



Fastmatics winners

John Dubeau, left, of Midland-Penetang Cable TV presents Jamie Duquette, a member of the Huronia Centennial Elementary School Fastmatics team, with a slide rule for being a member of the team which won one of the four flights in the Fastmatic contest sponsored by the Cable TV

company while the other members of the team, Nancy Trace, Sally Potts and Tracey Knight, from left to right, and teacher-coach Mrs. Faye Stone look on. The Elmvale school will now play Corpus Christi in one of the two semi-final games in the Fastmatic contest. Staff photo

Board going ahead with metric conversion

by Sue de Stein
Simcoe County schools are going metric.

At the Simcoe County Board of Education meeting last week, the board passed a recommendation authorizing the administrative council to proceed at once with plans for the metric conversion of county schools, remaining within the limitations of ministry policies, special grants, and the board's annual budget.

The board has known for two years of the eventual conversion to the metric system, superintendent of schools, Irving Harris told the meeting, and has recognized the need to plan well in advance for the changeover.

Although the administration has been waiting for a final announcement on the date, the metrication process must be completed, and for the official document entitled the Metric Style Guide, there have been steps taken towards the implementation of the metric system in the schools, he said.

Supervisor of schools for Area 2, Ted Maxwell, pointed out that the Ministry of Education has made grants available to school boards in the amount of 75 cents per pupil to assist in the conversion. For the Simcoe board, the grant will be approximately \$32,000.

A committee consisting of principals and teachers from each of the six county areas has been set up to study the approach that will be taken towards the implementation. In 1975-76, Maxwell said, the emphasis will be placed in the primary levels in the elementary schools, and in 1976-77, there will be a real thrust to educate the students at the intermediate level. And although 1977-78

will be set aside for a concentration on the secondary schools, this is not to suggest that the secondary schools will be left out of the metrication program during the next school years.

The Metric Style Guide will set standards for the writing and symbols of the measurement system and its mechanics, which will be adopted throughout Canada. Workshops may be set up to educate the teacher on the basis of that style guide.

"I would like to see more money than the 75 cents per pupil, put into metric im-

plementation," Maxwell said. "Seventy-five cents is a token grant." It is important, he said, that the board "consider carefully how to spend that money."

Midland trustee John McCullough pointed out that the ministry's grant "was meant to assist our program." The board is expected to include in its budget an amount to aid in the metrication process also.

Programs are already underway to educate both the students and the general public in the use of the metric system. The Elmvale

Home and School Association recently staged a public information meeting on the subject of metrication.

"We have a tremendous responsibility to educate not only our students, but the general public as well," McCullough said.

The ministry stated in a memorandum to school boards and principals that "metrication presents a considerable challenge. It is expected, however, that all educators will implement the changeover in a spirit of positive co-operation."

School, community interaction stressed during Education Week

Next week, April 20-26, is Education Week, and schools throughout Simcoe County's area 3 are stressing the need for interaction between the schools and the community. Using as their theme "Learning: A Co-operative Community Enterprise", area educators are opening the schools during the week, encouraging parents and members of the public to drop in for a visit with staff members and take part in a series of special events.

The teachers, in a press release, stress that "every week is education week in our schools and our community... (and that) the schools in this area have what we call an 'open door' policy (that invites) parents to come to the school at any time to discuss the progress of their children."

Below is a list of some of the events taking place at schools in area 3:

- Ministry of Education Thursday, April 24 — Grades 7 and 8 — Finals for Cours de Français
- Friday, April 25 — Grades 7 and 8 — Panel on Education
- Corpus Christi School — Penetanguishene Evening meeting during the week to discuss and explain the reading program to the parents.
- Bayview Public School — Midland Thursday, April 24th — 7:30 p.m. — Gym Show
- Friday, April 25 — Student Dance to raise money for a wheelchair for the new hospital
- Regent Public School — Midland Tuesday, April 22 — Meeting with parents to form an auxiliary
- Wednesday, April 23 — Spring Sing
- Thursday, April 24 — Gymnastics Display
- Parkview Public School — Midland Thursday, April 24 — Evening — parents meet with Mr. Bourgeois from the

About Metric and Were Afraid to Ask" Thursday, April 24 — Open House from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Victoria Harbour Public School — Victoria Harbour Wednesday, April 23 — 1:15 p.m. — Presentation to the new hospital of \$1,500 for the Children's Ward
- Tuesday, April 22 — Parents invited in to observe in the classrooms during the day. Also Wednesday, April 23.

Port McNicoll Public School — Port McNicoll Wednesday, April 23 — 1:00 to 4:30 — Kindergarten Seminar for teachers of Areas 2 and 3
- Wednesday, April 23 — 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. — Festival Review and Open House
- Thursday, April 24 — Pre-School Screening Clinic at the school by the Public Health Unit

65 clergy and organists attend annual dinner

Sixty-five clergy and organists from Simcoe County attended the annual Royal Canadian College of Organists annual dinner held Saturday night at All Saints Anglican Church in Collingwood.

Guest speaker Rev. Canon Harold Thomasson, Rector of St. David's Church, Welland, Ontario is a past chairman of the Niagara Peninsula region of the RCCO and a Bishop's advisor on church music.

After an introduction by Kathleen Mounteer, Midland, Rev. Thomasson entertained his audience with personal recollections of the sometimes fragile relationships between clergy and organists. "The best criterion of a church organist is someone who can play hymns properly," he said. "His job is not to bore the people, but to inspire people."

A good creative relationship between clergy and organist results, in Rev. Thomasson's words, in "a multi-media experience where the word of God is powerfully spoken."

Mayor Harry J. Bell of Collingwood brought greetings to the RCCO members and presented Rev. Thomasson with a plaque bearing the city coat of arms.

Ken Inkster of Alliston is chairman of the Huronia Centre of the RCCO.

Affecting area schools

SCBE staff changes

A number of staff changes for area schools were announced at the Simcoe County Board of Education meeting last week.

Presently vice-principal at Bayview public school, Doug Bailey will be transferring to Corpus Christi school to act as vice-principal there on September 1, 1975. Henry Bisschop, vice-principal at Corpus Christi school will be joining the staff at Victoria Harbour public school as vice-principal effective September 1.

Huron Centennial teacher John Potts will take up duties at Bayview public school as vice-principal in September. Douglas Burns a teacher at Bayview public school will become vice-principal at Huron Park school in Midland next year. Another Bayview school teacher Glen Macklem will take up the duties of vice-principal at Port McNicoll public school at the beginning of the next school year.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

At Huronia Centennial Elementary School, Elmvale, for public school children living in Flos Township — boundaries previous to January 1, 1974 — the Village of Elmvale and Tiny Township west of County Road 29

will take place

on Thursday, April 17, 1975 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. in the lobby of the school.

Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 1975 and live on property taxed for Public School purposes. (School tax statement should be brought). Proof of birthdate is required.

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