

Arts & Entertainment

W.I. Dick School's jazz band is as good as gold

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**
The Champion

The W.I. Dick Jazz Cats created something of a feline frenzy late last month when the band took top honours at the national MusicFest competition — receiving gold — plus the respect of its fellow young Canadian musicians.

"What a great experience it was," said Heather Brooks, who accompanied her son, Gregory, to the Montreal competition. "There were bands from all over Canada.

Ours got a standing ovation — not a single other band got that."

Although chaperoning 23 grade 8 students from May 25 to 27 might not sound like many people's idea of a good time, Ms Brooks said the kids behaved as well as they performed.

"There were zero problems in Montreal," she said, adding the students in the extra-curricular band are a tightly-knit group.

Simply being invited to the national competition was a victory in itself, explained Jazz Cats director and music teacher Jeannette Wilson, who's now in her 16th year teaching at W.I. Dick Middle School.

The students first competed in February in St. Catharines for the regional MusicFest competition, where they received a gold standing plus an invitation to the nationals.

The group decided they couldn't pass up the opportunity and doggedly went about fundraising for the trip.

To say Ms Wilson was proud of the students' accomplishment in Montreal is an understatement.

"I almost didn't have to be there, they worked so hard as a team," she said.

Ms Wilson said she has high expectations for all her music students, and once again they didn't disappoint her.

"I think they're capable of a lot at this age."

Gregory Brooks, who plays drums with the Jazz Cats, said the fact Ms Wilson expects so much is why they respect her.

"Everyone has a lot of respect for her,"



With teacher Jeannette Wilson are seven of the 23 band members (front row from left) Matt King and Jen Brown; and (back row from left) Todd Massel, Silas Sham, Greg Brooks, Evan Groves and Simeon Sham.

Photo by
GRAHAM PAINE

GEORGETOWN CINEMAS
235 GUELPH STREET 873-1999

- HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN** PG
Daily 6:45 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 2:00 p.m.
Not Recommended for Young Children
- SHREK 2** G
Daily 7:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. 2:00 p.m.
- THE WIVES OF STEPFORD** PG
Daily 6:45 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 2:00 p.m.
Mature Theme - Not Recommended for Children

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE - Loto Centre - Georgetown Market Centre
Theatre Parking Available at Rear

the 13 year old said, adding, "She brings out the best in her students."

Both Ms Brooks and Ms Wilson want to thank the Milton community for its support of the Jazz Cats and for making the trip possible through generous donations.

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FESTIVAL OF CLASSICS

The Comedy of Errors

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TICKETS: 905-815-2021

Choristers to host Ceilidh

If you don't know what a ceilidh is, there's only one way to find out.

The popular Milton Choristers will celebrate 35 years of choral excellence with a traditional Cape Breton Ceilidh at Country Heritage Park, 8560 Tremaine Rd., June 19 at 8 p.m.

The event will be held in the Gambrel Barn and will feature the Ceilidh band Cruachan, the Argyllshire Dancers and piper Jim Dougals, Jr. along with the Choristers, which will present well-loved,

traditional east coast songs.

There will also be birthday cake, party fare, a cash bar and a silent auction, which will be open for viewing at 7:15 p.m.

Tickets cost \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students and \$8 for children 12 years old and younger.

Tickets can be purchased at Delacourt's, at the corner of Main and Martin streets, and Lewiscraft at Milton Mall.

Or you can call (905) 876-3203 or visit www.miltonchoristers.com.

Milton Choristers

Featuring The Ceilidh band, Cruachan, The Argyllshire Dancers, Piper, Jim Dougals Jr.

The Choristers will present a few well loved, traditional east coast songs

"A Birthday Bash"
Cape Breton Ceilidh

Saturday June 19 at 8:00 pm ("newtime") (Doors open at 7:15 pm)
Gambrel Barn, Tremaine Road, Milton

Includes: Birthday Cake & Party Fare, Second Silent Auction and Cash Bar

Tickets: Adult \$12 Senior/Student \$10 Child (12& under) \$8
Tickets available at Delacourt's (Main St. Milton), Lewis Craft (Milton Mall) and Leslie Music (Oakville)
or call (905) 876-3203
www.miltonchoristers.com