

Styles

By Jim Thomas
What's the style-conscious child's choice in back-to-school apparel this fall?

A visual check of boys and girls attending Summitview, St. Mark's and Orchard Park in Stouffville, leaves one with the impression "everything goes".

In the lower grades, dresses are "in". However, the seniors are very much a part of the "jean scene" as if preparing themselves for a move to an altogether new environment in Grades 8 and 9.

But even the "jean scene" is changing. Few are the faded kind and not all are blue. Leslie Mitchinson, for example, a girl in Grade 7, looked lovely in red. Tracey Duke, also in Grade 7, said jeans are indeed popular and most are neat in appearance.

Six year old Daniele McConnell, a pupil in Grade 1, told The Tribune that her mother prefers dresses to jeans so that's what she wears. Crystal Chillman, Grade 2 changes her styles in keeping with the weather — dresses if its hot and jeans if its cold.

Nine year old Andrea Fraser left no doubt about

her preference. "Jeans look terrible," she said. She admitted, however, that she represented the minority in her thinking. Andrea was pretty in a matching blue skirt, vest and blouse.

Nine year old Heather Legault said she'd be wearing both dresses and jeans. Like Crystal, she said it would depend to a great extent on the weather. Shorts, she said, were in fashion too if it was particularly warm. Denise McLellan, Grade 3, said she favored jeans; Darrou Baston, Grade 4, said the same. Nine year old Stephanie Hutchinson chose the "middle of the road". She was trim in a halter top and shorts. Although not certain of school policy, she felt Mr. Broadway, the principal at Summitview School would frown on "cut offs".

Both Angela Middleton, 9 and Andrea Baston, 7, were attired in lovely dresses when stopped by The Tribune. They agreed, however, that they'd probably wear jeans "sometimes". Six year old Susan Baston turned a few eyes at Orchard Park with her red jumper. Dresses, she said, were her choice.



Gormley baton-twirler one of the best in the world

Fifteen year old Marnie Ashton, a member of the Junior Dance Baton-Twirling Team, sponsored by the Bendale Lions Club, was the recipient of a gold medallion when she and twelve other girls

placed first in a world championship at Notre Dame University in Mishewaka, Indiana. Marnie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ashton, Gormley.

Jim Holt

A Fair milestone

By Rodgers Gardham
MARKHAM — Markham Fair is celebrating its 125th anniversary. And from the past to the present, visual results point to a record of progress and achievement.

Much of the research for historic background on this year's Fair has been made possible through the Markham Museum and its curator, John Lunau. John attended his first Markham Fair fifty years ago. He was the Board's historian in 1955 when its centennial was celebrated.

One of the first recorded Markham Fairs was held in Size's Hotel at Unionville. The year was 1856. A tent was brought in from Toronto for which the organizers received much praise from the press for their insight an ingenuity. In 1859, however, the tent did not arrive and the Fair was held in a store. This prompted the directors to make plans for a permanent building site.

In 1860, Markham Fair was held on the grounds adjoining the Wellington Hotel near the corner of Hwy. 7 and Hwy. 48. In 1865, Wm. Armstrong granted five acres to the Fair Society and thirty-seven years later, 19 1/2 acres were added. In 1949, ten more acres were purchased.

In 1865, the Agricultural Hall was built and used until 1915 when it was moved to become a show building for cattle. In 1954, it was destroyed by fire. The structure was surrounded by an eight foot high fence to keep out those who hadn't paid the regular admission. The fencing was continued in 1888 when the north and east sides of the grounds were enclosed. That year, a horse barn containing 24 stalls was built. It was demolished in 1965. A grandstand was erected and a race track oval constructed in 1888.

Another Agricultural Hall was built in 1894. It was called the Crystal Palace. The lower level was used to display fruit and vegetables and the upper section for ladies crafts and other exhibits. This building was burned to the ground in 1916.

New pig pens were a feature in 1905 and in 1910, the then former Post Office was purchased for

\$60 and used as an office for the secretary until 1954.

A new hall was erected following the blaze in 1916. Contract price of the brick building was \$3,500. However, on completion, the cost totalled \$15,000 for which payment was refused. A court case followed and resulted in a verdict in favor of the contractor. The Society was forced to pay the full amount. This building was torn down in the early 1960's. The present arena was erected in 1963 and utilized until 1976.

A horse barn was erected in 1947; a judges' stand was built in 1952 and in 1955, a new cattle barn and race horn barn with 39 stalls were completed. In the same year, special anniversary gates were installed. All

these structures were either destroyed by fire or demolished after the Fair was moved to its present site. The gates, however, were moved, together with two plaques, and set the entrance to the present grounds. On the east side of the Community Centre is a commemorative cairn, recognizing the more than 100 years of fairs held at that location.

The present site (McCowan Road and 18th Avenue), contains over 100 acres. The property is the farm of the late Stan Watson. The layout of buildings follows the same pattern as what had been established at the old site.

With tens of thousands of square feet under roof, the directors will no doubt be very concerned "if the tent

fails to show up from Toronto".

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