



IN WITH THE NEW! Outgoing Acton Ambassador Shana Peddle, right, prepares to crown 1995 Queen Jamie Davies after Friday's pageant at the arena. (Doug Harrison photo)

# 'Miss Acton' just like her mom

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Acton Tanner

Twenty-two years ago Ann (Luty) Davies stood on the arena stage staring at the Queen, whose portrait hung on the wall at the building's west end.

It was deja-vu for her on Friday, as she looked up on the stage at the Queen, only this time in the form of her 17-year-old daughter, Jamie, who was composed and thrived under pressure in winning the 1995 Acton Ambassador Pageant.

"I feel sick ... but this is really cool," the excited Grade 12 student said moments after exiting the stage. "Hearing my name was a total shock. It made me think of my mom when she won."

As for mom, she was as nervous as that thrilling night in 1973 when she was crowned Miss Acton Fall Fair. "I was so nervous for her that I had to keep hidden, so she wouldn't see me. I'm just so proud of her. It's unbelievable."

Even Jamie's younger sister Jodi is thinking of keeping with family tradition by entering the pageant next year.

"Now I have to. The competition's there," she piped in.

Ann actually missed her daughter's speech to the strong gathering in the arena, thinking she had enough time to take in the midway, unaware that the small contingent of contestants (five) meant

that things moved along more quickly than usual.

"Somebody passed me along the midway and said how good her speech was and that Jamie had a great chance of winning. I just thought 'Oh my God!'" an embarrassed Ann recalled.

Acton High's Natalie Tuitman and Melissa Toth, both 17, were first and second runners-up.

Jamie, who wants to open a daycare or hair styling business in the future, described her initial reaction to being named Acton Ambassador as "a scary feeling" but not as unsettling as the beginning of the evening.

A few helpful hints from her mother to "not look at people, fidget or read fast," helped keep the three-year Acton High Redmen volleyball player composed.

"I felt good. I read my speech well," she said. "I was too nervous last year to enter, but I was comfortable with the people up there."

It showed, according to pageant committee member Kelly White, who said Jamie showed a lot of class on stage.

"She held herself very well under a lot of pressure and came through smiling," lauded White. "All of them were exceptional, but sometimes there's a certain quality; they all have it, but it comes out a little better in one."

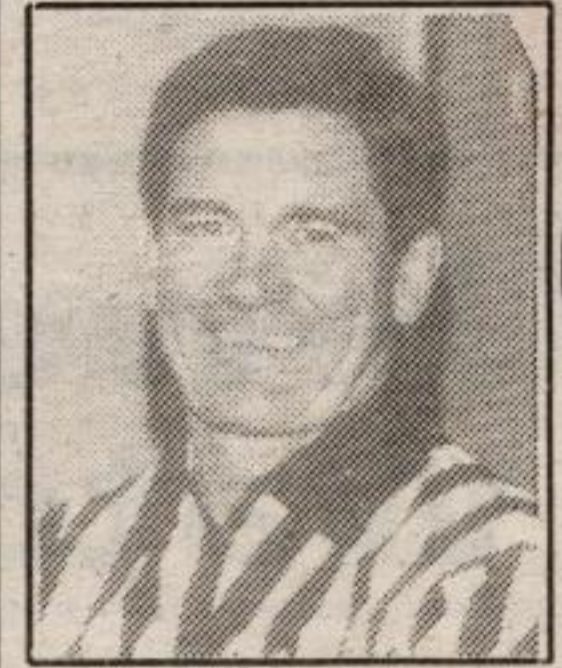
Jamie, whose interests include

baseball, swimming and taking out her cousins, said she wants to learn more about the community.

"I want to learn more about the Fall Fair and what goes on behind the scenes," explained Jamie.

"This year I'm going to be attending Acton Agricultural Society meetings, and I plan to stay involved after the next Ambassador is crowned."

- Advertisement -



## Travel Corner

by Bruce Hood

### Whistler is at the top!

In case you missed it, Canada's own Whistler Resort, home of Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains has been ranked the top ski resort in North America. The magazine *Snow Country* rates them tops as having "Alpine terrain with a European ambience." Those who go there will sure agree, and it's in Canadian \$\$\$ too! Your travel agent has good ski packages for individuals or groups to Whistler.

**More on trains** (our favourite way to travel!) This time in Ontario where again there it talk of high speed trains across the Windsor-Quebec City corridor. How about a train trip to Montreal from Toronto in just over three hours - at 200 kph - wow! Wonder if the 'vote' would effect the planning?

**Want to try your hand at sailing?** Even if you have never sailed before there are packages available for you as an individual, or for your group, in the Caribbean. For a first timer a package is offered with three nights on the water, and four nights at Treasure Island Resort in Tortola, Marigot Bay Resort in St. Lucia, or the Secret Harbour Resort in Grenada. Yes, the cruises are fully supervised by an experienced crew!

**Got a special meal request?** Well, if you have and you are flying, be sure to ask your travel agent to advise the air carrier of your need. There are many eating options with extra attention to special diets. Some airlines have as many as 18 special meals. You only have to ask ... in advance, of course.

**Travel tip:** If you are going to be away for a time it's a good idea to ask your physician for extra copies of prescriptions for medication you may require. Make sure they're legible, written in both trade and generic names. Also carry the prescription for your eyeglasses.

## Stop sign to return

Increased traffic means an all-way stop sign will be re-installed at the intersection of Willow-River streets and that makes area residents very happy.

Removal of the original stop sign at the corner, and its replacement with a yield sign, was a contentious issue several years ago, when Town staff said the intersection did not warrant a full stop.

With the new businesses in the old Dills building, traffic volumes have now increased to the point that the stop sign is warranted.

Other traffic changes approved recently by Council will mean

fewer parking tickets for an Elgin Street homeowner, who kept getting ticketed for parking on the east side of Elgin Street between Agnes and Church streets during construction work on his home.

Pointing to the removal of the parking ban on the west side of Elgin Street, the homeowner convinced staff to allow parking on a portion of the east side of Elgin, north of the steep boulevard slope.

Staff noted that the closure of the businesses in the old tannery building has reduced traffic and therefore the need for a parking ban on parts of Elgin Street.

## BBQ at Churchill church

Ready for a taste bud treat?

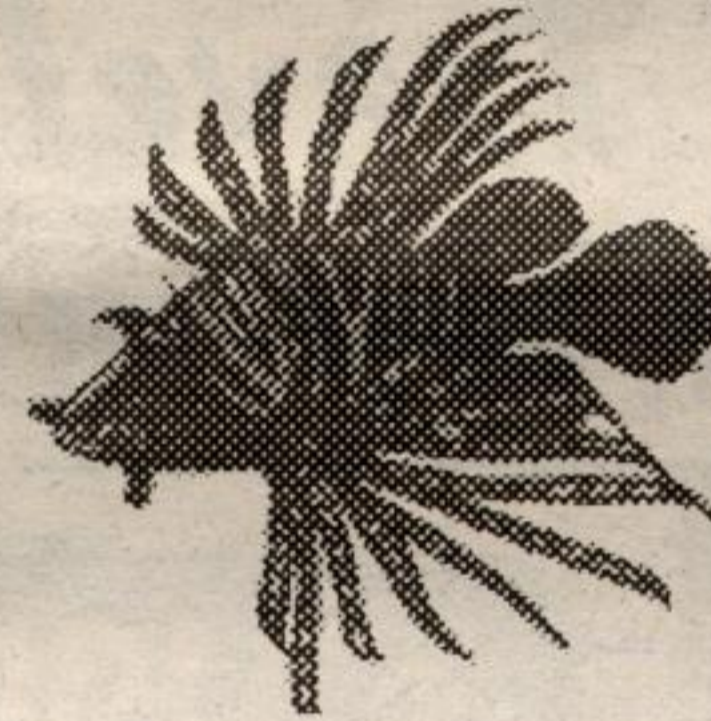
Acton's Churchill Community Church is hosting its annual chicken barbecue this Saturday from 5 to 7:30 pm.

Tickets are available from

any church member and will also be available at the door.

A quarter-chicken dinner costs \$5.50 while a half-chicken dinner is just \$7.50 (take-out starts at 6 pm).

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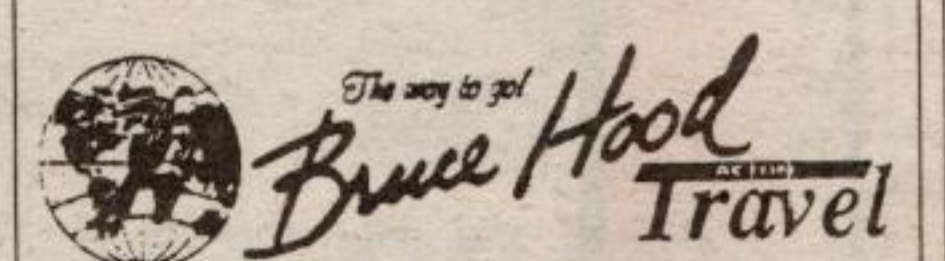
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