

# Thomson TRADEWINDS

DAVID & MARY THOMSON C.I. ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

## Carmen Unzipped

We've probably never featured a front page like this in our many years of publication. What have the photograph and the headline to do with Thomson alumni?

Well, the laughing blonde is **Patti (Paddle) Loach**, from the Class of 1977 and the photograph is from the publicity material for a new cabaret, "Carmen Unzipped," which Patti co-wrote and co-performs with noted Canadian mezzo-soprano, **Jean Stilwell**. (Take a wild guess: she's the one on the left!) The music from the show is also available on a similarly-titled CD.

Classmates may remember Patti as a very accomplished pianist, even back then. Now she is winning raves for her sympathetic collaboration with Jean on a variety of musical styles from opera to cabaret to jazz and Broadway. Ms. Stilwell is perhaps most famous for her definitive portrayal of the musical heroine, Carmen. Hence, the title of this production, which takes Carmen's character and outlook beyond the bounds of the opera stage and into the more intimate atmosphere of the cabaret.

The show was unveiled March 30 and April 1 at the Ernest Balmer Studio in Toronto's Distillery District, close to Patti's home in the Beach. Her husband, John, was the recording engineer for the CD (right in their home), and even plays trumpet on a couple of tracks. Their sons take the celebrity visitors to Casa de Loach in stride, referring to Ms. Stilwell as "The Tattooed Diva."

Patti is kind enough to credit her participation in musical theatre at Thomson for developing her interest beyond practising the Conservatory piano repertoire. She loves the art of accompanying, especially in a dramatic setting.



"Collaborative work is much more redemptive," she says.

Parts of the show will be performed April 19 at a gala at Toronto's Palais Royale for the Dancer Transition Resource Centre (with Veronica Tennant, Rex Harrington and Sheila McCarthy) and May 5 at the Manitoba Conservatory of Music (with Rex Harrington and Ron Paley). The full show will be performed July 28 at the Festival of the Sound, Parry Sound and December 31 at the Waterloo Entertainment Centre, Waterloo, ON.

Or you can dash out and obtain the CD from L'Atelier Grigorian (Toronto, Oakville, Montreal and London), Theatre Books, Song and Script, Nicholas Hoare Books (Toronto) or Madrigal Music (Halifax). Google any of the above names for details of the show and/or the CD. And, if all else fails, email Patti herself at <patti@loacheng.on.ca> for a whole batch of interesting sites to explore and admire. Congratulations, Patti. Nil Sine Magno Labore!

# Fall Pub Night's a Huge Success

report and photos by Bob Doi

Okay, now that we have grabbed your attention, maybe it wasn't a huge throng, but it was one of largest turnouts ever. On November 3rd, a good-sized throng of approximately 45 Thomsonites turned out to our Pub Night at Tapps Restaurant in northern Scarborough. As it is a popular restaurant and bar, we were fortunate to be able to book this fine establishment. We



even have a Thomson connection there. One of the co-owners/managers is **Jim Vass**, the brother-in-law of **Bill Papaconstantinou**, current Head of our Boys' Phys Ed Department! Unfortunately, neither could attend on this occasion.



Renewed camaraderie, plus complimentary munchies and a steady flow of good brew kept the lively conversations going well past midnight. The attendees included a small group from the Class of '81 who turned this into a mini 25th Anniversary Reunion. These included: **Bob McBride**, **Glenda Sharples**, **Michelle Leslie**, **Linda Gutteridge** and **Karen Wakefeld**.



Unfortunately efforts to gather a larger group from the Class of '81 were not fruitful. Thanks for trying, Bob (McBride)! In the future, if you are interested in trying to organize a Class Reunion, contact the Thomson Alumni Committee and we'll try to assist you by providing you with any names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses that we might have on our Master Alumni Database.



The past two pub nights, Tapps in northern Scarborough and Shoeless Joe's in Ajax, have been two of our best ever. Let's keep the trend going to make it 3 in a row!



# Behind the Headlines

Our sharp-eyed reporter, **Bob Doi**, noticed a couple of articles in the *Toronto Star* on December 13, featuring a future star athlete from the present Thomson student body. We've included images of those two articles along with Bob's impressions below. While old-timers are reading the article, and perhaps feeling a bit strange at seeing the new team name, the Titans, featured in headline form, a provocative question: What did the girls' teams of the past call themselves?

## Titans upset No. 3 Gators

### Unranked Thomson knocks Peel champs out of provincial girls hoops tournament

DAVID GROSSEMAN  
SPORTS REPORTER

HAMILTON—The magical season ended last night for the Father Goetz Gators.

Regarded as the GTA's best hope of for a medal at the provincial high school girls Quad-A basketball playoffs, the Peel Region champs were eliminated in a surprising loss.

It was Toronto's unranked David and Mary Thomson Titans who upset the No. 3-ranked Gators 56-55 at the buzzer before a stunned crowd at St. Thomas More Secondary.

A wild-card entry, Thomson had lost its opening game by 31

points to top-ranked and defending Ontario gold medal champion St. Mary's Crusaders. Meanwhile, Father Goetz had beaten the Eastview Wildcats of Barrie 49-32.

But strange things happen in a double knockout elimination format, in which teams win and advance — lose and you're out of the medal round.

Gators coach David Maxin said it was just another chapter in his team's up-and-down season.

"We've had great games all year and in others we went stone cold," said Maxin, his team losing for only the sixth time in 31 games.

"At halftime, I looked at my coach and said something like, 'Oh-oh... we're in trouble.' I could see we weren't sharp and picked a bad time to go cold."

Thomson led 15-14 after the opening quarter, 31-21 at the halftime break and 44-36 with eight minutes left in the game.

Lateisha Tappin scored 17 points for Thomson while Renelle Richmond and Reachel Thelwell-Brown each added 11. For Father Goetz, Chanel Harris had a game-high 18 points while Fletcher had 17.

In other games, No. 4 Westdale of Hamilton, with a 45-29 win, sent Toronto Catholic champion Michael Power/St. Joseph packing after the Trojans had earlier lost 44-31 to No. 2 St. Anne of Tecumseh, York region

champion St. Theresa of Lisieux of Richmond Hill also went two and out — a 64-39 loss to St. Anne last night.

In opening-round games, London's Catholic Central beat No. 7 Sinclair of Whitby 46-35 while Kitchener upset No. 8 Northern of Toronto 44-32.

At the Double-A playoffs in New Liskeard, East Elgin beat Runnymede 56-35 but avoided elimination in the double knockout tourney, beating Temiskaming 47-39. In the Single-A playoffs in Dresden, Charlan of Williamstown defeated Boylen of Toronto 61-50 despite a 31-point performance by Brittany Miller in a losing cause.

> High school results, C11

Thomson Titans star basketball player, **Aleia Gland**, has hit celebrity status amongst the Thomson elite. The grade 12 student has made the *Toronto Star's* Top Five High School All-Stars list.

In the Provincial Girls Basketball Tournament, Aleia led our unranked Titans to a huge upset win over the number 3-ranked Father Goetz Gators of Mississauga (Peel Region Champions). Thomson, which had lost its opening game by 31 points to the top-ranked team, bounced back to win 56-55 over the Gators. In this huge upset win, Aleia scored 9 points and added 9 assists.

Other stars for Thomson included **Reachel Thelwell-Brown** and **Renelle Richmond** with 11 points each and **Lateisha Tappin** with a team-high 17 points. The Titans ended up finishing the tournament in 3rd place after losing in the semi-finals. A great effort and a fantastic tournament result for the wildcard-entry Titans. Congratulations to the team!

We wish Aleia the best of success at University next year.

## Back to Tapps on May 11

We've set the date for our spring Pub Night: Friday, May 11. We thought that Mother's Day week-end (You haven't forgotten that, have you?) might be an appropriate occasion, in case some of our out-of-town alumni are back closer to home to visit with family, and wouldn't mind adding a visit with members of the Thomson C.I. family as well.

With the success of our fall festivities at Tapps Restaurant, we have decided to try a return visit. Shoeless Joe's in Ajax, our successful site last spring, is temporarily closed and unavailable. Tapps, 5630 Finch Ave. E., is at the corner of Finch and Tapscott Rd., one stop-light east of Markham Rd., and quite handy to the Markham Rd. exit on the 401 if you are driving from the east, west, or north. Access to the large parking area is off Tapscott Rd., just behind the restaurant.

Our Pub Nights continue to be the easiest and most effective way of getting together and keeping in touch. No tickets to buy. No complicated clerical details to manage. Just show up any time after 8:00 p.m., with or without classmates, with or without yearbooks, and see what happens. Then your photo may also grace the pages of a future edition, like those on the opposite page. See you there!

GUARD  
**Aleia Gland**



Thomson Titans (Toronto)

**TEAM RECORD:** 16-11  
**AGE:** 17 **GRADE:** 12  
**HEIGHT:** 5-foot-8  
**ACADEMICS:** 75 per cent  
**GAME AVG.:** 18 points, 8 rebounds, 6 assists  
**BEST GAME:** Solid performance with nine points, nine assists and superb defensive game eliminating No. 3-ranked Father Goetz Gators of Mississauga with 56-55 win at provincial Quad-A playoffs  
**NEXT YEAR:** Indiana State, Cincinnati and Lafayette are among the U.S. schools interested in her, but Gland could end up staying in Ontario and pursuing a teaching career.  
**SKINNY:** Three-time MVP plays volleyball, soccer and is on the track team. A strong candidate for school's athlete of the year. Grandfather was Richard Gland, known to professional wrestling fans at Dick (The Bulldog) Brower.

