



Photo by Andrzej Terrence

Judge Roger Boisselle explains his critique of a cat at the Portsmouth Olympic Harbour during Sunday's cat show. For more photos and a multi-media link, see page 3.

## Kitties take the prize at cat show

By Andrzej Terrence

There were cats here, cats there and cats everywhere in Kingston last weekend, during the Canadian Cat Association's National Cat Club Show at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour.

Breeders of all kinds showed their prized specimens, ranging from hairless varieties to, short- and long-haired kitties. Some other breeds included the energetic Bengals, cuddly Balinese and the flat-faced exotic shorthair.

Ribbons were awarded to each group according to the CCA rules for the first-, second- and third-place winners.

Other felines received credit for the

best colour, breed and merit given to them by an official CCA judge.

Merit is determined by the health and the cat's willingness to be handled.

"For each breed there is a description for each part of the cat – every detail of the breed, colour and shape," explained CCA judge Roger Boisselle.

The cute and fuzzy creatures were not dressed to the nines in costumes, but were there to show true pride in their natural coats.

Professional breeders from across Canada came for the weekend, not only to show but also to sell their kittens.

Sophie Calvalido came to the show with several prize-winning Bengal kit-

**'For each breed there is a description for each part of the cat – every detail of the breed, colour and shape.'**

Judge Roger Boisselle

tens with the price set between \$800 and \$1,500.

One of her little Bengals made it to the finals in its class.

"The one I can show and win in shows is \$1,500 dollars; she did two finals. I work

with every colour, all year around. I have some snows and in the near future I will have some silvers," Calvalido said proudly with a chuckle.

Echoes of meowing at the Olympic Harbour joined with the unmistakable smell of some 120 cats.

The classes were divided between non-championship, championship and premiership, each with their own standards. In the non-championship division were kittens, household pets, and experimental breeds.

The championship division was limited to purebred cats, while premiership was for new purebred breeds.

The judging area held a special table for

viewing the felines.

Surrounding the rear of the table sat a row of plain cages where the prized cats were placed prior to being judged.

Every segment of the judging gathered a crowd of breeders and cat fanciers.

As expected, some antics ensued as kitties pawed at ribbons and neighbouring cats.

On top of that, the judges waved a feather-tufted wand in the faces of the caged felines.

The best performers ignored the wand and gained merit points.

At a showing like this there were no lack of laughs and merry cheers for the incredible creatures.



Photo by Nathan Zbeetoff

### Serving up balance

Amber Kent snowboards down Batawa Ski Hill with a hand full of trays during Batawa's Wait 'N Ski Charity Server Race on Jan. 21. Fifteen people in total participated in this event and all proceeds from the race went to the Quinte Children's Foundation, 'Playing for Keep,' program. For story, see page 2.

## Working relationship hits the right notes

By Giovanni Capriotti

Back in 1991, Doug Wicken met Peter Snell for the first time.

Wicken's book, *Nicaragua*, had just been published. Snell and his wife, Carol, interviewed him for a newspaper in the Quinte West region.

Eventually Snell became a teacher at Loyalist College where Wicken, at the time, had been teaching for few years. In the School Of Media Studies the two mingled with Joe Callahan, another teacher with a passion for songwriting.

After 24 years the trio of now-retired teachers is still together. The teaching currently goes on and off and is no longer the core of their lives, but their passion for music is still alive and vibrant.

JOPÉDO, which stands for Joe, Peter and Doug, is the name of the band they formed roughly one year ago, and so far the three have been extremely active in composing new music as well as gigging. They're planning to begin the recording of their first album in April. Before being swallowed by the studio duties, a few more gigs are on the way, one of which will be at Loyalist on Thursday, Feb. 26.

This will mark the former teachers' first performance at the college where they have taught for years.

"In the photojournalism program, there is a documentary photography award that carries my name," Wicken said.

"This gig has the purpose to add some kind of 'value' to it, if you know what I mean," he said with a smile.

For as little as \$5 at the door, it will

be possible to listen to the original folk and blues repertoire of Joe Callahan and JOPÉDO powered by Callahan's socially-aware lyrics, Snell's saxophone and Wicken's double bass.

"The last gig at the Beaufort Pub was one of the best ever with this band. We were able to fully express ourselves in front of a very enthusiastic crowd," Wicken recounted proudly.

Callahan, the singer and guitarist, has always had a feel for social issues, fully reflected by his lyrics.

Snell is a multi-instrumentalist. He spent a lot of time living and playing music in the U.K.

"When the music is cooking and I'm playing well it is like a sort of natural high," Snell said enthusiastically.

"Getting there is fun, too. I mean getting in the zone and avoiding playing mechanically. I love when I get the right flow with the other band members," he said.

As a photographer, musician and writer, Doug Wicken said there is no difference between music and any other creative endeavour. The drive behind them is always the same and belongs to the same one.

"I started playing saxophone in high school," he said.

"Then when, I turned 21, I grabbed my first upright bass. Ever since I studied and practised the instrument. One of my teachers has been Ron Carter who played with Miles Davis," Wicken said humbly.

This Thursday's show is at 6 p.m. in Alumni Hall.



# Pink Bulls have successful night

By Jeremy McKay

Outfitted with pink jerseys, the Belleville Bulls sent the Saginaw Spirit back home in defeat with a 6-1 victory at the Yardmen Arena on Saturday night.

This was a much-needed victory for the Bulls after suffering a 3-0 loss at the Peterborough Memorial Centre last Thursday. Saturday's game helped the Bulls remain in sixth place in the Eastern conference to keep playoff hopes alive.

The Bulls wasted no time in the first period as Brett Gustavsen scored the first goal 1:28 into the game making his 18th of the season with the assists going to Adam Bignell and Michael Cramarossa. Bulls captain Brett Welychka put another one in the back of the Spirit's net two minutes later with the help of Alex Yuill and Stephen Harper.

The Spirit's starting goaltender, David Ovsjannikov, was benched after the Bulls' Maurizio Colella put another puck in the net with Jake Bricknell picking up the assist. Bulls defenceman Adam Bignell planted his first Ontario Hockey League goal just two minutes later with the help of Justin Lemcke and Cramarossa.

The Spirit managed to deny Bulls goalie Charlie Graham a shutout when Kris Bennett scored the only goal of the game for the visiting team with assists going to Connor Brown and Michael Holmes. The Bulls responded with Cramarossa getting one past the Spirit's goal line two minutes before the buzzer went off forwarded by Lemcke and Gustavsen.

The second period didn't see nearly as much action as the first, with no goals scored even though the Spirit outshot the Bulls 11-9. The Bulls' Vancouver Canucks prospect, Jordan Subban, and the Spirit Dylan Sadowy were ejected from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct when the two attempted to scarp in the middle of the period.

The third period wrapped up with one more goal for the Bulls when Niki Petti netted one with the help of Stephen Harper sending the Spirit back on the road defeated. Bulls goaltender Charlie Graham made a total of 29 saves. The Spirit goaltenders managed 24 saves. The game attendance was 2,401.

The Pink in the Rink event was held during Saturday's game in support of the Belleville General Hospital Foundation campaign for better cancer care. "Over \$26,000 was raised in just the jerseys alone," said Jenn Barrett, director of development of the BGHF. The Bulls wore special pink jerseys in support of the event and were auctioned off after the game from \$900 to \$2,000 a piece. "The event was a huge success. The money raised will be used 100 per cent locally,"



Photo by Jeremy McKay

**Belleville Bulls Niki Petti scores a goal against Saginaw Spirit goaltender Evan Cormier at Yardmen Arena last Saturday. The Belleville Bulls won 6-1. The Bulls wore pink jerseys for the game in support of BGH Foundation and campaign for better cancer care.**

said Barrett.

The event raised a total of \$61,000 that will be put towards cancer care in all med-

ical departments that deal with cancer patients at BGH.

The Bulls have a busy week with a

home game against the Kingston Frontenacs on Wednesday at 7:05 p.m. along with back-to-back games on the weekend

with the Oshawa Generals in Oshawa on Friday at 7:35 p.m. and on home ice on Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

## Lancers graduates celebrate under Friday night lights

*Dedication ceremony follows game action by both men and women last week*

By Bryan Eneas

Loyalist played host to the Durham Lords women's and men's basketball teams Friday, resulting in a win for the women and a loss for the men.

Seven graduating Lancers were also honoured for their dedication to athletics while at Loyalist College. Shelby Johnston and Alex Cleave are departing the Lancers on the women's side, while Jordan Marlowe, Steven Bailey, Carson Power, Muller Kalala, and Jesse Cassista are all leaving the men's team this year.

Both Lancer squads faced tough opponents in the Lords.

The women's team was in a position to pass two eastern conference rivals to lock in a home playoff game. The squad managed to hold Durham to within four points to secure a 55-51 victory. The Lancers now move on to the playoffs, with a home game Feb. 28 against Niagara College.

The men didn't fair as well against the first-place Lords. With a record of 16-3 going into the game for Durham, the Lancers had quite a challenge ahead of them in order to make the OCAA basketball playoffs this year.

It would be the final game for the five graduating Lancers. After putting a fast nine points on the board, the Lords set the pace quickly in the first quarter. The Lancers were able to keep a great battle going into the final quarter of the game, trailing by four points with less than five minutes remaining.

In the end, the Lords widened that to a 10-point margin for an 83-73 victory and maintaining their position atop the OCAA eastern division.

"It's a little disappointing, a little frustrating for sure," said Muller Kalala, who finished up his second year with the Lancers.



Photo by James Paddle-Grant

**Loyalist Lancers third-year veteran, Jordan Marlowe, lays in at the rim with a Durham Lords defender on his back. Despite a strong comeback, the Lancers could not overcome the league-leading Durham Lords, and the final score resulted in an 83-73 loss. Marlowe finished the night with 10 points, eight rebounds, five assists and five steals.**

"We didn't execute when we should have been executing. We had a lot of turnovers, and personally I don't think I played that good."

Despite that, Kalala finished third in points for the Lancers during Friday's game.

After spending two years at Loyalist taking the recreation and leisure services course and playing as a Lancer, Jesse Cas-

sista took a little bit of time to reflect on his time at the college.

"Being a Lancer is something I will never forget," said Cassista.

"It was a great opportunity and I have no regrets here at Loyalist. It made me feel like part of a family," says Cassista.

The Loyalist Lancers women's basketball squad will be playing host to the Niagara College Knights on Feb. 28 at 2 p.m.

## Competition tough at Batawa Ski Hill during charity event

By Nathan Zbeetnoff

The Batawa Ski Hill held a competitive ski race called the Wait 'N Ski Charity Server Race. This was a new territory for Batawa as this is the first year they have held this competition.

Batawa managed to raise \$850 in total from all of the donations towards the Playing for Keeps program with the Quinte Children's Foundation.

Philip Baldwin, communications coordinator for Batawa Ski Hill, was responsible for organizing the event.

"We try to have several different events each year," Baldwin said.

Fifteen racers competed in this event, three racers for each team. There were five teams in total: Batawa Lions, Corner's Grill and Tap, Tomasso's, L'Auberge de France and Batawa Grill. Each racer was timed individually and each team's time was combined together. The team that had the shortest time was deemed the winner.

The Batawa Lions Club came first, winning with 85.01 seconds in total. Running right behind them for second place was Corner's Grill and Tap with 86.04 seconds. In third place was Tomasso's with 90.85 seconds.

The catch with this race was that each contestant had to carry a plastic tray with three dishes on it: one plate, bowl and cup. If a contestant missed a gate, one second would be added to their finish time. If any of the dishes fell off of the tray, five seconds would be added. If the whole tray was dropped entirely, 10 seconds would be added.

"I was thinking that it would be funny to get servers together and go down the hill," Baldwin said. After thinking about the initial idea, he contacted Andrew Kotsovos at Tomasso's Italian Grille and Kotsovos pitched the idea of adding a charity into the mix of the event.

Baldwin and his boss Andrew Rusnyk are always gearing towards having families out skiing, so they reached out and contacted Connie Reid, the executive director of the Quinte Children's Foundation and asked if she would be interested in participating in the event.

Reid was more than happy to be involved in the fundraiser and agreed that it was an excellent idea.

"It was the people they brought to cheer them on (that made it successful) ... the event was planned very quickly, so to see everybody take the time to come out and spend a few hours at the ski hill was great," Reid said.

All of the proceeds were given to the 'Playing for Keeps' program. It was a \$50 registration fee for each team that registered.

Reid put jars around for the public in the Batawa Ski Resort, so that they could put coins towards their favourite team. It was another method of collecting donations for the program.

The Quinte Children's Foundation has worked before in tandem with the ski resort over a dozen times. The last three years, they worked on Cancer for Kids and in previous years, worked through different organizations with them.

The winning team, Batawa Lions Club, won two corporate season passes for the rest of this year's season. These passes are also transferrable between team members and can be used by different people, but have to be on different days. The logo of the team is displayed on the pass.

This could most definitely turn into an annual event, Reid explained.

"They're planning on coming back, so you know that everybody had a good time if they're planning on coming back next year," she said.





Photo by Andrzej Terrence

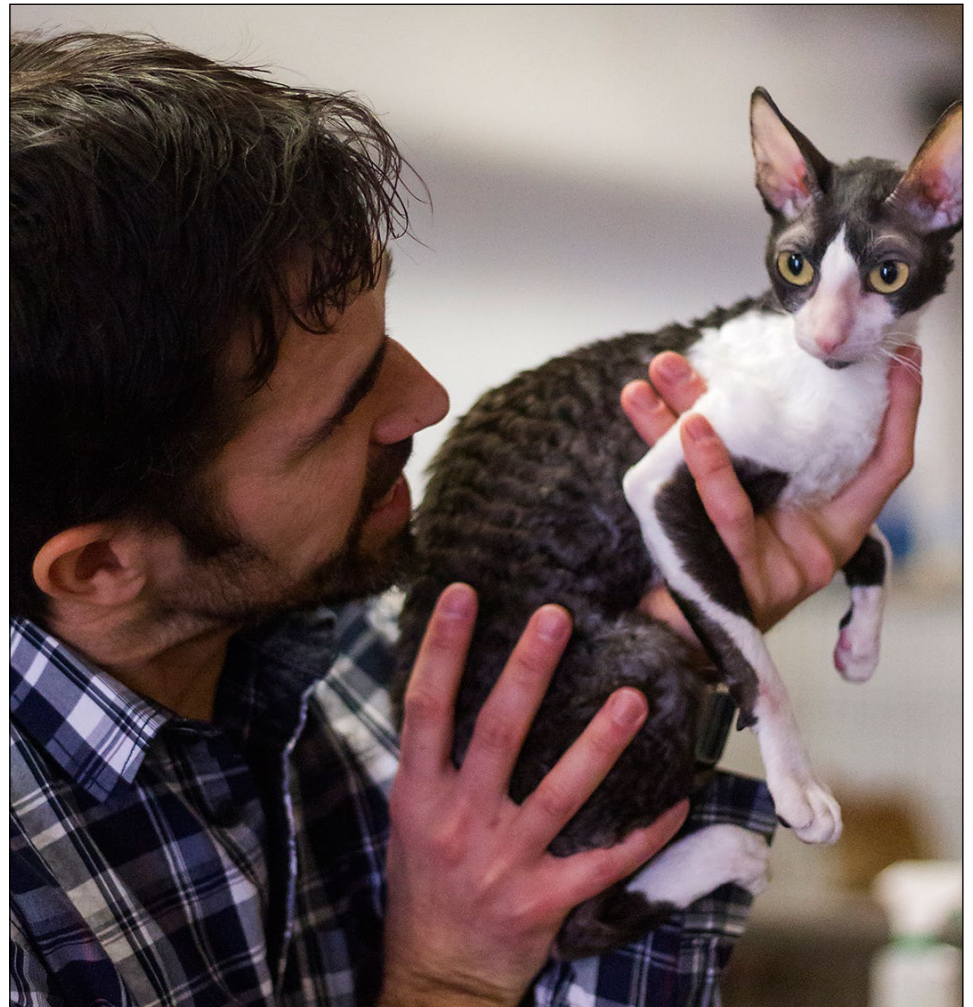
This long-haired cat received multiple awards in its class. One award put this kitten on the map as the third-place, long-haired champion.

# A purr.fect afternoon



(Above) Judge Roger Boisselle explains his critique of an exotic-shorthair cat at the Portsmouth Olympic Harbour.

(Below) Sophie Calvalido's Prize winning Bengal eagerly follows a feather-tufted wand. Calvalido is a breeder specialized in the Bengal breed.



(Above) Judge Roger Boisselle has a natural passion for felines. He became a breeder a year after attending his first cat show in 1991.

(Below) Judge Diane Moreau examines the eyes of a Bengal. Cats are judged by everything from coats to the length of their tail.



Photos by Andrzej Terrence

Take a multi-media look at this event by going to: <http://www.qnetnews.ca/?p=49845>







Alice Cabral's shop in Toronto. All the bridal dresses are previously owned. They range from \$300 to \$2,000.

Photos by Giovanni Capriotti

# A DAY TO REMEMBER

By Giovanni Capriotti

**M**arriage is synonymous with family and happiness in the majority of the cultures. It is the final goal even for the most resilient and career-driven men and women. The dream of the perfect day, to celebrate the union with their loved one, is common to both genders and involves families and friends.

According to GroomNBride, a platform of wedding planners, the industry - considered a true "recession-proof" one - generates in Canada roughly \$4.5 billion each year in Canada. Ontario contributes 46 per cent of this total. Canada averages 156,000 weddings a year and each one can be vastly different, given the multiculturalism on which the country is built.

In the past, the typical engaged woman was 21, lived at home and had her wedding mostly planned by her mother. But now, the bride-to-be is mostly older and has more money to spend, making this an attractive demographic for advertisers.

Trenton-born Alice Cabral has been in the bridal business for over a decade. She started from her house in Quinte West and recently moved her activity to Toronto.

"No matter what, people will always get married. They'll spend less money if times are not good, but still buy into the day to remember," she said, adjusting a bride dress.

The engaged couple stage is among the most compelling sales opportunities for business/companies. Over an 18-month period, the engaged couple considers various ways to spend over \$4.5 billion on their wedding, ceremony, honeymoon and other purchases for marriage.

"I used to be able to know how many licences were issued in the area. After each ceremony, I was contacting the bride to buy her dress. That is the way I started, selling pre-owned dresses," Cabral confessed candidly.

According to a 2011 Canada census, the city of Belleville, with a population of 49,454, has a female demographic of 5,960 individuals in the age group between 20 and 39. In the same age range, the male demographic stands at 5,740 people. Simi-

lar sized communities nearby appear to have same numbers. This makes the whole area a potentially serious contributor to the \$4.5 billion estimated by GroomNBride.

"We need to keep in mind that although the wedding industry is huge in terms of revenue, it is often difficult to track exactly where that money is being spent. This is because the industry is made up of multiple smaller enterprises like caterers, wedding consultants, dresses, jewelry, various beauty suppliers, photographers, honeymoon related, etc. In addition, many of these smaller enterprises also do other events and don't necessarily break their business down into wedding versus non-wedding," observed Jessica Dexter, a Toronto event director.

"A complete wedding in a King street west venue starts roughly at \$265 per person," she continued.

From the cutting edge Toronto skyline to the pristine beauty of Sandbanks Provincial Park, it seems that the amount of money around a wedding celebration varies according to the disposable income of the families or their lines of credit.

"Within certain communities, you don't want to look cheap when you have to organize your wedding. This is why I don't use the term "second-hand dress". It wouldn't market my items properly. Pre-owned works well and doesn't make you feel cheap," Cabral said with a smile.

Wedding styles can be very personal, but most have underlying commonalities. There is definitely a North American way to celebrate such an event. But as it happened for food, ethnic traditions persist, however shaped by a touch of "Canadiana".

"Once I organized a Halloween style wedding. All the guests showed up in costumes and the bride wore a vintage red burlesque dress," Dexter funnily recounted.

The bride dress encompasses the idea and the magic of the wedding and can be one hell of an expensive item.

"I try to sell my dresses at no more than \$2,000. The cheapest one can easily go for \$300, but still we are talking about pre-owned ones," Cabral said.

The economy may certainly be shrinking but the idea of a memorable day celebrating the love between two people still holds and does not seem to be endangered by worldwide modernism or new trends.



(Above) Alice Cabral adjusts a bridal dress in her Toronto shop. The dress is approximately \$700 and is previously owned.

(Right) A bridal dress sits on a mannequin in Alice Cabral's shop in Toronto.



(Left) A \$950 pre-owned bridal dress is accented with a black and floral design.