

SCOTTEN CLAIMS FESTIVAL IDOL 2007 TITLE

A capacity crowd gathered to see Canadian Idol finalist Jaydee Bixby perform at the Airdrie Festival of Lights Saturday Dec 15, but most of the audience had their fingers crossed for seven other performers that night who were vying for the Range Festival Idol 2007 title.

In the end, after a highly engaging and entertaining solid hour and half of performances, Airdrie's own Adam Scotten walked away with the prize; a week long rock camp from Music Centre Canada, \$250 cash and radio exposure for his talent on the Range FM.

Adam was so excited at the

announcement he felt "shaky" and says the whole experience has been amazing. Adam grew up in Airdrie and has been singing since the age of three. He started playing guitar four years ago and now at twenty, is writing his own songs and hopes to take the next step by getting his own material recognized.

Adam's performance in the auditions was challenged by the "no instruments" audition rule and he gamely sang the Oasis hit "Wonderwall" with a sense of humour where the guitar tracks would normally appear. The judges were impressed with his ability to carry off the tune a cappella.

In the finale, working with a drummer and keyboardist, Adam was able to perform with his guitar and it gave him that extra boost of stage confidence.

"I definitely have quite a few people to thank, first of all, the Airdrie Festival of Lights and the Range Radio Station and Theresa Wasden for putting this amazing show together," Scotten says. "I would also like to thank Music Center Canada for helping me out for the finale by letting me utilize one of their acoustic amps and my friends and my family for all their great support and encouragement." He also said he appreciated the judge's advice which he has "seriously taken to heart".

Festival judges Al Jones, Andrea Morton of Kindred and Pamela Poole awarded second and third prize to youth performers Brad Fleischer of Airdrie and Kelsey Verzotti of Calgary respectively.

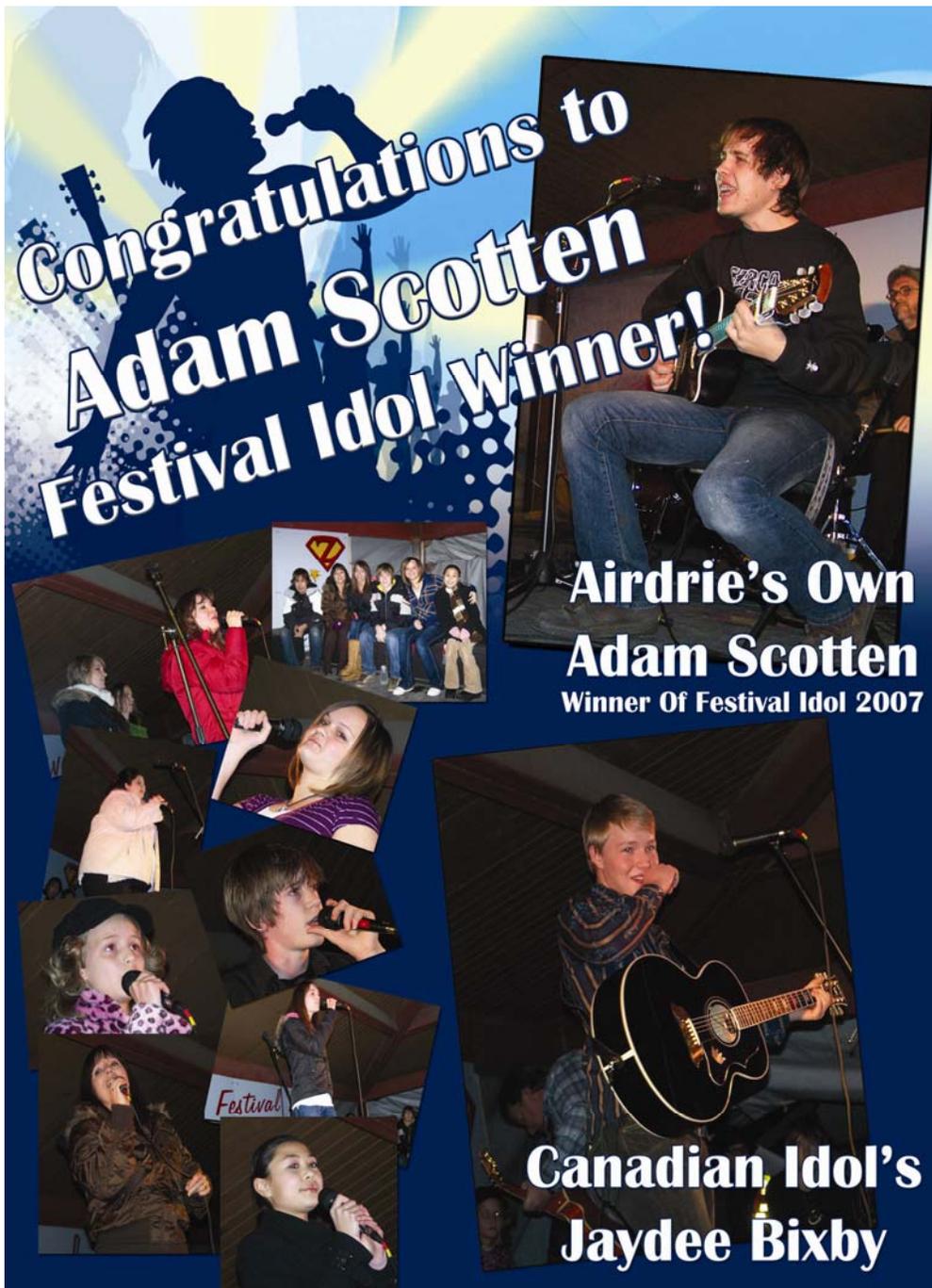
"Judging was difficult because the talent was so exceptional this year," says Festival Idol judge Al Jones, "It was so close that I'm convinced that anyone of the contestants could have beaten out the rest of the competition on any other night. Adam Scotten outshone the rest on this particular night. I hope the rest of them come back next year. I also encourage them all to try out for "Canadian Idol"....as I believe after judging this competition, that Airdrie could very well show the rest of the country a thing or two about talent."

Poole, who is an Artist Manager in the country music industry, (working with local recording artist Rob Russell) says "Festival idol is a fantastic opportunity to discover the wealth of talent hidden in the community of Airdrie."

Morton agrees, "There is so much talent in Airdrie (and area) that is just waiting to be discovered! I can't wait to see what next year's Festival will bring! It was amazing to be able to see how many people reach out to our community and the support people are to each other. What an incredible experience!"

The Festival presented a special award to singer Tara May recognizing her as the Festival Rising Star. Tara has performed at the Festival since its inception and is now recording in Nashville.

Jaydee Bixby backed by his parents on bass and guitar had the young audience members screaming with excitement for a special three song performance during the judge's deliberations. The complete stage line up can be seen online at www.airdriefestivaloflights.com.



My New Year's Resolutions

Robert Fisher

I will not throw the cat out the window
Or put a frog in my sister's bed
I will not tie my brother's shoelaces together
Nor jump from the roof of Dad's shed
I shall remember my aunt's next birthday
And tidy my room once a week
I'll not moan at Mum's cooking (Ugh! fish fingers again!)
Nor give her any more of my cheek.
I will not pick my nose if I can help it
I shall fold up my clothes, comb my hair,
I will say please and thank you (even when I don't mean it)
And never spit or shout or even swear.
I shall write each day in my diary
Try my hardest to be helpful at school
I shall help old ladies cross roads (even if they don't want to)
And when others are rude I'll stay cool.
I'll go to bed with the owls and be up with the larks
And close every door behind me
I shall squeeze from the bottom of every toothpaste tube
And stay where trouble can't find me.
I shall start again, turn over a new leaf,
leave my bad old ways forever
shall I start them this year, or next year
shall I sometime, or ever?



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People are so worried about
what they eat between
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and Christmas.

- Author Unknown

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- Rodney
Dangerfield

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CD PLAYER

I wanted to buy a CD player, but was completely perplexed by one model's promotional sign. So I called the salesclerk over and asked, "What does 'hybrid pulse D/A converter' mean?" He said, "That means that this machine will read the digital information that is encoded on CDs and convert it into an audio signal."

"In other words," I said, "this CD player plays CDs."
"Exactly."

BALANCING THE CHEQUEBOOK

Cindy and her husband Mike bought a new home financial software package to keep track of the family's budget, and balance their chequebook.

The following night, after spending hours pouring over stubs and figures, Cindy said proudly, "I've done it! I made it balance!"

Impressed, Mike came over to take a look. "Let's see... mortgage \$550.00, electricity \$80.50, phone \$35.00." His brow wrinkled as he read the last entry. "It says here ESP, \$615. What the heck is that?"

"Oh," she said, "That means, Error Some Place!"

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