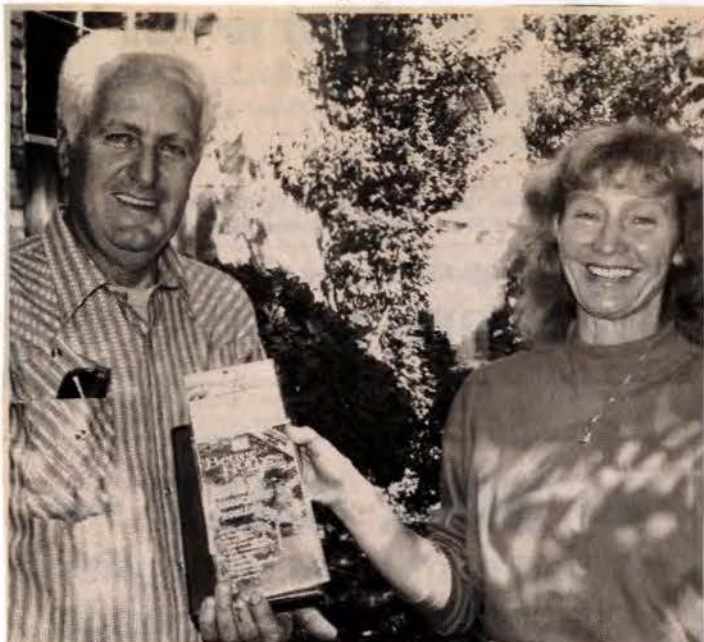




Aletha Bradt, of Aylmer, discovered this freak of nature in her hen house. This is the

first siamese eggs the Bradts have seen in their 40 years of raising chickens.



Bob Dekraker, vice-president of Aylmer Centennial Horticultural Society and Garden Club, presents a videotape on "Solving Landscaping Problems" to Chris Mayhew of Aylmer Public Library. The club makes a donation of educational material to the library every year.

—AYLMER EXPRESS—Tues., October 6, 1992



A crafty lady

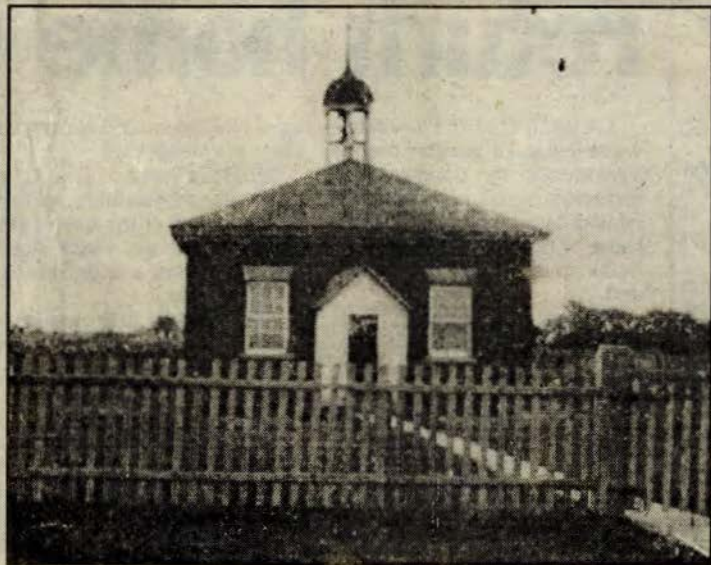
The Danbrook farm was one of several stops on the Elgin County Caravan Tour Sunday. Mary Danbrook showed visitors her store full of dolls, floral arrangements, and other crafts - all hand made by her. - (Staff)

MAPLETON SCHOOL 1909



This photograph was taken at Mapleton School in 1909. From left to right are - Charlton, - Charlton, - Doan, Laura Williams, Clarence Knott, Herman Taylor, Olive Williams, Ruth Charlton, Grace Taylor, Les Doan, Hilda

McCaully, Mary Campbell, Stella Charlton, Willie Doan, Ruby Knott, Ada Miller, John Charlton, Pearl Doan, Mildred McCaully, Len Cline, Ross McCaully, Ross Campbell and Katie Campbell. Picture loaned from the estate of Clarence Knott, RR 7, Aylmer.



OLD SCHOOL...

This undated photo shows the old Kingsmill school, located near the small community of Kingsmill just northwest of Aylmer. It was one of many old schools that dotted Malahide Township.





Dave White, front, right, principal of South Dorchester Public School accepts a \$1,000 cheque from Joan Bogart last week to help buy a video transmission recorder for the school. The money was raised by 15 women who prepare and sell hot meals to the pupils once a week. Mothers making the presentation are, front row from left: Cecilia McKillop, Marilyn Man-

ning, Irene Charlton, Shirley Faulds, Mrs. Bogart, Mr. White, back row: Linda Wintermute, Marilyn Willsey, Judy Sapelak, Beth Millard, Donna McNeil. Absent are Doreen Wilson, Charlotte Ellsworth, Gladys Walz, Marie Stevens, Carol Hodgson, Susan Klassen and Pat Thompson. 1980 3

SOUTH DORCHESTER HOT LUNCH

Each month approximately twelve mothers would meet at the school to prepare the children a hot lunch. The lunch would consist of hot-dogs, orange drink, do-nuts, cheese and crackers and sun-flower seeds.

The wieners were cooked on a stove in the teachers room, then placed in rolls and stored in styrofoam coolers to heat through. The money raised was used for many projects such as gym equipment, a television, playground equipment, a computer and many smaller items for the classrooms.

This practise has been going on for approximatey fifteen years. It has benefited the school greatly. The mothers leave when their Children graduate but the gap is always filled with new mothers every year.

Thank You to Joan Bogart for the Write-Up.

J.A.
EJS



Jamie Stockford, left, and Emma Ellsworth were among 22 Tiny Tots to receive diplomas during a graduation ceremony at Terrace

Lodge June 22. Graduates from the program go on to kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes.

Emma Ellsworth is the daughter of Ron and Sharlet Ellsworth and the granddaughter of Bob and Ardith Millard. Jamie is her cousin. His mother is a sister to Ron Ellsworth.
June 27, 1984

RICK ZAVITZ



Rick attended South Dorchester Public School from Grade 1-6

He attended New Sarum Public School in Grades 7 and 8

He attended East Elgin Secondary School where he Graduated in 1979 with a Honour Graduation Diploma

In 1978, Rick received the Springfield Rebekeh Lodge Award for his participation in Humanitarian Activities. He assisted the St. Thomas O.P.P.'S in a fatal car-school bus accident. School students from Belmont were slightly injured.

Rick is the son of Max and Joyce Zavitz of R.R. 1 Belmont.

While on the farm, he became very interested in archery. For his skill in the sport, he received the following awards-

In 1983, he placed 2nd. in the Senior Men's Barebow Provincial Indoor Championship.

In 1985, he was first in the Provincial Marlmatches Senior Men's Freestyle (using Olympic Equipment)

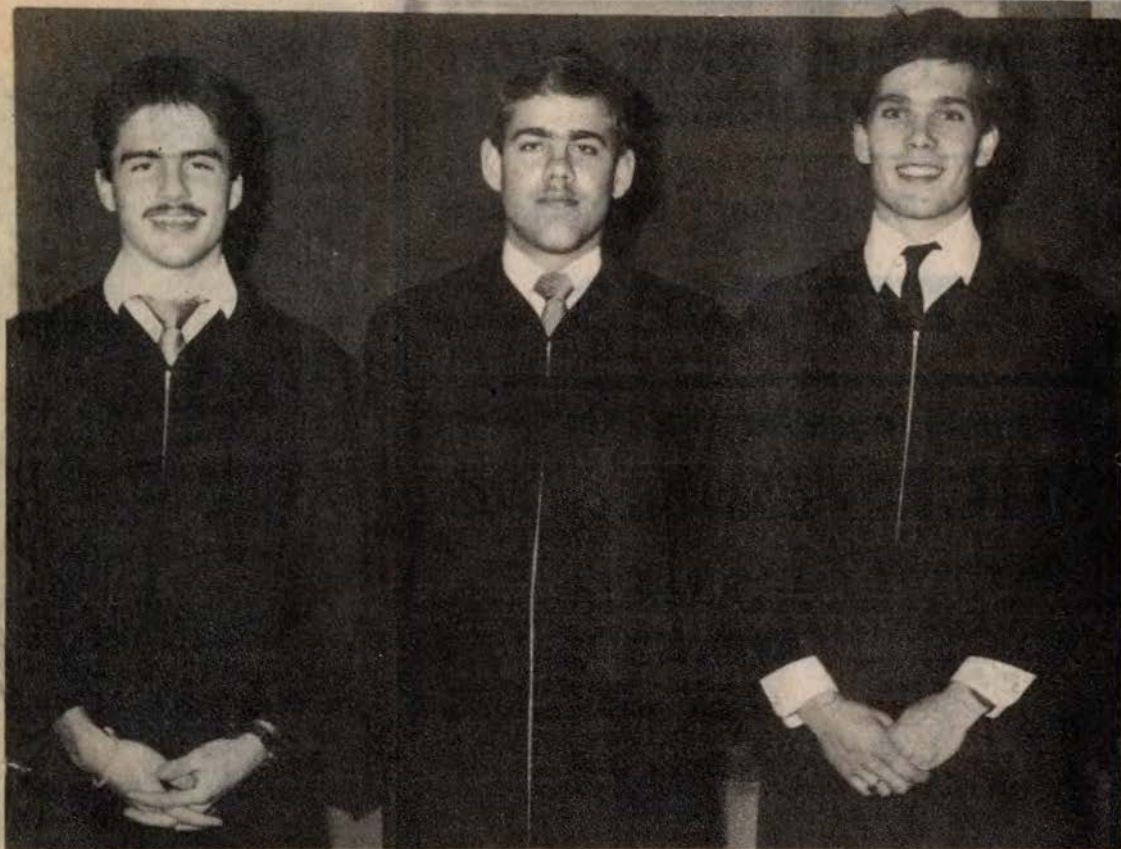
He placed 21st in the Canadian National Championships using Olympic Equipment.

He currently ranks 25th in Canada. He is Certified by the Federation of Canadian Archers and the National Coaching Association to coach up to Level Two.

In 1985, he returned to school at the University of Western Ontario to follow a new career.

AWARD WINNERS at the 1987 Commencement

Oct. 23/87



Shawn Goble, left received the \$1,050 Ellie and Bill Crosby Scholarship Fund award; Joel Lamoure received the \$2,500 Nellie Farthing Memorial Award and; Bruce Baxter received the \$1,700 Dr. Leopold and May Brown Award during the East Elgin Secondary

School commencement held last Friday at the school. All three awards are for academic excellence, and recipients are chosen by the school's scholarship committee. Loretta Wieler, who also received a Nellie Farthing Memorial Award, was absent.

Shirley Faulds acclaimed education board chairman

Shirley Faulds of RR 2 Springfield has been acclaimed chairman of the Elgin County Board of Education for the next year.

Mrs. Faulds, a trustee since 1980 and vice-chairman last year under chairman Jack Harvey, was unopposed during the recent annual election of the chairman by board members.

Mrs. Faulds said in an interview after the meeting that when she was first elected to

the board six years ago, she never expected to one day be chairman.

She first ran for the board when political boundaries were changed and South Dorchester was for the first time given a trustee separate from Aylmer.

She ran at the time because she believed the township should have a representative who lived within the municipality.

Mrs. Faulds was raised on a farm in the Melbourne area, and attended school in Middlesex County.

Her father, Howard McLean, has been a Middlesex County Board of Education trustee for 17 years, and was chairman of the board twice.

She studied nursing at St. Joseph's Hospital in London, and was graduated in 1968.

She works part time at the Memorial Continuing Care

facility in St. Thomas.

Her husband Paul works as a teacher for Oxford County Board of Education.

They have two children: Sarah, 16, is a student at East Elgin Secondary School in Aylmer; and Jamie, 12, is a pupil at Davenport Public School in Aylmer.

In her first speech to the board as chairman, Mrs. Faulds said "I trust that I will receive your full support as we meet the challenges in the upcoming busy year."

Maintaining the current "good relationship" between trustees, school staff and board administration was important in "meeting the needs of the students in Elgin County and helping them attain their maximum potential."

She complimented the board's teachers on the extra hours they spend on after-school activities.

"Last night I attended the

Christmas Music night at East Elgin Secondary School.

"It was evident from the students' performances that they have gained a great deal from the extra time and commitment of their teachers."

She said "Budget time will again soon be upon us.

"We will be faced with bringing forth a budget that will keep the taxes for our ratepayers as low as possible, but will allow us to continue to provide for the needs of the students."



Shirley Faulds

"It is important to continue to upgrade in the business and technical as well as the academic areas so that our students on graduation will be able to compete in the educational and economic marketplace," she said.

The board was attempting to save money by using special grant programs and by using a new "insurance exchange" program with lower premiums than private insurance companies.

"I will be asking the insurance exchange to consider expanding to include school bus insurance," she said.

"This year beginning in January we will see the make-up of our board change as the terms of our two trustees representing the separate

school ratepayers extends only to the end of December (1986)," Mrs. Faulds said.

She said the contributions of Henry Poirier of St. Thomas and Roger Vandierendonck of Aylmer would be missed.

After Mrs. Faulds' speech, three trustees were nominated for the vice-chairman's position, including Jim Williams of St. Thomas, Carol Walters of RR 1 Dutton and George Sloan of St. Thomas.

None of the three received a majority in the first ballot; and the trustee who received the fewest votes, Mr. Williams, was dropped.

Mrs. Walters emerged the winner after the second ballot.

The actual number of votes each trustee received was not revealed, and after the election the board voted to destroy the ballots.

1986

An Annual Event at the South Dorchester School
is PLAY DAY . This picture of
some of the students was taken
in 1986.



South Dorchester Public School pupils Kelly Dale, left, Amanda Hunter, Matthew Johnson, Megan Derbyshire and Bradley Lunn had fun playing earthball during the school's play day last

week. In earthball players use their feet to try to push the ball over opponents heads.

Public Speaking Winners



Winners of the South Dorchester Public School public speaking contest are, Colleen Bartley, first, grade 6; Ammie Lunn, second,

grade 6; and Roko Karamarko, third, grade 5. The contest was open to pupils in grades 4 to 6.

Mar. 1987



Kristoffer Wright, left, Carla Hodges and Jeremy Noble study chicks hatched in their classroom at South Dorchester Public School last

week. The grade 3 class used an incubator to hatch the chicks while studying the life cycle.

Welcome Spring

At Springtime, hatching baby chicks is a favourite pastime of many school children.

April 1987

Tha Aylmer Express

Booklet outlines the History of the Former Aylmer High School
May 1987

The first 50 years were not always smooth sailing for East Elgin Secondary School according to a booklet commemorating the school's centennial. The book was prepared by Grade 10 history students. The Aylmer Highschool was opened on its present site in October 1886.

In 1871, during an extensive overhaul of the provincial education system, a school district consisting of Aylmer, Malahide, South Dorchester and Springfield was created. Prior to that students in these areas could attend high school classes at grammar schools in St. Thomas and Vienna.

The new school district's first class of 35 students was held in a room in the public school building. Increasing enrolment resulted in the construction of a separate high school on the same grounds as the public school, at the southwest corner of John and South Street intersection.

In 1885 the town purchased land from Mrs. Alex Treadwell for a new high school, the southeast corner of the Talbot and Rutherford intersection. The new Aylmer High School was formally opened by Ontario Minister of Education G.W. Ross on October 13, 1886.

By 1891 the high school was classified as a collegiate institute and had 216 students. During the 1890s the school had a football team, baseball, botanical, bicycle and cricket clubs.

In 1899 the school acquired two canons dated 1806. They were brought to Canada for use in the War of 1812.

An account in the 1911 Aylmer Express carried the following account of an accident in the science laboratory:

"While working in the lab at the High School on last Tuesday, with a number of chemicals, one of which was Sulfuric Acid, a bottle exploded and the glass and acid were thrown all over the room for some distance. Stella Warwick

had her face burned with the acid, but her doctor doesn't think the burns are deep enough to leave any scars. Clare Wismer, in trying to get out of the way, sprained her ankle and Nettie Bates, who had been ill, was overcome with excitement and had to be carried from the room. Doctors Leeson and Backus were soon on the scene, and attended to those injured. It was fortunate that the results were not more serious."

In 1913 the Aylmer Express noted, "While the department of Education declines to give out the information, we believe, in 1912, Aylmer stood at the head of all the province in the percentage of successful pupils and honour grads who tried the departmental exam."

October 11, 1917, "A 14 and 15 year old admit to trying to burn down the public school because they didn't have enough holidays."

A 1918 Argus (year book) said, "The object of the school is to give all the boys and girls within its reach a liberal education whereby they may become useful citizens. It seeks to cultivate a literary taste and to inculcate lessons of sound morality, self-control, respect for others, submission to authority, punctuality and love of truth."

In 1928 the school appears to have had a problem with students smoking. April 11 Aylmer Express said "Cigarettes are prevalent among Aylmer school boys aged 10-14. Any dealer caught selling a boy cigarettes faces a stiff penalty."

April 18-- "Boys of the two higher grades were questioned and one-third said they were addicted to cigarettes and gave the name of dealers whom they purchased them from."

In 1936 and 1937 the whole town was engaged in a debate about whether to replace or just update and improve the school.

A January 1936 inspector's report said a new building was needed, and since building costs would probably rise in the near

future, along with interest rates, "Postponing action may not be an economical thing in the long run." Inspectors reports labelled the top floor of the school a death trap. The building as a whole was over crowded, had poor heat, light and ventilation. At the time there were 173 students in a school designed for a maximum of 125.

When in February 1936 the High School Board was asked why there had been no action on the report, its reply was that it was adhering to the government's depression policy "not to press demands."

An Aylmer Express editorial in May, 1937 said, "The citizens of Aylmer either through their council or by their ballots are undoubtedly faced with one of the most momentous decisions they have had to make in the past generation; a decision as to what plans they are to make for the future of their High School."

The editorial said reconditioning the building would cost \$15,000 to \$20,000, and to put on the necessary addition \$45,000 to \$60,000. Cost of a new building would be about \$100,000. An August 5, 1937 Aylmer Express article said the problem had been solved when town council voted money for the new building.

Features of the new building included: sloping blackboards to prevent light reflecting into students' eyes; mechanical ventilation; home economics room and; a gymnasium with a hydraulic stage that was part of the floor when used for games, or raised for performances.

J.F.
E.O.

KINGSMILL SCHOOL 1956



KINGSMILL SCHOOL ...

In this 1956 photo, Richard Lucas, principal of S.S. 15 Malahide (the Kingsmill Public School) stands with the 30 students who attended the school. The first Kingsmill school was built in 1857 of logs, which was replaced by two other brick buildings, until 1913, when the building shown above was constructed.

Congratulations to Miss Lorraine Ferguson
Miss Ferguson is one of the Band and Music
teachers at the East Elgin Secondary School



East Elgin Secondary School music teacher
Lorraine Ferguson and student music council
President Mike Goble, 17, hold the trophy
Miss Ferguson won recently at the London

Kiwanis Music Festival. The Wesanne
McKellar Trophy is given annually to the
woman conductor of the best instrumental
group in the festival.

1985