

# Teen Outlook

...high school report

## Results are in on the latest round of exams

Hello once again. It's a new semester (time to turn over a new leaf academically, so I've been told, repeatedly), and I'm back to give you all the skinny as to the goings on within the hallowed halls of GDHS.

So were there many surprises Monday? How many people let out a surprised howl, stating to the effect, "Oh my God, I thought I'd failed that credit!" Or, conversely, "X#!!!, I thought I'd passed the exam!" Fortunately, I found myself in the first group, though I am acquainted with the latter of

### Welcome an experience

By participating in Interculture Canada's year hosting program, area families can enjoy rediscovering the beauty of their world as seen through the eyes of a young person from another country.

Interculture Canada, a not-for-profit, charitable organization administering international exchange programs, has officially launched its 1989-90 host family recruitment campaign. Close to 200 students from as many as 30 different countries are on their way to Canada for an entire school year. These ambassadors of friendship, aged between 15 and 18, look forward to fully experiencing Canada by living with a Canadian family and studying in a local high school.

Thanks to Interculture Canada, those who welcome a student into their home can expect to live an intercultural adventure tailored to their family profile. Interculture Canada carefully selects students from a large pool of applicants and, through a sensitive family-matching process, makes every effort to ensure a positive climate for exchange. This way, families and students not only discover their similarities, but also grow from the richness of their differences.

The program is open to all family types: two parents with children, single-parent families, childless couples - all are welcome.

The pleasures of hosting largely rest on the acceptance of the student as a true member of the family. Explains one parent hosting a Finnish student, "We've let her become part of the family and now it's as if she always lived with us. It's going to be tough when she goes home in July."

Host families are not asked to absorb any outstanding expenses for the student beyond the food, housing and incidental expenses they would for their own teenager. Both student and family benefit from the support of Interculture Canada staff and volunteers throughout the experience.

Families wishing more information about hosting, and individuals interested in becoming Interculture Canada volunteers, may call Judy Barker at (416) 729-2883 or, toll-free, 1-800-361-7248.



**GDHS News**

Jamie Harrison

the two groups from years (and credits) gone by.

Have you tried the excuse, "I couldn't possibly have been absent 27 times. It must be a computer error!"? Did it work?!? Not likely, eh.

Is Period 3 lunch more crowded this semester than it was last? Certainly seems so. A vast sea of humanity, stretching from one caf bench to the next, each lamenting about the quality of the lunch they packed (or bought).

This past Thursday, the Rebels'

swim team took off to the Etobicoke Olympian to compete in the Halton championships swim meet. The Rebs have consistently placed high in the ranks, and this year should be no different. Unfortunately, due to deadlines, details were unavailable at presstime.

Didja see the blueberry pancakes being served in the caf last Tuesday? Those who ventured a bite claimed them to be quite edible, some even suggesting that they were "good" (no, really). This was done to observe Pancake Tuesday, the first Tuesday in February.

Why is it February seems to have so many dopey holidays and special days, anyhow. We start off the month on a truly ridiculous note by observing Groundhog Day.

Personally, unless Warton Willy can promise me 80-lus weather from March to November, I couldn't care less if he sees his shadow or not.

Then we have Pancake Tuesday the first Tuesday of February. This may make the folks at Aunt Jemima happy, but it confuses me to no end. Is there some special significance to this wonderful day? Is it a ceremonial ritual for some culture, of which I am unaware?

Then we come to (St.) Valentine's Day. This is alright, I suppose. I fail to see the romance, however, in cutting off one's appendages to send to a loved one. This must only appeal to the truly traditional romantics at heart.

Lastly, we come to Feb. 29, a day which appears but once out of every four-years. The sheer complexities of this overwhelm me,

however I will not focus on that. My one question on this, though, is not an original one. Whose bright idea was it to tack an extra day on the year during the month which most people detest. February is cold, grey, bleak, and miserable. It is the shortest month of the calendar for a very good reason. Everybody hates it!! Why not make the leap year during the summer months? I have no problem with a July 32nd. I really could not foresee anyone complaining about this. In my mind, (as warped as it may be) this idea seems to make more sense than extending the excruciating extra day of winter.

Anyhow... That's about all for this week, but have no fear, I will return in just seven short days to rant about something else. See ya'll in seven...

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