

Beard-growing contest begins

March 1982

BRADFORD — Amid much waiting and knocking of teeth the beards of two prominent Bradford gentlemen were gently removed by master barber Joe Scullo last Wednesday.

Mayor Zyg Fenik and Councillor Bill DePeuter, who are challenging each other to a beard-growing contest in preparation for the town's 175th anniversary, took to the barber's chair.

It was the first time Mayor Fenik had been clean-shaven in five years.

In the case of Mr. DePeuter, a decade-old mustache fell to the floor in a flurry of whiskers. Although the contest didn't officially start until Monday, the two men were shaven Wednesday because Mr. DePeuter was going to Florida on vacation.

While there he'll get a signed certificate from the chief of police of the town where he's staying stating he was clean-shaven on March 1. Bradford Police Chief John Harrison arranged the international whisker inspection.

Ellen McKinney and Diane Sturdy, members of the Take Off Pounds Sensibly (T.O.P.S.) group were there to witness that the shaving was done fairly. The group will act as official judges for the contest when it winds up during the town's anniversary celebration from July 1 through 5.

A total of 19 Bradford-area men signed up for the contest Monday, Mrs. McKinney said.

Included in the beard-growers are clerk-administrator Pat Stacey (his mustache gone), Councillor Wally Crossland (a veteran of the 100th anniversary contest) and arena manager Tim Harrison (after much persuasion and outright