



Photo by Jilly MacIver

Tommy Dreamer and Impact Wrestling superstar Kon in the midst of the Digital Media Championship match at the Lacrosse box in Deseronto. Tommy Dreamer ended up winning the match and continues to remain reigning champion.

Chinlock Wrestling delights fans

By Jilly MacIver

Chinlock Wrestling presented a “Chinlock for Charity” event in the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory at the Lacrosse Box in Deseronto Saturday, Sept. 16. The event raised funds for numerous Indigenous non-profits and organizations in the area.

Chinlock for Charity included a number of semi-professional and professional wrestlers, including Kingston native and up-and-comer Shawn Murphy, ECW and WWE wrestler Tommy Dreamer, and Earl Hebner, famously known as the ref from the infamous Montreal Screw Job WWE match. The event also highlighted wrestlers from Indigenous heritage, fabled WWE wrestler Mickie James and

WWF wrestler Tatanka.

Jan Murphy, organizer of the event and Chinlock Wrestling CEO, said a lot of thought was put into selecting the Tyendinaga community for this charity event.

“I’m a journalist. I’ve been a journalist for most of my life. I took a contract position in August of 2022, reporting out of Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory on issues and people and features – long features – long feature writing.

“Through that time and through those stories and meeting these people, I fell in love with this culture and the people who live here, and y’know, it was such an eye-opening thing for me to come and meet people in the community and talk with them and hear the issues they

were facing – there weren’t many stories being done down here in the territory, and if there were, they were always something negative. So, I came in and I started writing features on people and on businesses and on some of the issues they face.”

Murphy and multiple performing wrestlers wore orange tT-shirts during the event, recognizing the tragic history of residential schools in Canada.

A Legends of Wrestling Meet and Greet was held at the Deseronto Cigar Chief store as Matt Greenwood – the owner of The Cigar Chief, was the top sponsor for the event. There, fans had the opportunity to meet famed professional wrestlers, as well as get both autographs and pictures. Some of

the wrestlers included popular 1980’s and 1990s legends, including ’90’s WWE legend Brutus the Barber Beefcake and Impact Wrestling superstar Kon.

All proceeds raised at the meet and greet - which totaled up to \$8,298.14, were donated to the Tyendinaga Mohawks Territory’s food bank.

Former WWE sensation and current Impact Digital Media Champion Tommy Dreamer, who also attended the Legends of Wrestling Meet and Greet, said he attended the event because of the cause.

“I heard the backstory of all that’s going on here in Canada, kind of really taken back by everything that has transpired. I’m here to raise money and to help bring awareness. I’ve done a lot of media – I came in a day early just to promote. But like I said, this is about

raising money and creating awareness for others and it’s to help your generation keep the conversation going – because you have to, and change needs to be made as well as past mistakes need to be acknowledged.”

The event was extremely successful. The Lacrosse Box was filled with passionate and enthusiastic fans cheering on the superstars one-by-one as they came out.

Kevin Baker-Cole, a fan who attended both the meet and greet and the event itself, said it was a great morning meeting the wrestlers and a fun and meaningful event overall.

Asked if he could describe the event using one word, organizer Murphy said “legendary”, and it seems that all in attendance would agree.

Students head up into the trees

By Nic Adam

Loyalist students traversed the treetops in the Ganaraska Forest at Treetop Trekking, just outside Campbellcroft, Ont., on Saturday.

The air was cool; the grass was still wet from the morning dew. We got off the bus and reached the check-in area where our guides were already preparing our harnesses. While we were waiting, we started talking, familiarizing ourselves with the people we were going to spend the next several hours sweating alongside.

While most students went on the trip for a little fun with their friends, that wasn’t the case for everyone.

“I’m actually afraid of heights,” admitted a first-year student. While he was there to have fun, he was also there to challenge himself, a baptism by fire.

After the guides finished helping us put on our harnesses and gave us our helmets, they led us into the woods where they gave their safety demonstration. It was finally time for the fun to begin.

For those who had done this before, it was recommended that they start with Hedgehog, one of the tamer courses Treetop has to offer. It eases you in with a zipline, and then quickly changes gears, giving you logs to balance on and a wall to scale across. Most finished this course quickly as it was just a warm-up, but it was a good indication of what to expect going forward.

Next up was Tarzan, a rope-centred course that ramped up the difficulty immensely. This was where everyone started to spread out, with the more advanced students taking the lead. It was then when Jacob Butler and Hema Jethi decided to stick together, encouraging each other whenever a difficult challenge presented itself.

The main event, however, was Timberwolf. Treetop Trekking’s highest and most advanced course, taking the av-



Photo by Nic Adam

Loyalist student Jacob Butler descends a ladder on Treetop's tallest, most advanced course, Timberwolf.

erage climber just over half an hour to complete. It featured ziplines, tightropes, hanging logs, and required lots of dedication, all while way up in the air.

The guides advised that if you struggled to climb the long ladder to the top, you wouldn’t be able to finish the course and that you should come back down im-

mediately.

“You’re really gonna feel it in the morning,” warned one of the guides to a student about to go up the ladder. “Most people do their first time.”

Timberwolf was no joke, and most students courageously took the challenge head on, including Jacob Butler

and Hema Jethi who continued shouting words of encouragement to each other as their path got increasingly difficult.

The icing on the cake was the final course. It had four very long, and fast, ziplines and was a favourite among the group, but required having a guide with you your first time. Some people ended

up going on it a handful of times, chasing that adrenaline rush.

The trip home was quiet. Everyone was exhausted, with some falling asleep, too tired to keep their eyes open. And just like that everyone was back in the safety and comfort of their homes, starting the countdown for next year.