

Profile This Week

Meet Karri Pollard - "The pride of Terrace Bay"

by KAREN PARK

It's not every day that a town can brag of one of its young citizens, but in our case, we are indeed fortunate. We can brag, applaud and cheer on about Karri Pollard.

Karris is reknown around this town (and many others) for her excellent marksmanship, not with a rifle, but with a bow and arrow. She's an archer. And one of the best!

It all started back in May of 1980 for Karri, at the young age of 13. An archery club was formed in Terrace Bay and she was one of the first to join up. Why? Because she was interested in finding out if she

archery and Karri began what was to be a long streak of winning. Her first major adventure into archery was at the 1981 Canada Games in Thunder Bay. Little did Karri know that she would rate among the best, by placing 5th overall. From the Canada Games, she went on to the First Provincial Trials which were to be held in Ottawa in 1981. There she placed 1st. Karri was to realize then, that this was the big times. It wasn't shooting at the Terrace Bay Archery Club. It wasn't just shooting with local competitors. It wasn't just shooting in an Invitational Meet. This was Ontario that

the National competitions in Victoria, British Columbia. Here, she received the bronze medal for her undying efforts.

In 1983, Karri again went to the Provincials in London, Ontario. And yes indeed, again Karri took first prize in archery. That winning led her to Alberta where the Nationals were being held this year. And again she placed 5th overall, in the Junior Girls division. But much to Karri's surprise, it wasn't to end at the Nationals this year.

By the time that you read this, Karri will be in Lisbon, Portugal, where she along with two others from Canada, will be presenting our will be representing our country in the World's Junior Championships. Karri left for Portugal on August 8th, to bring home the top award (we hope) in archery, for Canada. For eight days, Karri will experience a taste of European competition.

But it won't all be hard work, we hope. Her schedule is set up to give her a day of orientation, two days for setting up, two days of solid competition and two days or private sight-seeing. And sight-see she plans on doing. She and the other representatives will be staying in a private home, where the head of the household is also involved in archery in Portugal. Karri is looking forward to the grand tour, the competition, the excitement of visiting another country and just generally everything that Portugal has to offer her.

She's not worried about the trip (but her mother, Gail, is not looking forward to Karri transferring planes at the Toronto airport). "Why I worry about her, I don't know," replies Gail. "She's been travelling on her own for so long, since she was 13, that I shouldn't have any fears of her travelling this time. I don't worry so much about Karri. She knows her limits and she also knows how to look after herself. She may not get another chance to travel this far away again, and we wish her all the best on this tour," says Gail.

And Karri can look

out for herself. She's used to dealing with the curses of travelling. She's gone through the usual occurrences ... losing her luggage ... having her equipment separated. Her arrows were once misplaced during a flight. But as Karri said, "A day later, I finally got them back!" So Karri knows the ropes of travelling. With all the equipment that she has to tow along, she also realizes that she has to travel light. "Everything that I take, I have to be able to heave it around by myself," she says. "You soon learn to take as little as possible, just so that you're able to get around without the help of others."

Among her usual equipment, Karri particularly keeps close tabs on her valued possessions which includes her "Check-Mate" recurve bow and her copper arrows. "I figured it out, and I concluded that those copper arrows have made over a quarter of a million shots. They must be good arrows," claims Karri.

When asked if she has ever shot with a compound bow, Karri said yes, but she doesn't like them. "I pull 28 pounds with my recurve and that's pretty good for me. With a compound



Karri Pollard anxiously looks forward to her once in a life time visit to Portugal and also the hectic schedule ahead of her.

it's more weight and it's a lot tougher." No she's not into bow hunting she says. She enjoys the sport of archery and of competition and she plans to leave it that way. She has nothing against bow hunting and agrees that it is a very sportsmanlike way of hunting.

And where does she go from here? Well, when she returns from the Worlds in Portugal, she goes back to the Provincials in Caledon, Ontario, where more than likely she will bring home the championship again. And again. And Again. She has the support of her

family, her friends, and all of us here in Terrace Bay.

Good luck, Karri! And remember - even if you don't take a first in

Portugal, you and the rest of us will know that you've tried your best. And what more could you better succeed at, than that!



Karri demonstrates 'proper technique' for shooting.

could place herself with the many thousands of other archers across Canada. And because she enjoyed the sport.

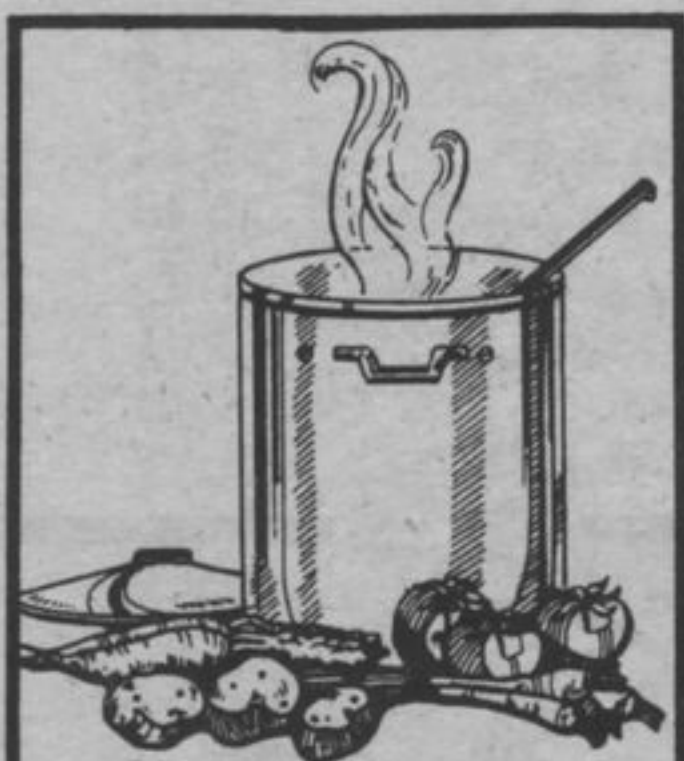
Only six weeks into

she was representing. And it was Ontario that she was winning for.

In 1982, Karri went on to the Provincial Championships in Ottawa, where, yes, she did it again. She took the Provincial Championship Award. She put Terrace Bay on the map. From there, she went on to represent Ontario in

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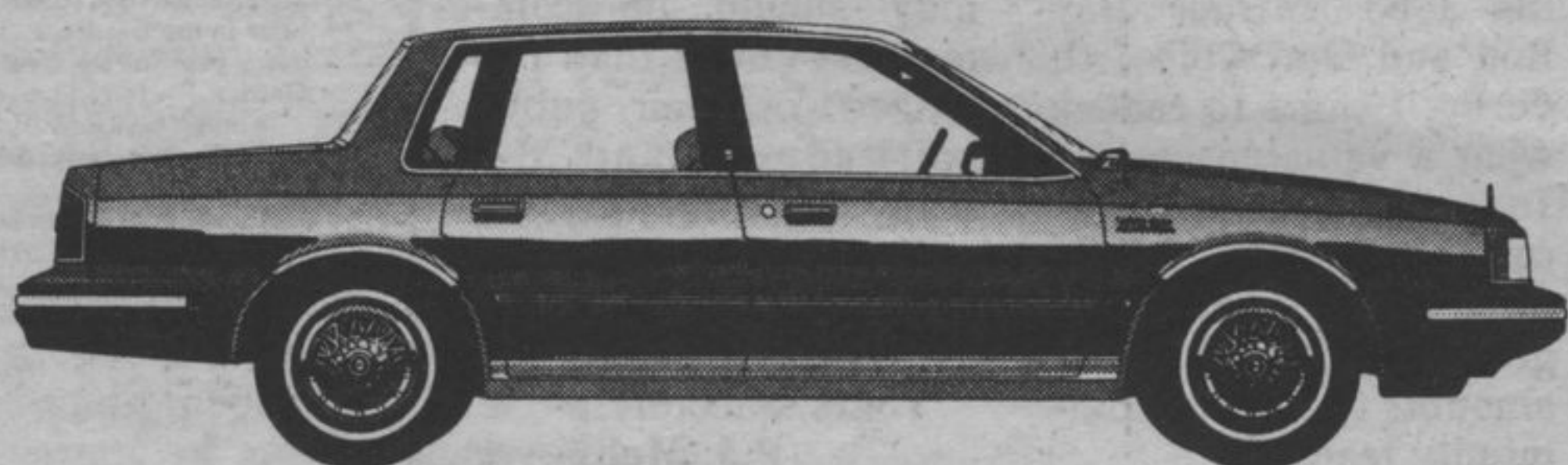
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