

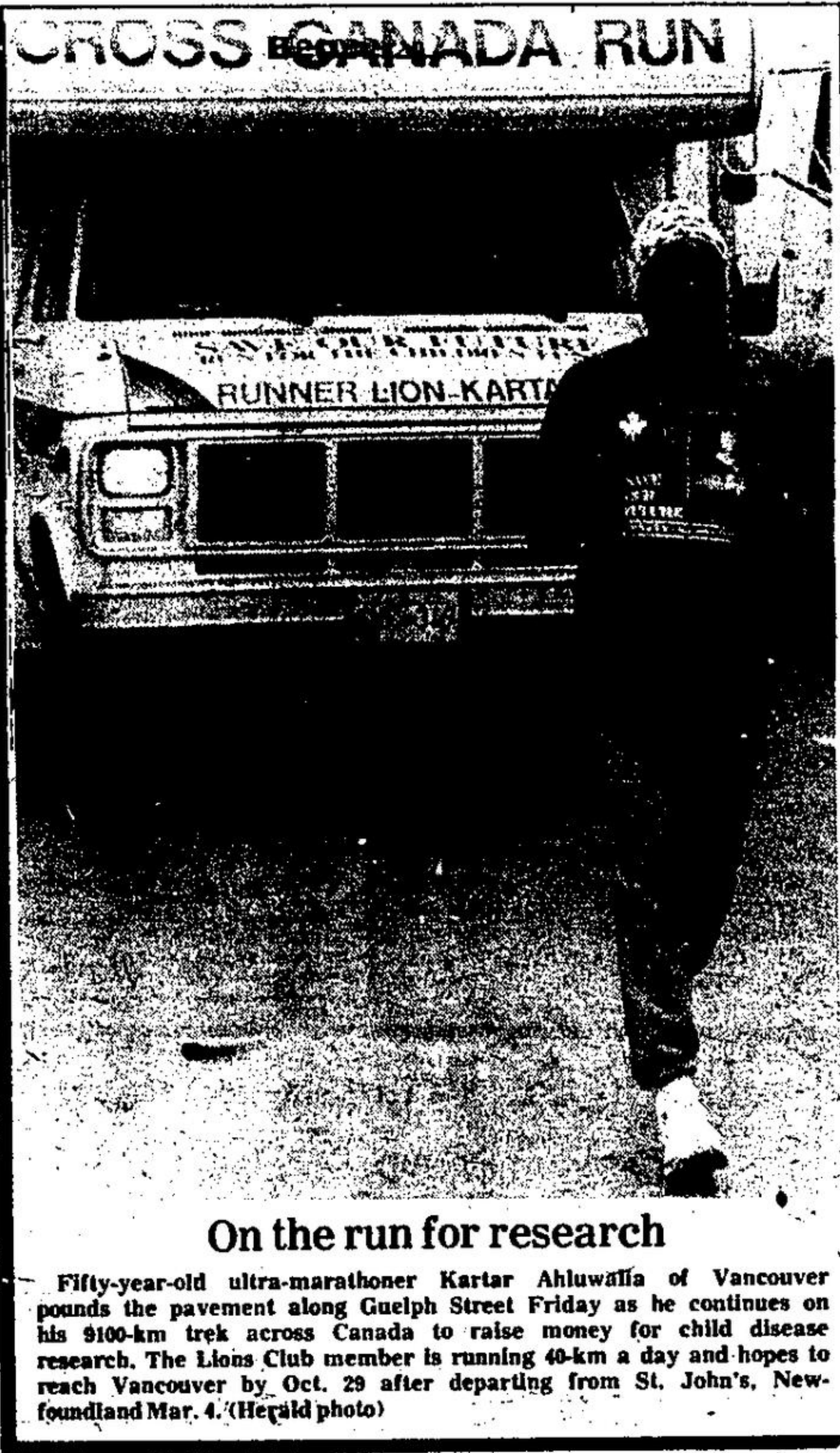
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### On the run for research

Fifty-year-old ultra-marathoner Kartar Ahluwalia of Vancouver pounds the pavement along Guelph Street Friday as he continues on his 9100-km trek across Canada to raise money for child disease research. The Lions Club member is running 40-km a day and hopes to reach Vancouver by Oct. 29 after departing from St. John's, Newfoundland Mar. 4. (Herald photo)

## He's ushering in a new age at T.O.'s fabulous SkyDome

By PAUL SVOBODA  
Herald Sports Editor

For most high school students, a summer job means cutting grass, flipping hamburgers or painting houses.

Adam Broughton, however, has one of the most unique summer jobs of any student in Georgetown.

The 18-year-old GDHS student not only has a job that's out-of-the-ordinary, but it's also a summer job that makes him part of modern Toronto history.

Broughton is an usher at Toronto's fabulous new major league sports and entertainment complex, the SkyDome, and he's one of the first-ever summer employees at the new edifice.

"It's an amazing place," said Broughton after working last Thursday's Blue Jay win over Baltimore Orioles.

So how did an unassuming young high school student stumble upon such a unique-summer job opportunity?

"Actually, I'd heard at school that they (SkyDome officials) were looking for summer help," he explained. "I take drum lessons in downtown Toronto and one day I just walked over and applied and they hired me."

Broughton's job entails reporting to the SkyDome about two hours in advance of major sports or entertainment events.

He works the Skybox and Skyclub areas, ushering people and media types to their respective private boxes or the ever-busy media gallery.

"Basically my job is to help people," said Broughton, an outgoing cheerful sort who seems well-suited to his job. "We call them 'guests' at the SkyDome."

Among the "guests" Broughton has helped to find their seats during the first few hectic days at the newly-opened Dome were multi-millionaire businessman Conrad Black, Blue Jay broadcasters such as former catcher Buck Martinez and injured Argonaut football players.

And on opening night, Broughton was at the wheel of Toronto Mayor Art Eggleton's golf cart which delivered him from the posh confines of a limousine to the equally-posh surroundings of a private box.

Prior to Jay games, Broughton patrols the players' parking area and there he's met most of Toronto's American League stars.

He says infielder Nelson Liriano is his favorite. "He's a really nice guy," said Broughton. "He was hitting well when I first met him and we talked a lot about that."

Broughton was also an impromptu babysitter one evening for Liriano's young daughter and he also chatted at length with



The playing field, outfield stands and massive Jumbo-Tron replay screen unfold behind Georgetown's Adam Broughton as he catches a breather in the Toronto SkyDome media gallery. The 18-year-old GDHS student is being kept busy this summer working as an usher in the Skybox section of North America's newest major league sports and entertainment facility. (Herald photo)

Liriano's wife who "didn't really want to watch the game."

But Broughton's job isn't always associated with the glitter and glamor of hobnobbing with Toronto's elite and rubbing elbows with star athletes. The job does come with its own fair share of dirt.

"During the Super Cross event (the SkyDome field was converted into a massive indoor motocross course) I almost got hit and I was covered with flying mud from dune buggies," he recalls with a laugh.

As for injured Argos, Broughton found himself operating an elevator to the upper reaches of the Skybox section when six members of the CFL club's walking wounded crammed their extra large frames into Broughton's lift.

"Usually the elevators will hold

10 or 12 people," Broughton related. "But when we stopped at each floor, people waiting to get on just stopped and laughed."

Another occasion left Broughton in charge of ferrying the Argo Sunshine girls. Broughton suddenly seemed to forget their destination and was forced to make a return trip with the lovely ladies. An honest mistake, he asserted.

As for the Dome's world-famous retractable roof, Broughton said the system is so efficient that it's almost unnoticeable.

"It's actually not very exciting," he said. "It's so quiet you don't even know it's moving unless you're looking up."

"Most of the people are happy with the view and most think the SkyDome is amazing," he says.

## It's starting already. We miss good old CNE

### Paul's Call

Paul Svoboda  
Herald Sports Editor

It had gone on long enough. After watching the new SkyDome spring up from the rubble of some empty parking spots off Lakeshore and after hearing how this new piece of cement was going to be the best thing in Toronto since sliced bread, yours truly finally had to investigate this phenomenon for himself.

So it happened, last Thursday that I ventured into the shiny new confines of SkyDome for the first time.

Well, shiny it is. The first thing I noticed upon entering the stadium - aside from the conspicuous absence of seagulls - was the squeaky clean atmosphere.

Boy, you'd almost be afraid to spill your beer in there. Almost.

Why, everything was so huge, so bright, so... so artificial that although I had to admit the House that Art built was something just short of astounding, my heart suddenly - and inexplicably - had a longing for venerable old CNE Stadium.

What? The rickety old bag of bones down by the lake that everyone dumped on for so long?

Yes. It's started already. I miss CNE Stadium.

Here's 10 reasons why:

1. Seagulls. Yes, as already mentioned those hearty denizens of CNE will be sadly missed. So will their seventh inning offerings. They may yet discover SkyDome, whose officials ignored the advice of a falconer to hire one of his underlings to keep the lake varmints out, but until they do there'll be some mighty, skinny gulls in T.O.

2. Free parking. Oh yeah, there was always some secret - and not so secret - places to park well within walking distance of CNE. Although spots may yet be discovered near SkyDome (those that don't carry a \$20 charge) we'll mostly be at the mercy of the good old GO and TTC.

3. A-A-A-R-R-R-G-O-O-S! chants. Oh sure, we'll hear them again. But they just won't sound the same in the sanitary atmosphere of SkyDome.

4. Those beloved old off-centre outfield stands. Okay, okay, so we used to complain. But wasn't it fun sitting way out there with a six-pack on a Sunday afternoon?

5. Gales off Lake Ontario. Who hasn't got a "How I froze my butt off at the Grey Cup" story?

6. Being able to ride the CHUM roller coaster and visit Ontario Place right after the ninth inning.

7. Knowing who's warming up in the bullpen.

8. Snow on opening day.

9. Foul pole climbers.

10. Rain delays.

Oh well. We still have Varsity Stadium.

## Acton proves 'Ram-tough'

They're ba-a-ack.

After snapping a two-game losing spin with a big road over last year's playoff champion Niagara Warriors two weeks ago, the Acton Rams have won their second start in a row.

Another balanced offensive performance, which has become a hallmark of the Rams squad this season, produced 14 goals as Acton cruised to a convincing 14-6 win over visiting Hamilton Wildcats in Golden Horseshoe Men's Lacrosse League play July 6 in Acton.

George Artem found the range four times for Acton with Jim

Clark potting a hat trick. Rob Port and Rick Newman each had a pair of markers while Paul Wilson and Henny Van Ort both netted singles.

Steve Holder was the big playmaker of the night in Acton, assisting on five goals, with goaltender Steve Young (2), Wayne Young (2), Rob Allen (2), Henny Van Ort (2), George Artem, Jim Clark, Mike Sutton and Rick Newman also contributing with helpers.

Acton took a 5-3 lead after the opening frame and never looked back, outscoring the visitors 4-1 in the second period and 5-2 in the

final stanza. TYKES: The visiting Elora Tykes found the confines of Acton Arena less than friendly as the hometown Acton Tykes blanked their guests 6-0 in rep play last week.

Kyle Artem had two goals for Acton with singles netted by Paul Withers, Andrew Coe, Ryan Young and Richard Raju. Withers had a pair of assists and Raju had one.

HOUSE LEAGUE:

Sero slammed home eight goals and Withers fired six to lead Galvcast Orange to a runaway 16-1 bombing of Sandi's Salon Blues.