

# Rensselaer

Note: THIS TINY BUT GROWING Hudson/Bruce  
 County "good idea" was started AT RPI  
 in 1999-2000!

• ABOUT RENSSELAER •

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE



## Fifth annual dash raises \$4,500 for diabetes

**Bon Forrest**

*signal-star staff*

It was a question Peter Gardiner had been asked previously, and before answering it this day he paused briefly, letting the sound of crashing waves fill the silence.

Then he spoke again, offering a response, but admitting the query was ultimately unanswerable.

Gardiner was standing on the beach at Port Albert, roughly one year removed

from a hockey career that found him drafted by one NHL team, signed by another, and playing in the minor leagues in North America and Europe.

He had developed juvenile diabetes at the age of 12 – a disease that greatly complicates the life of anyone it touches, much less an elite athlete.

And so the question was posed: How much harder was it to play at such a high level while the illness loomed overhead?

"Really, it's impossible to give an

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Clarkson: February 25, 2006



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answer," he said. "If I could live my life without diabetes [I would] know what the difference was. But to say if Pete Gardiner didn't have diabetes, would he be a star in the NHL as opposed to being an average player? I don't think so."

The disease affected him in some ways, he admitted - Gatorade and chocolate bars had to be kept on hand during practice to keep his blood sugars at an acceptable level. But Gardiner refused to use diabetes as a crutch, or an excuse.

"In terms of affecting me in my athletic career," he said, "I don't think it really had any effect at all."

Gardiner was one of dozens on hand at the Fifth Annual Ayden Byle Dash for Diabetes on

Aug. 4, an event that raises money for local children with diabetes, raises awareness about the disease, and also funds research with the hope of finding a cure.

Byle ran across Canada in 1998, raising thousands of dollars for diabetes research, and was present at the dash this year as well.

He and Gardiner were held up as examples of men who got the better of the disease, rather than the other way around.

"Overall, it's a juggling act," Byle said of the effect of diabetes on his life.

He noted the importance of insulin, watching what he eats, and not skipping meals. "There's always the constant threat of pretty severe complications," he added.

But Byle's message was similar to Gardiner's: As an athlete, the influence of diabetes has been minimal.

"I still like to push myself like the average human being - probably even

more," he said.

This year's Dash for Diabetes raised roughly \$4,500, 70 per cent of which will be used to fund research, while the remaining funds will go directly to local children with diabetes.

Organizer Frank Gardiner said he was thrilled with this year's event.

"I don't care if five people showed up, I'd be pleased," he said. "I'm a father of a diabetic, and my mom was diabetic, and these kids with diabetes have more courage than I'll ever have."

Byle wished to thank Frank Gardiner and all those who came out to participate in the event.

"Generally speaking, it's better when more than one person is coming together to try to accomplish something, and in this case it's really commendable," he said. Anyone wishing to donate to the cause can do so by visiting [www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca](http://www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca).



Photo by Ben Forrest

Dozens of folks jogged, walked and biked from Goderich to Port Albert last Saturday during the fifth annual Ayden Byle Dash for Diabetes - a fundraiser for diabetes research and for local children with the disease. Roughly \$4,500 was raised, though that number may increase, as donations are still being accepted. Above, Brian MacDonald, daughter Megan MacDonald and fellow biker Wayne Clarence of Dungannon lift their arms skyward after crossing the finish line.

THANK YOU !!!  
RPI !!!  
[Signature]



6th Annual Ayden Byle



# DASH FOR DIABETES

[www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca](http://www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca)

## We Thank You!



2007 D4D Total Now \$5168  
7 Year Total Now \$114,000!!!

Note: We use this USA/Canadian Symbol because our 100% grassroots project started in Troy, NY with RPI and Ryerson Students

**100% of all monies raised go -DIRECTLY TO- diabetes research and local area kids with diabetes. No salaries or admin. costs.**

### Wanted:

Any and all diabetic kids and their families in our Huron & Bruce Counties to add your names to our annual DASH for DIABETES (D4D) family network! Each August long weekend we raise monies through our volunteer Dash for Diabetes at [www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca](http://www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca) and we want you to join our "team CDN!" and share in the benefits, be it funds for your child with diabetes in school, sports, diabetes research..or whatever. Interested in participating? Please contact diabetic mothers Jayne Miltenburg (519-529-3241) Kerri Murray (519-529-7148) or Susanne Cutting at [Susanne@hurontel.on.ca](mailto:Susanne@hurontel.on.ca).

### Wanted:

Donations/pledges to any "team CDN!" member ...OR....direct donations/pledges made payable to CDN! (cure diabetes now! ) account # 100 - 367 - 2 at ROYAL BANK of CANADA, Goderich Branch, 158 the Square, Goderich, Ontario N7A 3Z2.... Tax receipts will be issued for all cheques \$20 or over. Thank you ! Your team CDN!

