



Air show lands \$225,000 for relief, rescue work

By MIKE KING
of The Gazette

At least 55,000 spectators gathered on or around the St. Hubert airport last weekend to witness the 10th annual Montreal International Air Show — minus its top guns.

The Snowbirds, the main attraction at the event the past nine years, didn't perform as scheduled Saturday and Sunday.

But that didn't stop an estimated 35,000 paying customers — including approximately 10,000 youngsters under the age of 12 — from attending. About another 20,000 people gathered to watch aerial displays from airport perimeters.

Officials from the Wings of Hope, sponsors of the event since 1985, say early calculations indicate the event raised \$225,000 for the non-profit organization which flies supply and rescue missions in western South America, including the Amazon forest.

Marie-Louise Delisle, spokesman for the show known as Expo Air since the Wings of Hope took over operations of the international air show from Transport Canada five years ago, said the amount is about the same as the total collected in 1988.

Delisle said yesterday the money came mostly from gate receipts, a percentage of concession sales and a fund-raising dinner in Longueuil last Friday night.

Organizers say the annual international air show will be held in St. Hubert for the third consecutive year next spring.

Instead of taking place in September, however, it will be moved ahead to May. It is also hoped the Snowbirds will return to the show.

The organizers tried to make up for the loss of the Canadian Forces' precision flying squad by offering more than 120 military and civilian aircraft this year.

It marked the largest number of exhibits in the show's decade-old history and helped boost attendance by more than 5,000 people from last year. The 1988

show had fewer than half the number of exhibits on display on the weekend.

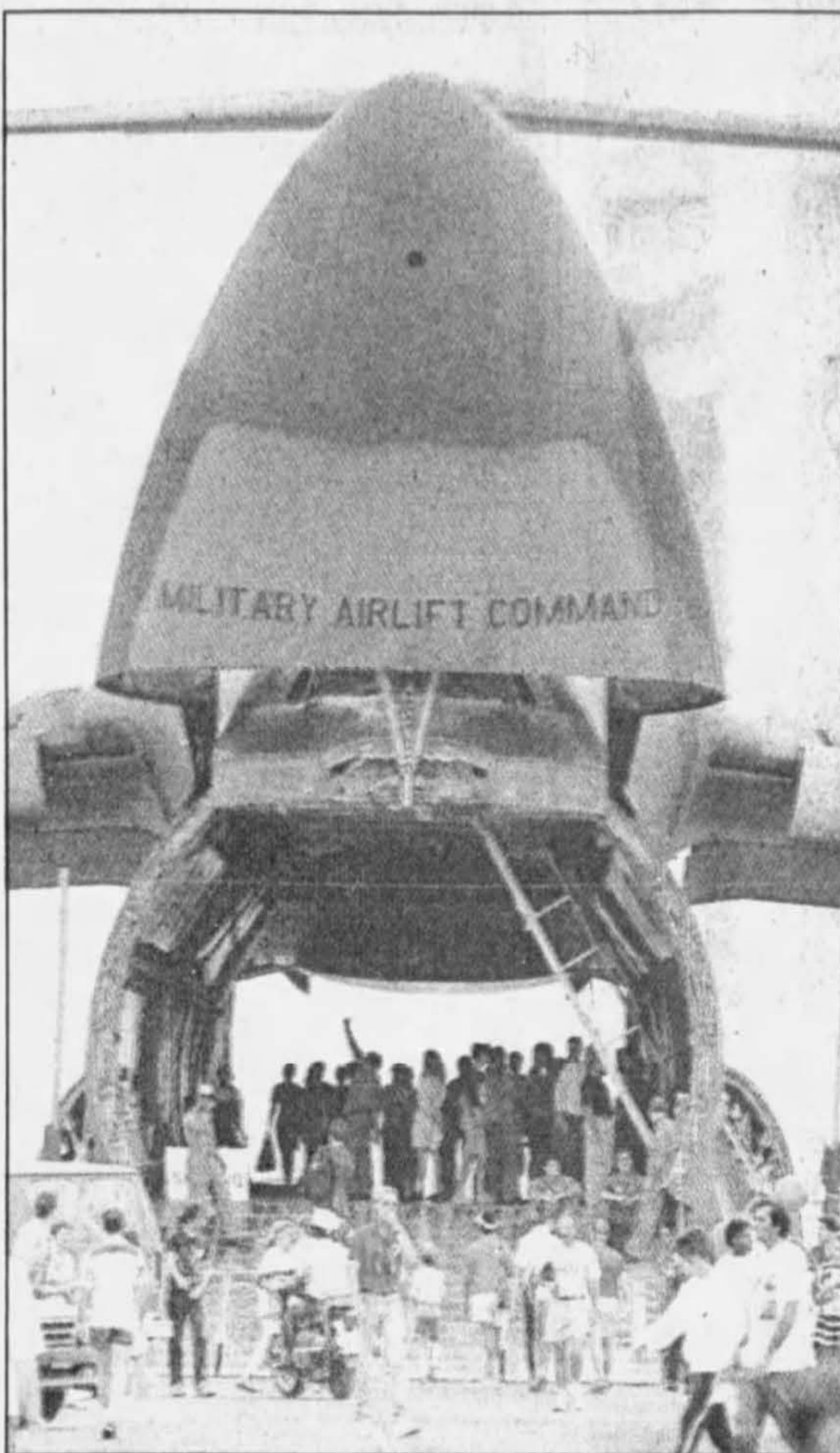
The Snowbirds were indefinitely grounded in the wake of a tragic accident Labor Day weekend in Toronto that claimed the life of pilot Shane Antaya.

But another crowd favorite did return this year. The French Connection aerobatic team paid tribute to the Snowbirds on Saturday afternoon. The pair of aerobatic pilots dedicated one of the final manoeuvres in their daring program to the Snowbirds.

The two-day show was moved to St. Hubert in 1988 after the previous host, Mirabel airport, could no longer guarantee dates and times.



CF-18 fighter roars into the sky.



Like something out of Jaws, maw of a C-5 Galaxy draws visitors.

Gazette photos, Allen Molnais

Champlain staff taken through picket line

By MARY LAMEY
of The Gazette

Teachers at Champlain Regional College in St. Lambert will be out of the classroom and on the picket line again today and tomorrow as they continue to press the government for a settlement in their stalled contract negotiations.

The teachers have been working without a contract since December. Their union, the Fédération des enseignants et enseignantes du Québec, is seeking a 12.2-per-cent increase in teaching staff, a cut in workload and a pay increase of about 22 per cent over three years.

On Tuesday, picket lines went up outside the college at 7 a.m. Few students showed up for classes. Those who did were not allowed into the building.

The situation was more complicated for members of the CEGEP's support staff.

Lab technicians, library workers, and other non-teaching staff had voted not to strike on Tuesday, but the majority were not willing to cross picket lines, said Neil Sinnamon, president of the support-staff union.

At 8:30 a.m., when the first shift of non-teaching staff were expected to start work, campus administrators broke through the line of teachers in front of the doors and began escorting the support-staff workers through.

Support workers unwilling to cross the line were told by administrators that further action might be taken against them.

Campus director George Wallace did not return calls from a reporter.

"We voted not to strike," said Sinnamon. "It was up to the administration to ensure the support staff's safety. Basically, there was a lot of intimidation. It was not a very nice way to treat the ladies."

Humanities teacher Fouad Assad said the teachers are striking for more than a raise.

"We are trying to improve the quality of education," he said. "To do that we need more teachers, a smaller workload and better resources."

Commuter train proposal finds political backing

The Southwest Train Committee's campaign for a commuter rail link between Châteauguay and Montreal is picking up steam.

At Monday's regular committee meeting, Paul Ennos, the Equality party candidate in Châteauguay, added his name to the growing list of politicians who say a commuter train is a must for the area.

At least 10 of 14 area mayors, representatives from Kahnawake, and the Liberal and Parti Québécois candidates in the Sept. 25 election have already offered the committee support for the proposed rail link.

Committee spokesman Noreen Duross says the political will is there. "The community just has to demonstrate that it really wants the train service."

Transport Minister Marc-Yvan Côté has promised the train will be among his top priorities if he's elected.

Duross says the support is welcome, but that the committee is trying hard to stay out of the election fray.



Members of the Skyhawks parachute team hook their feet together and fall straight down during colorful air show performance.

Rash of public-sector walkouts delays ruling on transit dispute

LONGUEUIL — The recent spate of legal and illegal public sector strikes has put the 20-week-old South Shore transit labor dispute on the back burner for the time being.

Montreal South Shore Transit Corp. (MSSTC) management and the union representing about 200 striking bus mechanics are awaiting a Quebec Essential Services Council ruling on proposed changes to a work list all three approved when the dispute began in late April.

But council spokesman Carole Bégin said yesterday the five-member council must deal with the rash of walkouts by tens of thousands of health-care workers, school teachers and support staff as well as civil servants.

Bégin said the council held a hearing last Friday after the MSSTC requested changes to a list which names striking mechanics who must provide 70 per cent of their normal work schedule to assure sufficient public transportation during weekday peak hours.

An earlier council decision ruled that the MSSTC was wrong in unilaterally making changes to the list last month and assigning different jobs to the workers on the list.

Group urges transit protest

LONGUEUIL — Commuters are being encouraged to join a demonstration next week to protest the on-going South Shore transit strike.

People affected by the 20-week-old strike by Montreal South Shore Transit Corp. maintenance workers are asked to gather in the Longueuil Métro station at 5 p.m. Monday.

South Shore Briefs

The rally is being organized by the public transit lobby group Transport 2000 Quebec and the South Shore chapter of the Association co-opérative d'économie familiale.

"It will be five months we've put up with this," Transport 2000 president Guy Chartrand said yesterday.

Chartrand suggested that if regular bus users must walk, it should be in the form of a demonstration to illustrate their dissatisfaction with both sides in the labor dispute.

Board gets new school

ST. LAMBERT — Education Minister Claude Ryan inaugurated the new offices of the St. Lawrence Protestant School Board in St. Lambert last week and announced the school board will be permitted to buy Marie de Neuville School in Longueuil from the Greenfield Park School Board for the nominal fee of \$1.

"It will be interesting to see how you translate that name into Protestant, Mr. President," Ryan said to school board president Jacques Saada.

Under the agreement, the Department of Education will grant \$1 million to the Greenfield Park commission so that St. Jude School and St. Edmund School may be repaired and enlarged. The Greenfield Park School Commission will contribute an additional \$500,000.

She's no jogger, but Bobbie-Jo has cause to join Terry Fox Run

By MARY LAMEY
of The Gazette

She isn't crazy about going door-to-door collecting pledge money, and she says running isn't one of her favorite pastimes, but Bobbie-Jo Plante will be taking part in Sunday's Terry Fox Run for the Canadian Cancer Society, anyway.

That's because 9-year-old Bobbie-Jo faced leukemia at age 4½. Today, the Grade 4 student at Mt. Bruno School in St. Bruno is in her third year of remission without a single relapse.

"To look at her, you'd say she was just another kid," said Rita Plante, Bobbie-Jo's mother. "She takes about six hours of dance lessons a week. She's been dancing since before she was diagnosed."

Bobbie-Jo is this year's Cancer Society representative for the South Shore run and it's the first time the family has joined the event.

Bobbie-Jo and her brother Shawn, 10, and sister Jennifer, 5, have been busy after school, mailing letters to South Shore companies and canvassing for pledges. They've come up with \$852, so far.

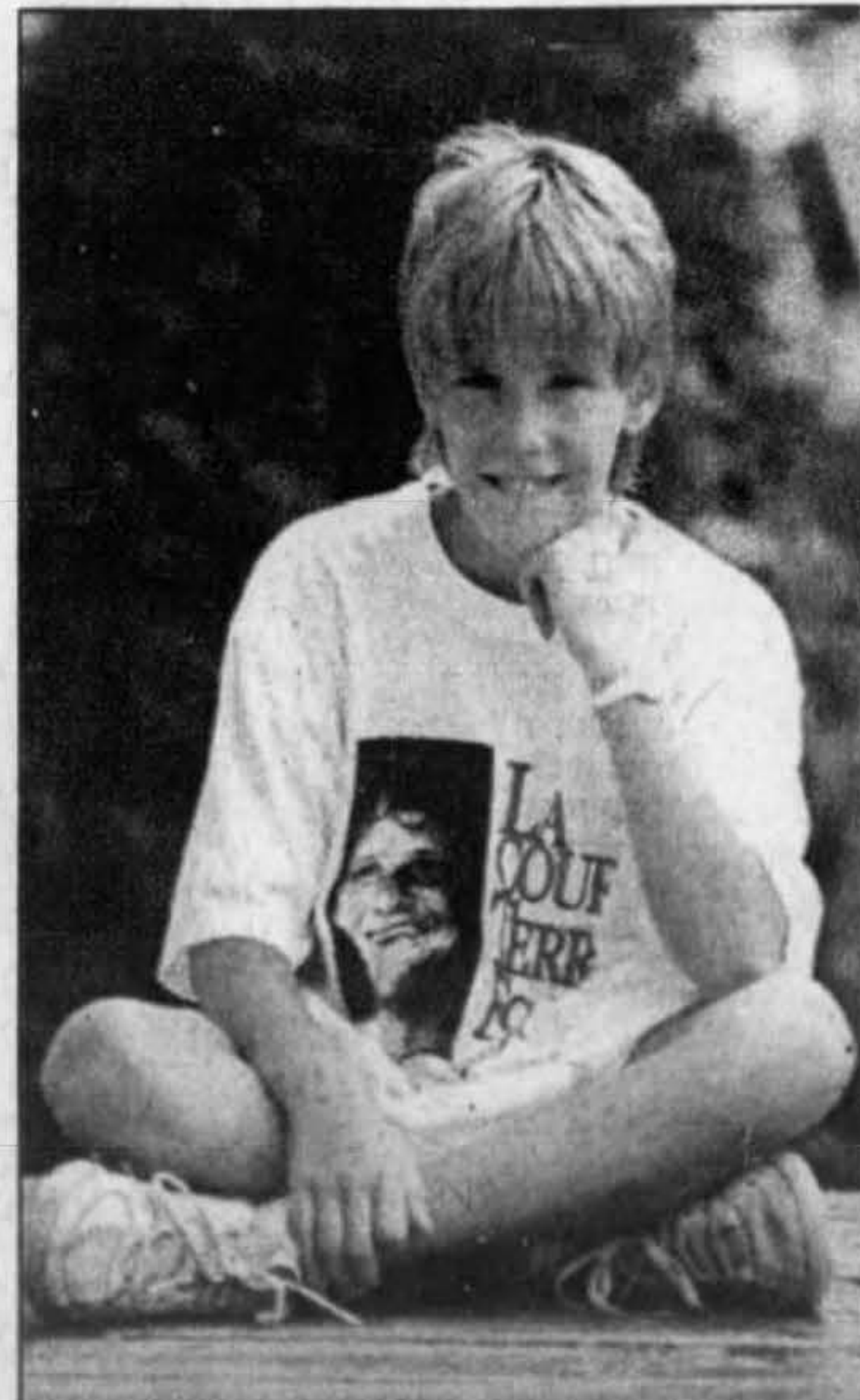
Even though she's proud of the funds they've raised, Bobbie-Jo would rather play Nintendo or practise tap, ballet or jazz dancing than hand out pledge sheets.

"It's boring going around to collect the money," All the money raised through Fox runs is given to the research wing of the Cancer Society.

Registration tables will be up outside Greenfield Park's Cynthia Coull Arena, starting at 9 a.m. The first batch of runners leave the starting point at 10 a.m.

Participants in the 5- or 10-kilometre run are asked to pay either a \$5 entry fee, or raise \$10 in pledges.

For more information about the Terry Fox Run, phone 672-0422.



Gazette, Piotr Andrews

Bobbie-Jo Plante, 9, battled leukemia.