

# Tecumseh subject of 40th pageant

The life of the great Shawnee Indian chief Tecumseh is being presented in the 40th annual Six Nations Indian Pageant this weekend and next.

The one-hour and 15-minute play was written by Six Nations member George Beaver and is being performed by 12 people from the community. It is the pageant's first play featuring an Indian who was not an Iroquois.

Tecumseh was born in 1768 near what is now Springfield, Ohio. It was tradition to name the offspring after a significant event after the birth. Tecumseh's parents saw a star streak across the sky the night their son was born. His name means "shooting star."

The star led Tecumseh's parents to believe their son was destined to be great. He quickly became known for his leadership, heading a movement to form a confederacy of Indian nations to protect native interests. Although he was not successful, he also became known for his achievements in war. He was a brigadier-general for Britain in the War of 1812. Commanding Indians and non-Indians, he joined Sir Isaac Brock in capturing Detroit.

Tecumseh was killed in the Battle of Moraviantown on the north bank of the Thames River in 1813.

The pageant will continue tonight at 8:30 p.m. and Aug. 12 and 13 and 19 and 20. The Forest Theatre, where the play is being performed, is a clearing in the woods off Sour Springs Road two miles south and one mile west of Ohsweken.



Photos by Christopher Smith, Expositor Staff

Chris Hill, as Puckeshinwa, holds his infant son, Tecumseh, in this scene from the 40th annual Six Nations Pageant, which