



**CHEERS:** Miss Acton Tanya Tonkovich (left) first runner-up Steph McKay and second runner-up Kelly Soutiere raised glasses of water during a toast to the winners of the Miss Acton pageant on Friday. — Frances Niblock photo

## Pomp and Circumstance as Miss Acton crowned

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

Two wins for the Tonkovich sisters

The Miss Acton contest is a family affair for the Tonkovich family of Acton. Tanya, 18, followed her sister Sonya's lead as she was crowned Miss Acton during the 36<sup>th</sup> pageant on Friday night. Sonya was Miss Acton

two years ago.

It was standing room only in the old arena as Tanya, an OAC honour roll student at Bishop Reding High school, was chosen to represent the Acton Agricultural Society until next year's fair.

As her proud family and friends cheered and clapped Tanya graciously accepted the tiara, cape, and bouquet of flowers and trophy

awarded to Miss Acton. It was all a little overwhelming for Tanya as she heard her name announced.

"I'm in absolute shock. I feel like I'm dreaming. I thought that the other candidates did really well here tonight and any one of them deserved to win," Tanya said, adding that having her family there made a very nervous

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### What's Inside



Jon Hurst gives last minute instructions to the first participants in the Terry Fox Run Sunday morning. More inside on Page 2.



Colin Ash was honoured by the City of Toronto fire department last week for risking his life to save a woman and a toddler from a vicious home fire. See Page 7.



Dairy and beef cattle classes were an important part of the Fall Fair on the weekend. See Pages 8, 9, 12 and 13 for more photos, including a new act for this year, the lumberjack demonstration.

# Fair gate receipts up 16 %

## Terry Fox Run raises \$24,000

It was hard to find someone who had not been touched by cancer at Sunday's 18<sup>th</sup> annual Terry Fox run in Acton. The mayor was there because she lost a brother, organizer Jon Hurst lost a close friend and New Tanner reporter Ellen Piehl left her sick father's bedside to walk 10-kilometres to raise money for cancer research.

This year's event raised at least \$24,000 — up from \$23,330 last year. Close to 160 participants — including two horses — walked, jogged, biked, rode and trotted around the track at Acton High school in honour of Terry Fox whose aborted

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**OH, BABY:** Jason Saunders, 13 months of Mississauga, was just as happy as his grandpa Glen Bouclair after winning first place in the 13 to 18 month class in the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Baby Show on Saturday. Being cute is not new to Jason who captured first prize as a 7-month-old last year. — Frances Niblock photo

## 'Exceptional Fair' has record crowds

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

Perfect weather and top-notch events drew what may have been record crowds to the 85<sup>th</sup> edition of the Acton Fall Fair. While the final gate count isn't available yet, organizers predict it could set a new attendance record.

"It's a record (fair) definitely in the sense of dollars," Acton Agricultural Society treasurer Daniel Varanelli said on Monday, adding that gate revenue was up 16 per cent over last year to \$53,600, mainly due to the \$1 increase for adult and senior tickets.

"The actual attendance numbers will be very close to our all time high...so overall the weekend was an exceptional weekend from both the revenue stand-point and attendance standpoint," Varanelli said.

The best year for both attendance and gate revenue this decade was 1992 when 12,489 people attended the fair, paying \$47,700.

For Acton Agricultural Society president Ron White the weekend was a whirlwind of activity.

"Every time that I went to bed I'd think that there were a million things to be done but when I'd get done to the

fair the next day, everything would already be done. What a great bunch of volunteers," White said.

"There were no problems with the beer garden or at the teen dance and the petting zoo operator said he'd had a better day on Saturday than a good day at the CNE," White said, adding that they had 1,000 entries in the poultry barn and had to turn away 60 entries.

"Some fairs our size can't get 350 entries so we have a good reputation for running a clean and well-cared for operation."

Police report very few incidents and ambulance crews report only a handful of people were treated for hornet or bee stings, unlike past years when 30 to 40 were stung and required help.

Police did seize a toy cap gun from an Acton youth on Saturday night after he was seen entering the fairgrounds with the replica gun tucked into the back of his pants. As startled fair goers looked on the youth was surrounded by uniform officer, at least one with his gun drawn, as he got off the bumper cars. The youth was handcuffed and searched, cautioned and then let go. He had purchased the toy gun earlier that night on the midway.

## Teachers work to rule

Students at Acton's public schools had a hard lesson in labour relations on Tuesday when the board of education sent home a letter to parents notifying them that elementary teachers are working to rule.

At Robert Little public school the withdrawal of voluntary services by members of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario means that the schools' family picnic and meet-the-teacher night, scheduled for today (Thursday) has been postponed. Cross country practices and all other extra curricu-

lar activities are postponed until further notice at both Little and McKenzie-Smith Bennett but teachers will take part in student evaluation and assessment and curriculum.

All teachers with the Halton District School Board have been without a contract since August 31 and on Friday the elementary teacher's union announced all voluntary activities will be cancelled until further notice. Both sides head back to the bargaining table Oct. 8.

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