



TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO THE WEST Lorne Peewee baseball team won the Ontario "C" championship in the third and final game played Saturday in Simcoe. The players are, left to right, front row:

Jeffery, Bob Pinter, Vaughan Peckham, Tommy Lemon, Ken Walker, Donald Howse, David Hepburn, and Eric Johnston. Back row, left to right: Orval Gibson, coach, Ken Hawksby, Bill Kyle, Dave Scafe, Willie

Milligan, Johnny Martin, Bryon Fluker, Ron Horn, Maurice Giles, scorekeeper, Wilf Johnston, Manager and coach.

Barb Johnston Photo



WEST LORNE GOLDEN GHOSTS WON the Henry Miller Trophy in 1966 for placing first in the rural hockey league season. Front row: Alphonse Willie, Ken

Walker, Doug Howse, Gord Timson, Bill Durfy, Wardsville, Elmer Avery, St. Thomas, and John Buttinger. Back row: Harley

Walker, Ray Buttinger, Leo Willie, Cam. Leitch, Bill Lang, St. Thomas, Art Zoller, Mike Vojin and Richard Pyatt.

Olympic Torch observances being planned

Although everyone was alerted last October to the fact the Olympic Torch would be carried through Elgin and St. Thomas, Dec. 29th and 30th this year, it is only now plans are starting to be made to celebrate the occasion.

Several months ago names of several local students were announced who had been given the honor of carrying the torch one kilometer through West Elgin.

Receiving it Dec. 29th in East Elgin will be youths from there, who will carry it to Aylmer. Other will carry it through St. Thomas, Port Stanley, Fingal, Shedden, Wallacetown, Eagle, West Lorne, winding up in Rodney before dark.

Starting in St. John's, Newfoundland, the flame will arrive in Elgin 43 days later.

Other than in St. Thomas, where the torch will stop for 10 minutes, all other municipalities will have two-minute stop-

overs for speeches, presentations, etc.

Planning is just nicely getting underway in St. Thomas for the stop at City Hall. There the mayor is expected to speak, school bands play, medals and certificates be presented, and possibly winners of the Olympic Torch essay contest will be announced.

Locally, planning will commence next Wednesday, Oct. 28th, in Rodney Council chambers, where representatives from Aldborough, Rodney, West Lorne and Wardsville, will meet to discuss the type of observance that should be held.

MEDALS

In each of West Lorne and Rodney, six medals will be presented by a representative of the federal government, one each to the outstanding boy and girl athlete, a coach, sports official, volunteer and a sponsor of sport activities. Recipients will be determined by submission to councils by the

public.

In addition, councils can name 100 people to receive certificates for their general contributions — other than sports — to the community.

Thought is being given to holding a parade, which likely would start on No. 3 highway at the east townline and follow the Torch through Eagle, West Lorne to Rodney.

ANNIVERSARIES

The suggestion has been made that Rodney and West Lorne observe their 80th anniversaries of incorporation on the 29th, instead of the 21st, because that is so close to Christmas and a busy time.

Lions Clubs across the country are acting as liaison for runners, making certain they are at their starting spots on time. They are also in charge of commemorative souvenirs, such as lapel pins, torch shaped candles, etc.

Pick Olympic Torch runners for Elgin

Elgin County will be "sharing the flame" on December 29th and 30th, when the Olympic torch is relayed through the area, and the event already is creating local excitement.

The Olympic torch will arrive in St. Thomas 43 days after its start at St. John's, Nfld. It will come into Elgin County on Highway 3 from Tillsonburg to Aylmer, along Highway 3 to St. Thomas, down Highway 4 through Union to Port Stanley, up to Fingal and Shedden, and then down through Wallacetown, West Lorne and Rodney.

Elgin county residents who will be torch bearers are: Marsha Ackland, Iona Station; Cheri Lynn Bradish, Glanworth; Jill Hind, West Lorne; Jennifer Pickard, St. Thomas; William Berry, Aylmer; John Croft, Aylmer; Stephanie Dakins, Aylmer; Tracey Firby, Aylmer; Timothy Hill, Aylmer; Daniel Murray, Straffordville; Larry Nelson, Aylmer; Jayson Oliver, Aylmer; Diana Telfer, Aylmer; Darrin Whaley, Aylmer; Peter Afman, St. Thomas; Paul Difonte, St. Thomas; Ronald Douglas, St. Thomas; Melissa Harris, St. Thomas; Linda Hoffer, St. Thomas; David Jones, St. Thomas; David McConnell, St. Thomas; John Rupcic, St. Thomas; Janice Auckland, St. Thomas; Randy Dawdy, St. Thomas; Steven Garvin, Shedden; David Johnson, St. Thomas; William Manu, St. Thomas; Jennifer Morrow, St. Thomas; Jody Brokenshire, Iona Station; Bonnie Hitchman, Shedden; Marion Jones, Dutton; Toni Merks, Dutton; Jeremy Snow, Dutton; Linda Donkers, Rodney; Patsy McGill, West Lorne; Janet Swain, West Lorne.

2000 IN FESTIVE MOOD WHEN OLYMPIC FLAME ARRIVED HERE

An estimated 2,000 Aldborough, West Lorne and Rodney residents lined the route of the Olympic Flame down No.3 highway to Eagle, into West Lorne, terminating for the day in Rodney, Tuesday, Dec. 29th.

Despite a cold north wind, people in a festive mood waited for the flame, all being thrilled to have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the torch, some taking the opportunity to touch it.

A small group welcomed the flame when it entered Aldborough at the east townline.

At Eagle a crowd estimated at 250 waited up to hour and a half before the flame arrived. However, they were entertained with live music and were kept warm inside with hot chocolate and coffee served from West Lorne Optimists' mobile canteen.

Presentations of olympic-Celebration 88 Medals were made to Aldborough's male athlete, Rob Schneckeburger, female athlete Carolyn Quinton, sport official Dora Fisher, coach Alphonse Willie, sport volunteer Ed Kebbel, and sponsor West Lorne Optimist Club.

These and many certificate presentations were made by Warden Bill Martyn, Reeve of Yarmouth, in the unavoidable absence of Agriculture Minister John Wise.

Reeve Dan Perovich made the introductions and spoke briefly concerning the township's honor in having the Flame pass through.

WEST LORNE

The Flame was carried toward West Lorne by Linda Donkers of Rodney, and Patsy McGill of West Lorne. About 100 gathered in the arena for presentation of medals and certificates.

By the time the Torch's entourage arrived the crowd was estimated at 500, which gave a rousing welcome.

Janet Swain of Eagle, carried the FLame toward Rodney. Villagers welcomed the Flame a half hour later with about 1,000 in the business section, many with imitation Olympic Torches sold by the Lions Club.

Previously, medals and certificates were presented in the fire hall. Reeve C. I. Black introduced recipients, giving reason for the honor. Presentations were made by Warden Martyn.



Celebration '88 certificates were presented to - front row: Sonya Payne, Lisa Bragg, Audrey Johnston on behalf of her late husband, Wilfred, Ada Brush, and Peter Pinter. Back row: Jim Bernath, Paul Herbrand, Ray and Vaughan Peckham, Jim Gardiner.



Recipients for Olympic - Canada 88 Medals for participation in sports had their medals presented by Warden Bill Martyn, Gloria Walker, Mike Hooper, Allan Ross, Phil Mark, Jim Brush.

STUDENTS CHEER PRIME MINISTER

A rousing welcome by about 850 flag waving secondary and elementary students greeted Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his wife Mila when they arrived at West Elgin Secondary School March 8th, 1988.

Enroute from Chatham to London the Prime Minister arrived with his party in a bus of security and members of the national media, about 3 p.m. for an hour-long visit with the students.

Prior to their arrival in the gymnasium, the local high school band entertained the excited students as well as parents and friends. Invited guests included Elgin County Board Chairman Carol Walters, Director of Education Tom Cunniffe, Warden Bill Martyn, Dunwich Reeve Albert Ford, Aldborough Reeve Dan Perovich, Rodney Reeve Charlie Black who was represented by Councillor Louise Begin, West Lorne Reeve Joe Fischer, and Dutton Reeve Bob Purcell was represented by Clerk-Treas. Helen Schram.

Principal Jerry Prince began by introducing the special guests accompanying the Prime Minister and his wife-Minister of Agriculture John Wise and his wife Anne, and Minister of State for Finance Tom Hockin of London and his wife Mary.

Student Council president Greg Prince had the honor of introducing the Prime Minister as follows:

"First of all I would like to point out that we are also honoured with the presence of the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable John Wise and charming wife Anne. I would also like to welcome all the other visitors, parents and press, to West Elgin Secondary School, it is a pleasure to have you here today. On behalf of the entire student body I would like to exclusively welcome Mrs. Mulroney, we assure you that you are as beautiful in person as you are on T.V. We are extremely pleased that you could accompany your husband today.

Nearly one month ago in the front hall Mr. Prince came running up to me practically jumping up and down. My first reaction was "Take a valium pal!!" but when he told me the Prime Minister was coming I was jumping up and down with him. On behalf of the student body and myself I would like to welcome a man who I admire more than anyone in Canada, a man who has been a student like us, a steelworker at Bai Comeau, a labourer, and a lawyer, learning his lessons from the school of hard knocks. Throughout his life he has proven that hard work and devotion do pay off. The Honourable Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Mulroney has shown that one from an average Canadian family can rise to the highest office in our great land.

We, the students, are sons and daughters of farmers, factory workers, and businessmen. We are the life blood of Canada and we salute you as one of us.

It is now my great honour to present to you, the Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Brian Mulroney."

The Prime Minister expressed his delight in being at West Elgin and said that it reminded him as it would anybody of his background and roots.

Raised in a small, isolated papermill town, his father an electrician, he comes from a large family.

He told the students that irrespective of their background, "all of you can aspire to the highest places in the land without fear."