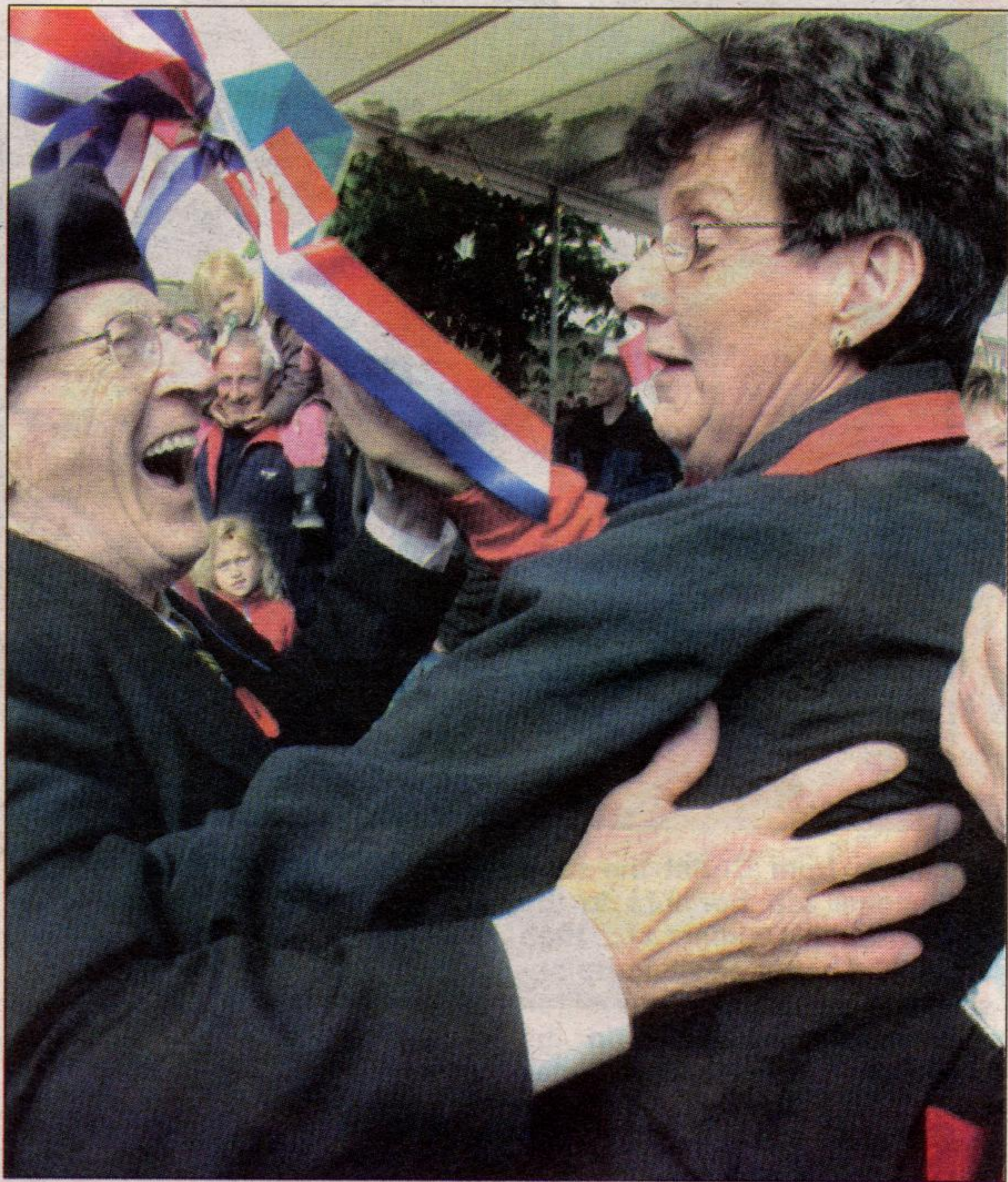




Georgetown's Citizen of the Year Tom Schenk greeted a veteran who took part in Liberation Day parade activities in the town of Vorden in The Netherlands Thursday. The parade was a re-enactment of the Canadian troops as they entered the town, 60 years to the day, along the same streets in the town. The veterans rode the restored military vehicles throughout the Dutch countryside, many of them re-tracing their steps from 60 years ago.
Photos by Ted Brown

Keeping the Memory Alive



An exuberant Canadian veteran grabbed Nellie Scheeringa of Georgetown as he climbed down from a restored military vehicle to dance a few steps with her at the conclusion of Liberation Day parade activities in the town of Vorden, in The Netherlands, Thursday. The parade route (below) was the same as when the troops entered the small town, exactly 60 years ago to the day as throngs of Dutch people, many of them third generation, greeted the veterans with the same love and exhilaration as the day they were liberated.

Tour group escapes unscathed as bus slides off 'Canadian Lane'

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Once the Passchendaele Fire Department was on the scene and stabilized the coach, they helped the passengers down the steep steps of the bus and had them transported by bus to the nearby Passchendaele community centre where the local people served them tea, coffee and beer, and had medical staff available in case anyone had any injuries.

None of the passengers required medical aid.

The Passchendaele Fire Department arranged to have the group transported back to their hotel in Ieper, by 2 p.m.

"The people of Passchendaele were



...Ted Brown in The Netherlands

absolutely wonderful," said Boomsma, "They looked after everyone to make sure they were okay."

"And the incident didn't even upset our schedule," added Boomsma, "Monday afternoon was to be free time anyway, so the tour will continue right on schedule."

Local media were on the scene as both print and television reporters interviewed some of the passengers as they headed to the waiting bus, and later at the community centre.

The coach was lifted out of the ditch Monday afternoon, and after a mechanical inspection, was returned to continue the trip through France, with the same driver back behind the wheel.



A quiet, but stressed, group of passengers awaited the arrival of the Passchendaele Fire Department to assess the stability of the bus before disembarking after the bus slid into a drainage ditch on Canadian Laan (Canadian Lane) while traveling through Belgium Monday. (Left) Keeping the Memory Alive tour guide Martin Boomsma (right) makes sure Amy Hole of Georgetown is okay after the mishap. No one was injured.