



More medals for Maureen

Talented Maureen Ferguson of the Stouffville Figure Skating Club won a first in Pre-Novice Competitive Ladies and a fourth in Ladies Gold Interpretive at the Upper York Inter-Club Competitions in Stouffville, Sunday.

—Jim Holt.

**Top speeches
Teen fads
now-ever**

CLAREMONT — "Be bop a lu la, she's my baby!" "Like she's totally awesome to the max—furr shur!" Two different sounds; two different looks; two different times! Such was the comparison made by Courtney Graham between teenage fads of the past and present, in her award-winning speech, delivered recently at Claremont and Vaughan Willard Schools. Thirteen-year-old Courtney is a Grade 8 student at Claremont P. S. In her address, Courtney pointed to the fact her parents were in their teens during the 50's rock

and roll era. She described her father as "Canada's oldest living teenager". Recently, she said, her dad celebrated his 40th birthday with a 50's party. "It was like living a scene out of Happy Days or Grease," she said. "Can you imagine being in a room with fifty of them (men), all resembling The Fonz?" she asked. Today, (my generation), she observed, everything is New Wave or Valley Girls. And parental reaction is much the same as thirty years ago. Courtney drew comparisons between music and language of the 50's and the 80's—and their differences.

then asked: "What's the fad of the future?" In answering her own question, she referred to an item in the January issue of Newsweek Magazine that suggests history may be repeating itself, even to crew-cuts and mini-skirts! However, Courtney has her doubts, mainly because this time around, the fads have parental approval. Today's teen are "trying to find their own space, if only to be different from their parents," Courtney says. Dress, music and speech are used to create a separate identity. "It's all part of growing up".

About noses

CLAREMONT — Next month, Courtney Graham and Ray Jamieson of Claremont, will deliver their award-winning speeches at a Lions Club meeting in Markham. Courtney will speak on "Teenage Fads of the Past and Present". Ray will talk about "Noses". His address follows: What's a nose? Just a bump between your eyes? Oh no; much more. On the outside, it's some small bones and cartilage, covered with skin. On the inside, it's a hollow spot between the mouth and brain. Air passes through the nostrils into two tunnels called nasal passages, which lead back to the upper part of the throat. From the nasal passages, air passes through the pharynx and windpipe into the lungs. Did you know nostrils aren't even? Don't worry, no one has even nostrils. Your nose breathes. It also filters out bacteria and dirt by using small hairs and a constant supply of mucus. It's also a bodily organ you use every moment of your life. The word nose is slang for spy or detective. Being a nose-y Parker is sticking your nose into someone else's business. To nose-dive is to take a sharp fall. When you count noses, you take attendance. A nose bag is a horse's

feed bag. There are many expressions about the nose. For example, there is "hit it right on the nose"; "pay through the nose"; "right under your nose"; and "plain as the nose on your face". To work hard is to keep your "nose to the grindstone". A reporter may have "a nose for news". A long time ago in London, there was a Nose Club for people with long noses. The one with the longest nose was chairman. At various times and in various places, noses were bitten or cut off as punishment. Within some American Indian tribes, the men would bite off their wives' noses. Some animals have unusual noses. But none can match the elephant who uses its nose to water and feed itself. Animals can be identified by their nose prints—much like a person's fingerprint. A few American Indians, South Pacific Islanders and Africans, put rings and other unusual instruments in their noses. These ornaments serve as lucky charms; a way to show you're mature; to show you have class or merely as pretty decorations. Most will remember the children's tale, Pinocchio; all about the wooden puppet whose nose grew when it lied. Then there's the Christmas favorite,

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. In 1893, Thomas Edison's movie studio introduced a five-second movie. All it showed was a man sneezing. If any of you think dolls don't sneeze, you're wrong. Not long ago, Mattel manufactured a doll called "Bless You Baby Tender Love". When you squeezed her stomach, she had a sneezing fit and water shot out of her synthetic nose. As you may have already guessed, "Bless You Baby Tender Love" was not a best seller. There are seven different nationalities of noses—classic Greek, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Semitic, North American, Indian, Mongolian and Negro. When you eat, if you plug your nose, you're not supposed to taste the food. Barbara Streisand and Jimmy Durante are known for their long noses; and Bob Hope for his ski nose. Ailments of noses are stuffy, runny and nasal drip. If your nose itches, you're going to kiss a fool. Call it what you like—a snoot, a snout, a beak, a bill, a bezer, a bugle, a smeller, a nozzle or a schnozzola but remember the words of comedian Danny Thomas who said: "If you're going to have a nose, have a nose".

Editor's mail

Water safe?

Dear Editor: Have the town wells been tested "to the point of exhaustion" as suggested by one of your readers? Certainly numerous tests have been done. Strangely enough, when the Ministry of the Environment did highly sophisticated tests recently, the town wells were not included. Sixteen different organic substances were found (p-xylene associated with birth defects, phthalates associated with cancer, etc.) in one of the six wells tested on Hwy. 48 close to the town wells. In fact every well was contaminated. It would seem logical that the Ministry would immediately conduct these same sophisticated tests on the town wells.

However, up to today, no such tests have been done. As with so many issues, it will take a lot of people asking before action is taken by the Ministry of the Environment. If the town water also contains some of these chemicals, we can press for alternate water supplies or activated carbon filtering. Perhaps some residents reading this will pick up their phones to request that their water supply be tested as the six wells were.

Sincerely,
Debi Mitchell
R.R. 2, Stouffville

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