

CLOSE-UP

On the move...

Area youth travels to far-off Indonesia

John Gorman, a youth from Uxbridge will travel the globe to see how life is lived on the other side of the world

John Gorman is getting the chance to do what some people only dream about.

The Uxbridge youth has the opportunity to learn about a different way of life, a foreign culture and maybe even how to speak in Bahasa, Indonesia (a form of Malay), which is the official language of Indonesia.

Some 25 local languages (mainly Javanese) and more than 250 dialects are also spoken here.

John will spend four months in Indonesia as part of the Canada World Youth program.

Travelled

The 19-year-old RR 2, Uxbridge youth, graduated from Uxbridge Secondary School last November and in January, travelled to Capde-la-Madellien, Quebec (near Trois Rivieres) where he lived and worked as a volunteer animator for "Maison des Jeunes" with MQC for three months.

Last December after reading the

"Hot 100" booklet, John originally applied to Canada World Youth to go to Africa on the CWY exchange.

In May, this year, John was summoned to Ottawa for a personal interview by Canada World Youth and two weeks later received his participation and personal medical information kits regarding this program.

John immediately began his medical, dental and immunization preparations as well as obtaining a passport and in June, he received official word of his placement in Canada World Youth Exchange beginning in August.

Pre-orientation

The pre-orientation for all selected Ontario participants is being held from Friday evening, July 13 until Sunday, July 15, at the Tai Chi Centre, RR 5, in Orangeville.

This pre-orientation is designed to provide more information on the nature of CWY, clarify the

demands inherent in the program, and to introduce the other Ontario participants to each other.

"I applied for the program to find out what I wanted to do," said John.

"It really helps you to find out your interests."

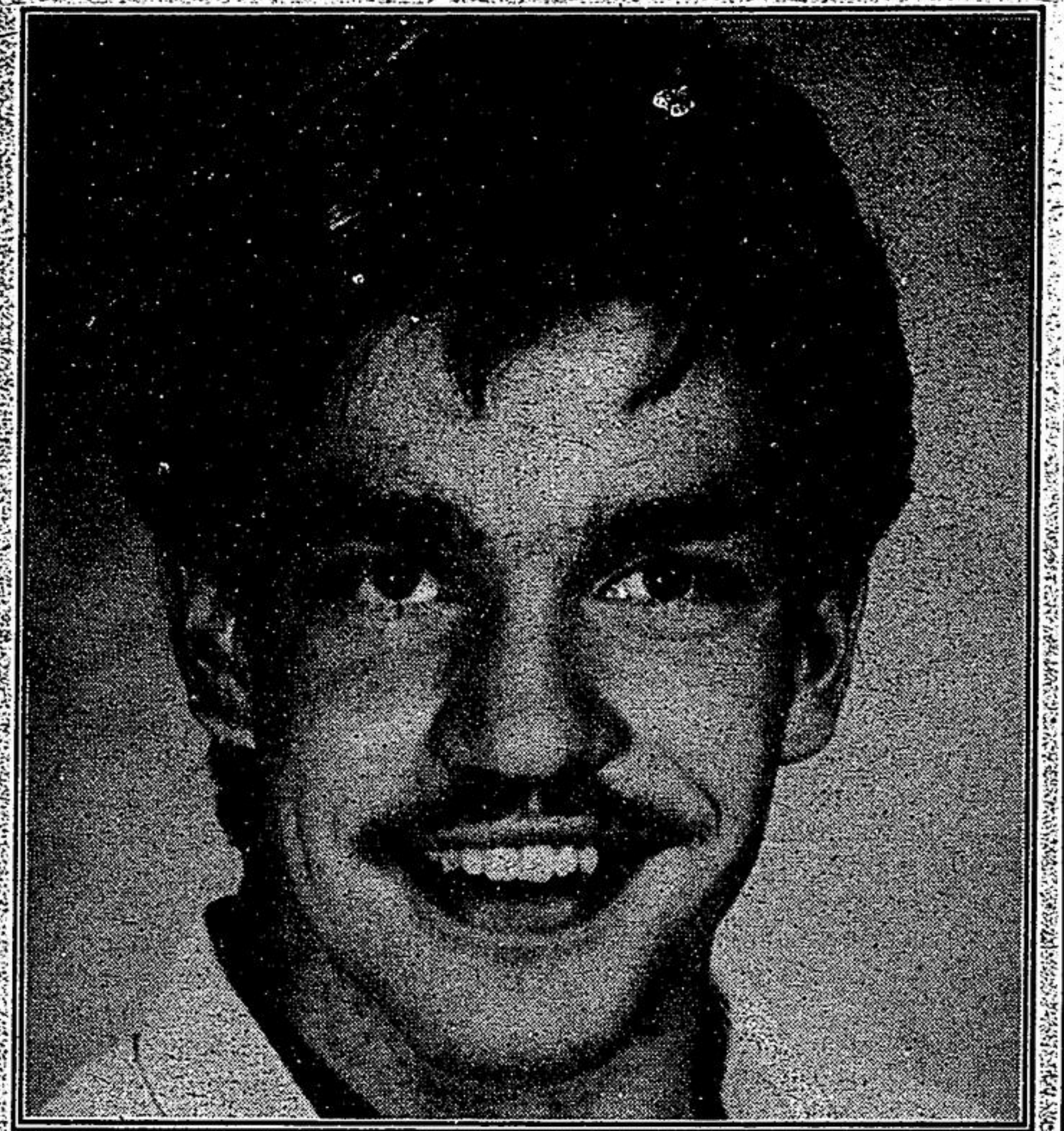
An interest in travel and other cultures also prompted John to apply for the program and to request an African country.

In August, 14 program members will work in schools, daycare centres, seniors' homes and a variety of social service type workplaces somewhere in small communities. Here they will live with local families and work on volunteer projects.

In December the group moves on to Indonesia to work in a similar capacity.

Tropical

Living with a local family, Gorman will follow Indonesian lifestyle whether the family are farmers or artisans.



John Gorman of Uxbridge is spending four months in Indonesia as part of the Canada World Youth program.

An estimated 90 per cent of the inhabitants profess adherence to Islam while about 9 per cent of the population are Christians.

The climate is tropical with an average annual temperature of 26 C and heavy rainfall during most seasons.

The Canada World Youth objectives are for the participants to learn about a different part of

Canada as well as learn a new way of life, culture, and language.

Many of the participants come back to Canada better prepared and more aware of life in their own community and those involved are committed to presentations and volunteer work with sponsoring groups that have helped each one raise the minimum \$300 necessary to travel with the program.

Sponsor

John plans to make presentations to the Uxbridge Legion Branch members, the Uxbridge Secondary School Teachers and the Larry Olsen Scuba Diving Club, all of which have helped sponsor him in this program.

Canada World Youth is an on-governmental, non-profit organization that has operated education youth exchanges between Canada and developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean for 16 years.

More than 7,000 participants have benefited from the program. The program was founded by a group of Canadians concerned about the role of youth in contemporary society and the growing need for people to develop tolerance and openness to foreign values and ways of life.

Awareness

Both participants and community members can develop a heightened awareness of the realities of life in the Third World and another part of Canada.

They may also gain skills and motivation to become more active in the development of their own communities.

John will be gone for eight months with seven other Canadian and seven youths from the exchange country and is scheduled to return in April.

"It's something I've wanted to do for some time now, and it will increase my interest in travel and other cultures," said John.

"It will also make me more aware of the reality of life for people in the Third World."



Indonesia is a country of about 151 million people and an area of 1.9 million sq. km. John Gorman will visit the country this summer to learn more about this tropical nation. He will visit and live with families while in the Asian country.