

Neighborhoods

Fritterfest declared a success

Mississauga comes of age

By JOHN CHALLINOR
Times Staff Writer

Blessed with great weather all weekend, an overall attendance estimated at 60,000 and literally no organizational problems, the Mississauga Community Fritterfest Festival was easily the city's biggest and best birthday to date.

"I was very pleased with the enthusiasm of our citizens," said Harold Shipp, chairman of this year's committee. "I was pleased that these people came to the party every leg of the way."

Shipp handed out special words of thanks to Bruce McLaughlin of Mississauga Square One Shopping Centre for providing the festival with great facilities for the street dance, the Monte Carlo night, the fireworks and the go kart championships.

"The Port Credit Businessmen's Association also deserve a lot of credit for putting up with us on Saturday," Shipp said. "I'm sure their sales weren't up to par because of the traffic congestion."

Shipp gave his committee special praise for their enthusiasm and said the success of the festival was entirely their responsibility.

"I only acted as coach for the team," Shipp said. "I kept the morale up."

The programs, which eventually became a thorn in the side of most of the committee members, will go down in history as a flop, according to early indications.

Executive committee members guesstimated that no more than 30,000 of the 100,000 books were sold. Considering the draw ticket available and the information contained in each, some members are surprised and many are disappointed.

However, those who did buy one qualified for a windfall of prizes.

John Moore of Etobicoke is on his way to Trinidad via BWIA; Lloyd Devoe of Etobicoke is on his way to the place of his choice care of CP Air; Earl Williams, the Cable Sound man of Mississauga, will be leaving for California in the near future; Eric Stephan of Norval is on his way to Montego Bay via Air Jamaica; T. R. Uren is headed to London by way of Sunflight Tours and lucky Jim MacDonald has got a two-week trip to Hawaii for buying a program to help out the committee.

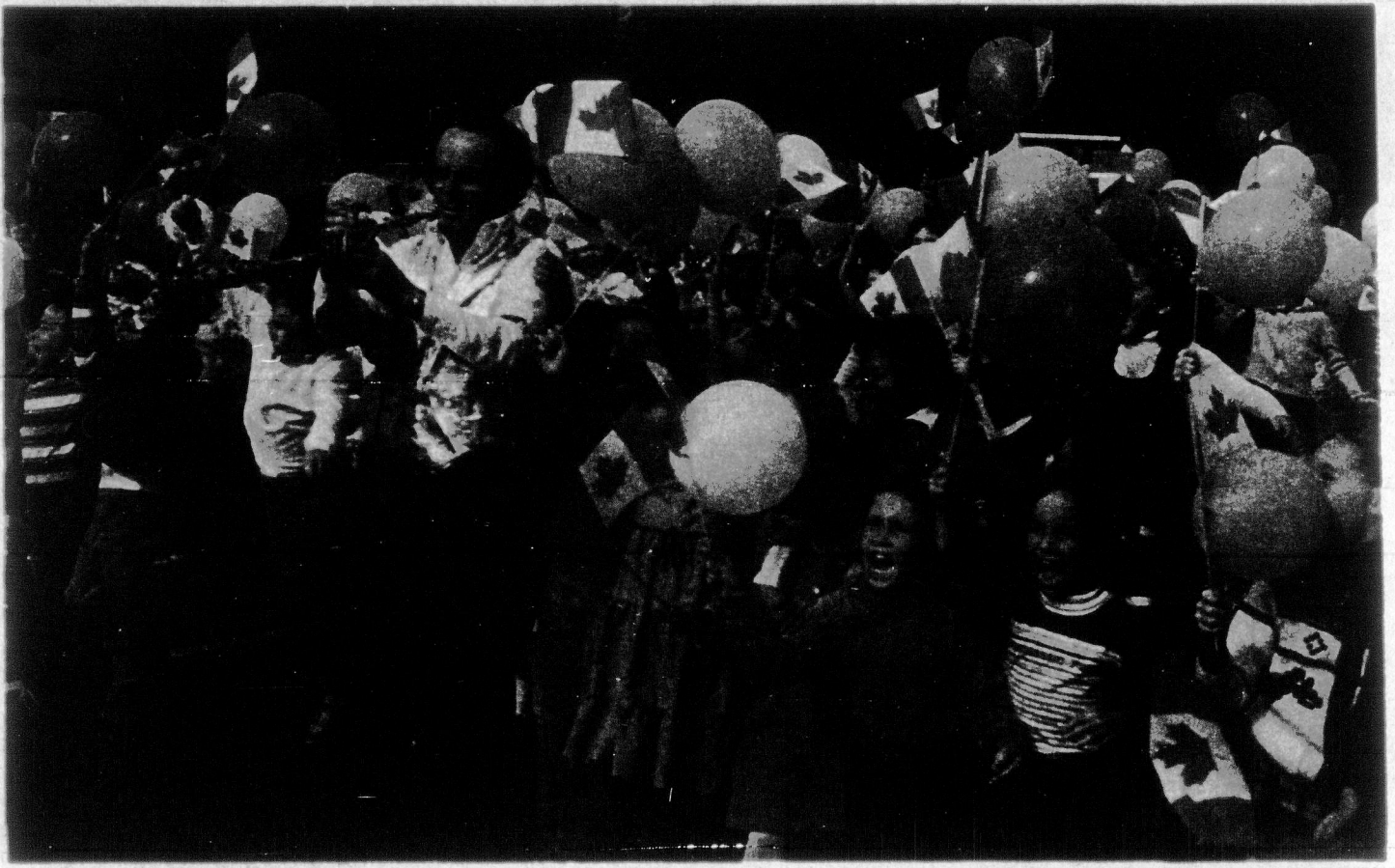
But these people were not the only winners.

"This was easily the best show of fireworks I've seen for years," said Ken Blythe of Hamilton. "It was long and varied in its show — one of the best I've seen."

Blythe joined an estimated crowd of 15,000 Friday night at Square One for the display, which lasted 20 minutes.

Saturday saw a fine pancake breakfast, just as the Civitans promised, and nearly 20,000 people at St. Lawrence, Waterfront and Port Credit Parks.

The Peel Multicultural Council figured prominently in Port Credit with their food



GORM LARSEN/THE TIMES

festival, fashion show and traditional dance show. They attracted thousands of people at centre stage.

The parade, organized by Streetsville resident Frank Haddon, attracted about 15,000 people Saturday morning and drew them into Port Credit Park.

Haddon organized the two-hour parade into the largest parade ever held in the city. It also created one of the largest traffic jams in Port Credit's history.

One of the most popular events of the afternoon was the Mississauga Times Tug-of-War contest, which attracted some 500 people along a narrow section of bank along the Credit River.

Clarkson cheerleaders won the competition in their category by defeating Applewood. Westwood footballers defeated Clarkson in their final.

Bud Gregory, resplendent in baseball spikes, soundly defeated Frank Leavers' tug team but lost to The Times squad when the crowd voted to have him remove his spikes.

The Mississauga Raiders, not used to losing, demonstrated the power by soundly pulling the stuffing out of the Peel Regional Police Force in their contest.

Eddie Shack, Andy Bathgate and Brian McFarlane entertained a crowd of over 2,000 at Port Credit Arena Saturday night as they toyed with The Mississauga Big Brothers for three periods of crazy antics. Shack skated through the entire Big Brothers squad whenever he felt inclined and scored five goals in the first stanza.

The go-karting series was received by some 3,000 people at Square One Sunday afternoon and may become a permanent fixture at the city-wide festival. For further race information see Paul William's story on page 36. A story on the fastball tournament appears on page 38 and a report on the soccer championship can be found on page 44.

Bobby Gimby led the parade with scores of kids; Angela Rynkun, sister Elizabeth and Chris Kawalewski tasted some fritters and MPP Bud Gregory questioned the officiating after swan-diving gloriously into a pit of batter during The Times tug-of-war contest. Fritter-jinks.



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