



Dancing lasses



Highland soccer action

Mississauga's first Highland Games

MISSISSAUGA — With a skirl of pipes and a swirl of kilts Mississauga's first Highland Games kicked off Saturday, drawing more than 4,000 spectators to Huron Park to listen and watch the colorful pageantry.

Jerry Sheridan, chairman of the Mississauga Highland Games, already has plans for another one next summer. The event drew competitors from all over southwestern Ontario with a record 242 dancers entered in the Highland dancing competition.

Huron Park witnessed the highest concentration of Scotsmen and would-be Scots this town has ever seen. The air was thick with brogue and to the untrained ear the piercing, shrill sound of massed bagpipes drifted across the usually quiet playing fields.

Mayor Bob Speck said he enjoyed the games immensely and wanted to return again next year as honorary chairman. Doug Kennedy, South Peel MPP, was also there to greet his constituents and chat under the early summer sun.

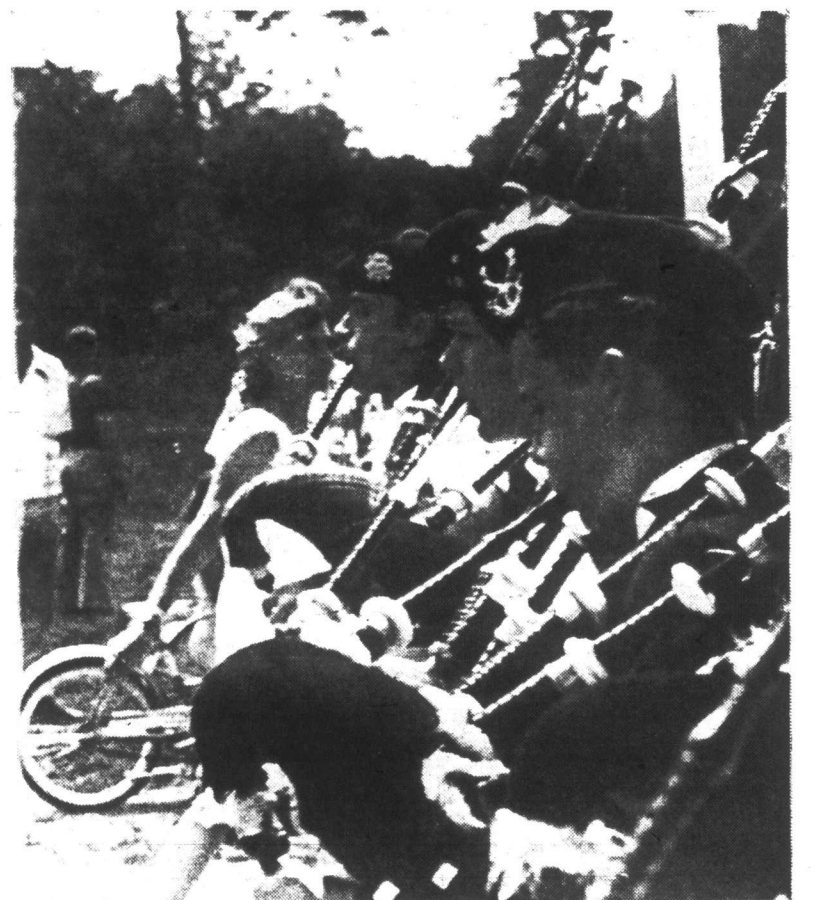
In the March Strathspev and Reel competition (that's marching bagpipes for the uninitiated), the City of Toronto band placed first in the Grade One series. Clan McFarland of St. Catharines placed second while the St. Thomas Police Pipe Band took third place.

In Grade Two competition, first place was captured by the Highland Fusiliers with second going to the Guelph Pipe Band. The General Motors Pipe Band from Peterborough wound up in third place.

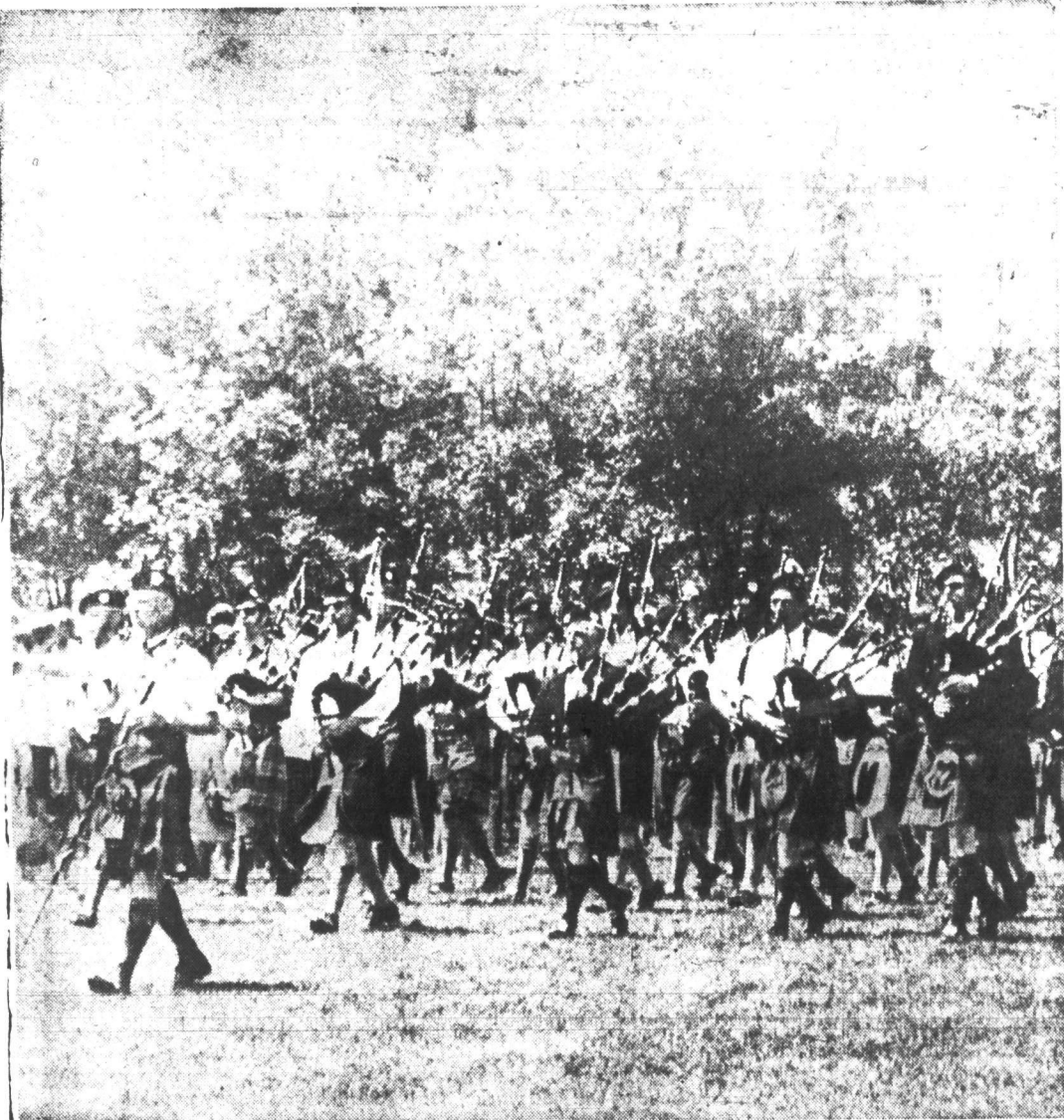
In the caber toss 20-year-old Louis Clare of Selsey Drive in Mississauga beat out two "caber tossing pros" to win the trophy. The 18-foot-long caber weighs upwards of 90 pounds and each participant is required to toss it completely up onto its opposite end.

Clare, prominent for his Port Credit Secondary School football fame in past years and presently attending the University of Minnesota on a football scholarship, out-tossed one of the pros by just three inches to take the trophy.

Port Credit's seven-man "Tug-O-War" team were champs on Saturday, defeating the Sheridan crew in the finals.



The pipers



The skirl of the pipes

Times photo feature
by
Sid Rodaway

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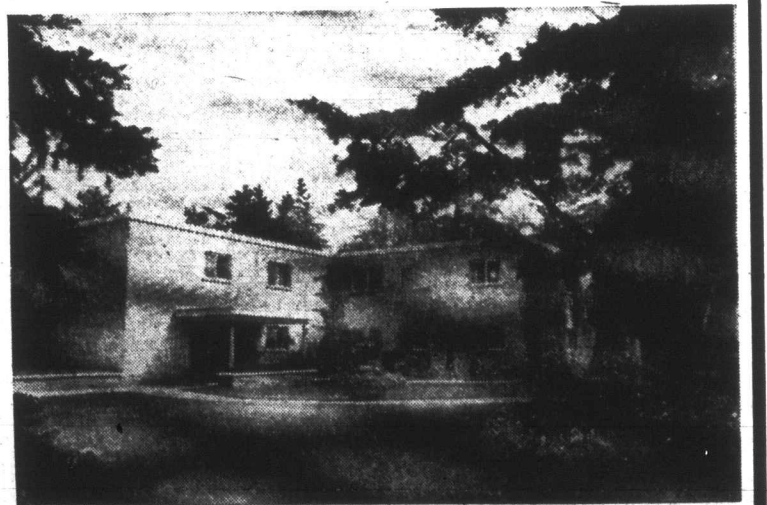
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