was hoping the town would cover in 1983.

But the board's use of the extra revenue was "in several instances" restricted, and it was "obliged to apply the funds in other areas of library service such as the purchase of books and materials - areas which were underspent during the time the Georgetown library was under construction."

"I am satisfied," Mr. Magwood said, "that Mr. Levy, in spite of his comments at the council meeting, did not mean to imply any fiscal mismanagement on the part of the library board."

POLICE BEAT

Family left homeless

A March 29 fire at the Willow Park Trailer Park west of Norval has left a family of four homeless. While its cause is still unknown, the blaze gutted two adjoined structures, causing \$65,000 damage. There were no injuries in the incident. One trailer was 12-feet wide by 60-feet long, while the other was 8-feet by 48-feet. The blaze began shortly before 3 p.m. while homeowner Lynn Lemay was outside briefly. When she returned, drapes in the living room were aflame. She and her husband, John and two children escaped without injury and it took the Halton Hills fire department about two hours to douse the flames.

Mischief charges laid

After kicking in a window at the McGibbon Hotel in Georgetown Sunday morning, an 18-year-old Ballinafad man was charged with mischief and carrying a concealed weapon.

The man was arrested by police at 1:30 a.m. after causing \$1,300 damage to the hotel property. He was found to have an 18-inch wooden club stuffed down his pants.

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Sat. April 9th (8:30 a.m.) Men's Breakfast Speaker: GORD NORMAN
Sat. April 10th (6:30 p.m.) Rev. David Freeman
TOPIC: "HOME MISSIONS"



The annual craziness of the Jaycees' Crazy Boat Race will begin this Saturday on the Credit River. With some boatmakers working through the winter to construct a formidable floating tub, spectators should be treated to some mighty fine and funny ships and sea captains.

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