

## St. T's Initiation Day

It was Initiation Day at St. Theresa's High School in Midland last week. It was the day when the grade niners had to dress themselves in wild costumes and humble themselves to the upper classmen. It's tradition at the school that helps instill school spirit and helps promote unity and friendship between students. It's all done in the name of fun, and that's evident in these photos.

-Photos by Mark Gagnon

## Inside the pages

'The Other Mrs. Diefenbaker'  
-who was she?

by RON JOHNSON

Like many other Canadians who consider themselves fairly well-informed and up-to-date, it came as some surprise to this writer that there was "The Other Mrs. Diefenbaker" in our once-Prime Minister's past.

Everyone recalls Olive, John Diefenbaker's second wife of 23 years.

It shocks us to learn that he had a first wife, Edna May Brower Diefenbaker, and that the union lasted for 22 years until her death in 1951 of Leukemia.

This book probes some compelling questions about one of this century's best known Canadian politicians.

Did Edna May Brower force, cajole, and lead the young lawyer, John Diefenbaker, into the political limelight?

Was "Dief's" close relationship with his iron-willed mother so close that Edna, and subsequently Olive, had to play "second fiddle"?

If Edna May Brower was such an integral part of John Diefenbaker's life, and he loved her and owed her so much, why, after her death, did he fail to even recognize her in his official biographies?

The book is authored by Simma Holt, a journalist for some 30 years, and a close confidant of John Diefenbaker as an MP for Vancouver-Kingsway from 1974 to 1979.

Upon "Dief's" death in 1979, Holt was stunned to find out about "The Other Mrs. Diefenbaker" for the first time.

She picked up the pursuit of Edna May Brower, in an effort to bring her to life and establish her in her rightful place in Canadian history.

Here extensive search for "The Other Mrs. Diefenbaker" and her appealing journalistic writing makes this book an engrossing and worthwhile reading project.

The Other Mrs. Diefenbaker - A Biography of Edna May Brower, by Simma Holt, Paperbacks Limited, Markham, Ontario, Canada, 1983, \$4.95.



## Bark Lake happenings

Flipping sailboats, falling out of kayaks, and catching frogs were only some of the activities enjoyed by a large contingent of Midland Secondary students this past weekend.

Over 50 students joined with students from ESPSS and Orillia District High School for a weekend of outdoor activities at Bark Lake.

Bark Lake is an outdoor education centre operated by the Ministry of Education. Both students and staff enjoyed the first-class facilities provided at the centre.

Doug Andrews, a former physical education teacher at MSS was responsible for the planning of this highly successful weekend. Plans are already being made to repeat the program in future years.

The charperones instructors from MSS included Eric Rothwell, Ken and Jane Woods, Bill and Sharon Hartman, John and Mary Sue Brown, Mike Miller and Midland residents John and Sheila Moore.

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## Midland Library News

The following is a list of new books available at the Midland Public Library:

Fiction include: Blood & orchids by Norman Katkov; The Peking mandate by Peter Siris; The seduction of Peter S. by Lawrence Sanders; Sloughing towards Kalamazoo by Peter DeVries; Road the for one by Gilles Archambault; Natural causes by Jonathan Valin.

Non-Fioction include: Against the night, the stars by John Hollow; The stones of Kiribati by Erich Von Daniken; Who sank the Sidney? by Michael Montgomery; Out on a limb by Shirley MacLaine; Alzheimer's disease by Lenore S. Powell; Colville by David Burnett.

### FAMILY FILM NIGHT RETURNS!

Films scheduled for Friday, Sept. 23, 1983 are: -Bear Hunt, -The puffed up dragon, -The Sneetches, -Pushmi-Pullya, -The Velveteen rabbit.

Films begin at 7:15 p.m. Admission is free.

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