


STOP SEARCHING
START FINDING
WEBFINDER

FIND IT IN...
STARCLASSTIFIEDS
whether you're looking for a new...


GREATER TORONTO
THE TORONTO STAR
WEATHER
RSP INFO

INSIDE
* NEWS
* BUSINESS
* SPORTS
* GTA
* EDITORIALS
* LIFE-ENT.
* FRONT PAGE

TECHNOLOGY | TORONTO.COM | STOCKS | UPDATES | BACK ISSUES

August 20, 1999

◀ PREVIOUS STORY

NEXT STORY ▶

RELATED links...

- CANADIAN UPDATES
- INTERNATIONAL UPDATES
- BEYOND 2000
- HEALTH
- WEIRD NEWS
- POLICE SHOOTING
- WRITER'S CONTEST
- BIRTHS AND DEATHS

SEARCH by keyword

Today's Issue

Back Issues

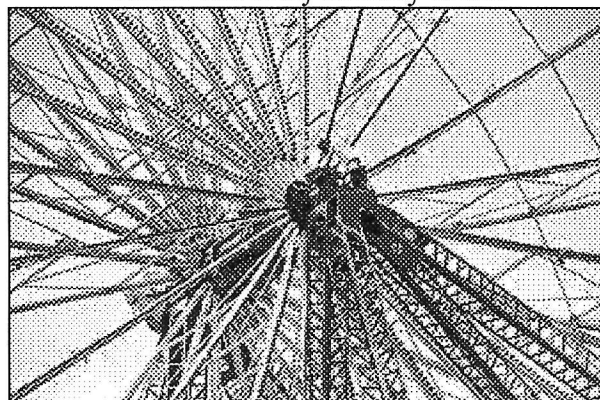
GO

SEARCH the web

* WEBFINDER

OTHER links

- * NEW LINKS
- * CONTESTS
- * SPORTS LINKS
- * ENTERTAINMENT LINKS
- * DIVERSIONS
- * PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
- * BUSINESS LINKS
- * STAR RELATED



BORIS SPREMO, CM/TORONTO STAR

A worker puts the finishing touches on the giant Ferris wheel yesterday at the Canadian National Exhibition. The much-loved ride is a mainstay of the 121-year-old fair, which runs from today to Sept. 6.

CNE takes off for another year

New flight exhibit features old planes and other attractions


By Andy Georgiades
 Toronto Star Staff Reporter

Not even the sky is the limit at this year's Canadian National Exhibition.

Organizers of the 121st CNE, which opens today and runs until Sept. 6, promise the Flight Centre will be the highlight of the fair.

Nancy Tse, the centre's co-ordinator, says the exhibit isn't just for aviation buffs. Take a ride on the helicopter simulator and feel for yourself.

"You go 60 feet up in the air and can do interesting manoeuvres - straight up and sideways," she said.

AutoExtra

1999 Vehicles

``So it's great for people who haven't been in a helicopter before and want to feel what it's like without taking off."

Inside the centre, you'll find dozens of planes that have flown across time to the Automotive Building's makeshift hangar, plus a few surprises.

Tse said the idea behind the centre was to have some fun while marking several aviation milestones, including the 10th anniversary of the Canadian Space Agency, the 50th anniversary of the Canadian International Air Show, the 75th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the 90th anniversary of the Silver Dart, Canada's first powered flight.

Replicas of the Canadian space arm and Silver Dart stand side by side, symbolizing the past and future of Canadian aerospace engineering.

``Can you imagine steering that thing with your feet?" asks Frank Piper, 78, a volunteer at the Toronto Aerospace Museum staring up in awe at the Dart, which looks like a bicycle with wings. ``That was flying by the seat of your pants."

A native of Lawrenceville, Ga., Piper served in the United States Air Force, flying his B-25 bomber on search-and-destroy missions in the Pacific during World War II.

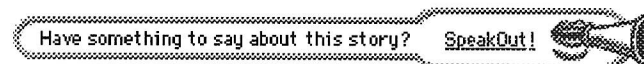
The exhibit also pays tribute to Canada's Avro Arrow. Although the Arrows were ordered destroyed by then prime minister John Diefenbaker in 1959, a couple of its J-75 engines are still intact and one will be on display at the Flight Centre.

The engine, on loan from the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton, is one of the few surviving pieces of Arrow history.

``It was fitted in one of the first five pre-production planes that actually flew," Tse said.

The Aerospace Heritage Foundation is also interested in the Arrow. It's currently trying to recover original -scale Avro Arrow flight models, recently found at the bottom of Lake Ontario, and will be on hand to talk about its progress.

There's even a mini airplane art gallery. The Canadian Aviation Artists' Association, with members from across the country, will display 31 original paintings.



◀ PREVIOUS STORY

OCAP picks right fight,
wrong target [James]

NEXT STORY ▶

Three rescued from
plane crash

SHORTCUTS

The Toronto Star

GO

*Contents copyright © 1996-1999, The Toronto Star.
User interface, selection and arrangement copyright © 1996-1999,
Torstar Electronic Publishing Ltd.
[Contact Us](#)*