



BACK FROM OTTAWA! Nikki Stuckless and Sarah Kinnear posed outside Acton High before the school year ended.

AHS students 'encounter' Ottawa

Special to The Acton Tanner
Nikki Stuckless and Sarah Kinnear, students at Acton High, recently participated in the Encounters with Canada program.

Encounters with Canada is a seven-day program held at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa. Some 90 to 130 students come from as far as British Columbia and Newfoundland to participate in this program.

Sarah, who went in November, and Nikki, in March, had the opportunity to meet students from all across the country while exploring the government, judicial and cultural institutions of Canada.

Students have a choice of six themes to participate in: science and technology, Canadian experi-

ence, journalism and communication, business and entrepreneurship, law, and arts and culture.

Nikki took part in the Law Week in March (during March Break) and Sarah took part in the arts and culture program in November.

Although the students are learning about their chosen topic, they seem to learn more about themselves and other young Canadians. "It was a lot of fun learning about other people and their cultures," states Sarah.

"I was a little afraid to go by myself at first, but once I got there I felt really relaxed. I didn't know much French, so I found it hard to communicate with the people from Quebec, but I got along OK," says Nikki.

In the evening sessions, the students got to participate in activities such as line dancing, skits and walks with their new friends.

Nikki and Sarah spent their days at the Parliament buildings, the Supreme Court, the art museum, and shopping.

Nikki and Sarah are two of the 12 students from AHS who have participated in the Encounters program in the past five years.

Funds for the program were provided by several community members — this year's sponsors were the AHS student council, the Acton Rotary Club, and the Acton Legion.

All arrangements for the trips were made by Louise Krueger, guidance counsellor at AHS.

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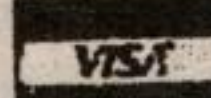
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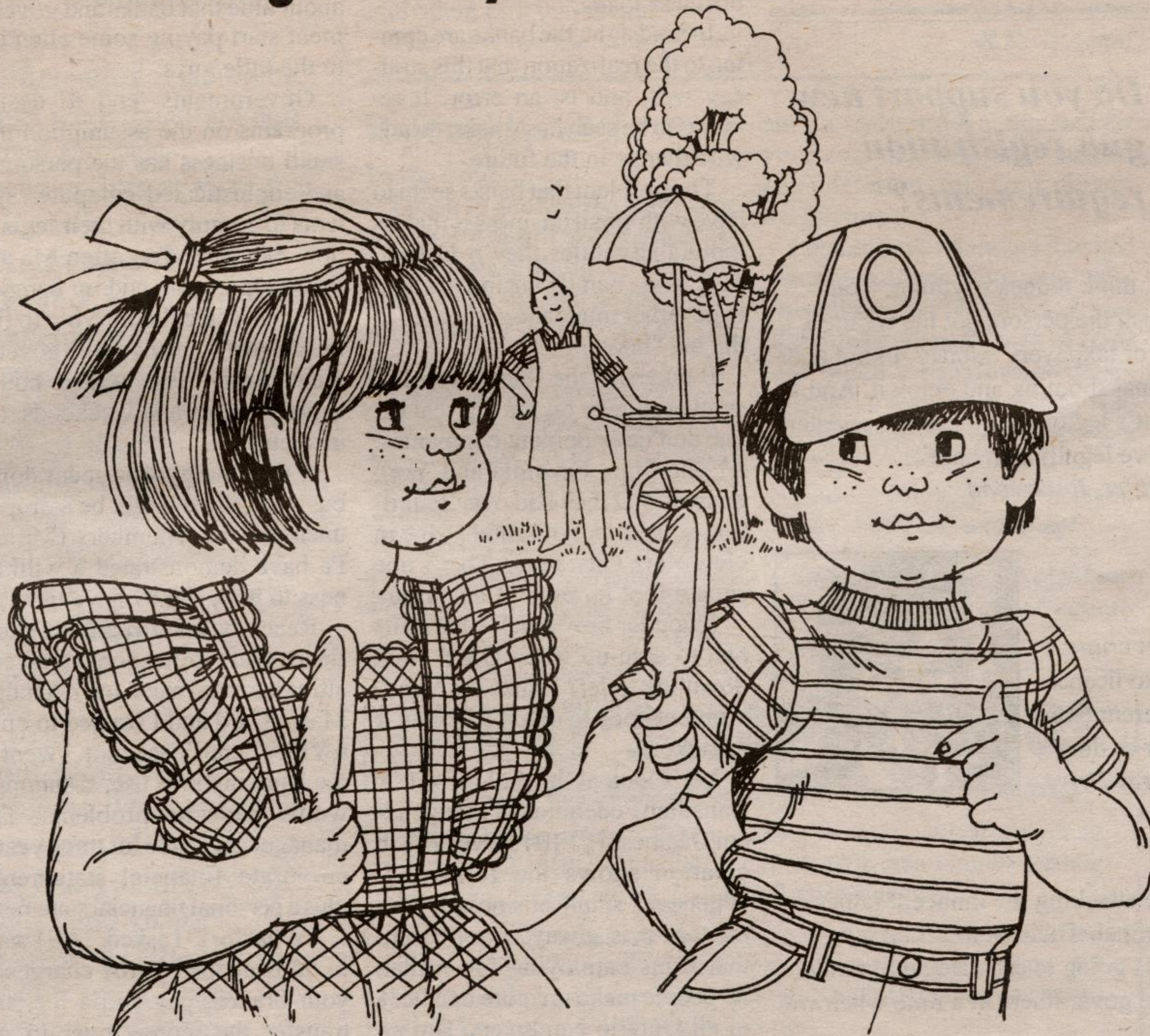
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