

# Angels symbolize 'respect'

The people began arriving at 1:30 p.m. A girl's choir was singing We are the World.

Next to the arena, the Penetanguishene Pipes and Drums were practicing.

About 150 people came to the town gates on Sunday afternoon to witness the official ceremony to welcome the Penetanguishene Angels home again.

The two statues, originally erected in 1921, had spent almost two years in Ottawa being restored. They have been made to look exactly as they were initially fashioned.

The temperatures were well above 20 degrees Celsius but that didn't stop so many people from turning up to an anxiously awaited event.

As Michelle Quealey, the chairperson of Heritage Penetanguishene, said, "It has been

a long couple of years." She praised the work of town planner Wilfred Guthrie, who she said "slugged it out" during that time on behalf of the Angels. She also cited the "terrific work" of the town council.

Although Lily Munro, the minister of culture, had been expected to attend the ceremonies, Richard Alway read a letter from her in which the minister sent her "warm greetings." Alway, the chairperson of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, continued to read the letter to the crowd, in which Munro spoke of the long "history of co-operation" between anglophone and francophone in Penetanguishene and reminded people that her government is "committed to represent the cultural diversity of this province."

Alway's remarks were often humorous, as when he recalled the sentiments of Bishop

Fulton J. Sheen. Before he began his speech, the crowd cheered audibly for Alway, which prompted him to recall the bishop's thoughts on crowd applause for public speeches. If they cheered before a speech, it represented faith; if they cheered during a speech it signified hope; and if they cheered after a speech it meant charity.

Alway echoed the remarks of Munro when he said Penetanguishene is "an excellent example" of two cultures living amiably together.

He took time to remind people that the Ontario Heritage Foundation was designed to aid projects like the restoration of the Angels. A grant from that organization had made the work feasible. The chairman described this sort of work as "a central function" of the foundation.

As if to illustrate the intent of the Angels, Alway delivered lengthy passages of his speech in French.

The timing of the ceremony did not escape him either. He thought it significant that the unveiling was taking place "on the eve of the 375th anniversary of Penetanguishene," and that it was also a Canada Day weekend. The latter served as a time for people to "reflect on their roots and ask themselves what it means to be Canadian."

"Respect, it seems to me, is what the Angels are all about," he said.

"They stand as ... symbols of the future."

On a final note, Alway joked that "it's not every day that we have the opportunity to be involved with angels."

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## ESPSS: 104 grads

The processional through the gymnasium was slow. The Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School graduates - 104 of them in all - walked towards their reserved benches with faces glowing and smiling. Most were wearing red graduation hats and gowns but others wore black.

The school's stage band played and parents stood up to take pictures. Flashes everywhere in the gym. There were no long speeches tonight, no tiresome announcements, no need to prepare for exams tomorrow; brevity was the word, or as Joan Jensen, the chairman of the Simcoe County Board of Education put it: "I fully realize how eager you are to get on with the evening ... to get started with your plans for the future."

After numerous awards were presented to students, it was time to receive the diploma. Each student was required to take the short journey from seat to stage and back again. A few faltered on the way down, tripping slightly on the stairs or snagging their sleeves on the banister. Parents and friends rushed to greet them as they made their descent. Many stopped briefly for a quick picture before returning to their seat.

This part of the program was all over within 20 minutes.

There wasn't an empty seat in the gym and even the bleachers were filled to capacity. Some even stood in the hallways during the ceremony.

After graduating, Valedictorian Danielle Dupuis offered her comments on what it all felt like. The student graduated with a 97.6 per cent average. She may have captured the mood of the evening as many fellow graduates nodded throughout her presentation.

She recalled that upon entering ESPSS in grade 9 she had been told by one senior student that "the next five years will be the fastest in your life."

"He was right," she said.

Dupuis informed the crowd that students spend 4,000 hours in high school, and such an amount of time is difficult to recapitulate in one evening. There are only the memories,



### Message from the PM

Doug Lewis, the MP for Simcoe North, hands Mayor Francis St. Amant a framed letter from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. The occasion was the official unveiling of

she said.

"We will always remember the many good times we had out of class."

Pointing to the successful musical and dramatic productions over the years, Dupuis said "the students and staff of ESPSS aren't just another bunch of pretty faces."

The valedictorian joked that the school seemed to change over five years since "the halls became smaller and the teachers

Penetanguishene's Angels. Lewis was in attendance at Sunday's ceremony. The letter will be hung at the Penetanguishene Municipal Building.

shorter." But during that time, the students were transformed from "nervous grade 9s to high school graduates" and "we've matured together."

Dupuis included some remarks in French, illustrating the bilingual nature of the school. ESPSS introduced a bilingual curriculum in 1979.

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## Telephone woes hit Penetang Monday

Residents in Penetanguishene trying to reach a Midland number on the telephone might have been frustrated on Monday. Calling the other way was equally difficult. Phone service was suffering from some irregularities.

After dialing the first three numbers, the caller would be subjected to a busy signal, followed by a dial tone.

As of Monday afternoon, officials at Bell Canada were unaware of what the problem could be. The director of public relations, Rod Doney, was reached at his Montreal office and said two cables had recently been cut in Pembroke and Minden.

However, Doney said those cables had been repaired and everything was "back to normal."

"There shouldn't be anything shut down in your area," he said.

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### Correction

## Man had over .08

In the story Town Stands Behind Chief, June 29, the Citizen stated that Jim McGrath told town council he had a record of one conviction for drunk driving. In fact, McGrath said he had one conviction for driving with more than .08 alcohol. The Citizen regrets the error.

**ESPSS award winners... See pg. 3**