Sightseeing and partying in Moscow

by Denis Gibbons

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy and so while most of our time in Moscow was spent at the Institute of Sport and Physical Culture absorbing information on the Soviet scientific approach to sport and physical education, evenings and weekends were reserved for sightseeing and trips to sport and cultural events around the huge city of 8 million.

I will leave description of the excellent facilities and program included in the Institute to my friend Bruce Andrews, whose experience in physical education better qualifies him for the assignment. In the next few editions I will attempt to report on our extra-curricular activities, hopefully in three parts, one for each of the three weeks we were in Moscow.

Following our first lecture on philosophic and social problems in sport, delivered at the Institute the afternoon after we arrived in Moscow, we were taken by bus to Red Square in the centre of the city and just outside the walls of the Kremlin which houses Soviet government headquarters. Here we were allowed to walk around for an hour and photograph sites like the famous St. Basil's Cathedral, provided we kept off the Square itself, where we were disappointed to learn that Lenin's Tomb was under repairs and not available for viewing,

We wandered off the Square Into the GUM department store, which looked to me like Eaton's or Simpson's might have been 30 years ago. I'd hardly been in the building five minutes when I was offered 25 rubles (Russian dollars) for the peewee hockey jacket I was wearing. This was the first of many opportunities I had to unload fancy items like my Adidas shoes and sweat suit, which we learned are impossible for Russians to come by, except from visitors to the country. While in the GUM, I also had my first taste of Russian ice cream which turned out to be as delicious as any of the North American or Spanish brands I had

tried before. Tuesday night supper at the Hotel Leningrad, where we were bused for all our meals was typical of the fine victuals our Russian hosts served up to us each day. An appetizer of potato salad, black bread, buns and butter was followed by soup, steak, french fries, peas, kyass (a Russian soft drink) and ice cream topped with blueberry sauce for dessert.

The meal was so filling that when we arrived back at the Institute for what we had been told would be just a pre-course meeting with our Russian professors and found the auditorium decorated with tubles full of sweets and goodies, it was almost too much for us.

"Tonight we are going to have tea, coffee and pastries and time to acquaint ourselves with our Russian friends," explained our interpreter. "Stronger drinks will be reserved for another occasion."

Our hosts further livened up the evening by treating us to Russian singing and dancing and as a complete surprise inviting members of our group to take part in fun games like trying to collect balloons while



ROWING COURSE facilities, including a grandstand for spectators are already in use on the outskirts of Moscow and could be the site of rowing competitions in the 1980 Olympics, if Moscow's bid for the games is accepted. Young ladies from East Germany, Romania, Bulgaria and Poland were competing against the Soviet Union Saturday June 1, when the Canadian group visited the course.

steering a child's tricycle for which they offered prizes to the winners. The atmosphere was a welcome change from the one we had found when we landed in the pouring rain at Sheremetevo Airport two days earlier and been subjected to passport and luggage examination.

By Wednesday evening after our first day on the ice at Sokulnikl Arena (I'll report more about this another week), most of us were beginning to become better adjusted to the city. Pork chops were the bill of fare at the Leningrad that evening and then we were off on a sightseeing tour which took us to an elevated area near Moscow University which overlooks the

huge Luzhniki Sports Complex. From our viewpoint we had our first look at the 103,000 seat Lenin Stadium, the Palace of Sports where the Team Canada-Soviet hockey series was played, competitive swimming facilities and score upon score of tennis courts. All of these were situated in a park area with plenty of grass and trees. Next we stopped at the popular "Moskya" swimming pool, the world's larges outdoor heated pool. Swimmers are even seen here in the middle of a Moscow winter, since the water is always heated, we were told by our

The next evening (Thursday) we paid the first of two visits to Lenin Stadium, this CCCP CANADA

one to watch a First Division tootball maten between the Spartak Sports Club of Moscow and a club from Lenlingrad whose name I cannot spell but is pronounced in English "ZEEnid". We were surprised to find only a small crowd of spectators (perhaps 4,000) in the large 103,000 seat stadium. An even greater surprise however, was to discover a group of youths formed into a cheering section chanting "SPARTAK, SPARTAK. . and applauding rhythmically the same as done at North American sports events. We noted that the police kept a close watch on the group and even ushered a couple of youngsters out of the studium, although I know not for what reason.

Friday evening we took a short sightseeing tour which included stops at the Triumphal Arch, a monument to commemorate the Russians' defeat of Napoleon and a souvenir store at the Hotel Russia, a modern building on the Moscow River which we were told is the largest hotel in Europe. The store was one of several in the city, usually connected to a hotel where only foreign currency (dollars, francs etc.) can be used. Shopping is limited to visitors to the country. Rubles may not be used nor are native Russians allowed to buy.

Following our final stint on the ice Saturday morning, we were bused in the afternoon to the outskirts of the city where we watched an International rowing competition with teams from the Soviet Umon, Romania, Bulgaria, Poland and East Germany, Facilities at the rowing course included a grandstand similar to the one at Mohawk Raceway equipped with closed circuit TV sets to allow spectators to see the start of the race, two man-made water courses, one for competition and one . for practice, shelters for the boats and handsome new residences for the competitors. There we soaked up the Soviet sunshine and watched the finals of four events, with East German teams coming out on top twice. Soviet officials hope the course will be a big plus for them in their bid to host the 1980 Olympics.

Saturday night it was back to the Institute and fulfillment of the Russian promise that there would be something stronger served another night. Vodka was king for the night and although we at first thought we were making an impression on our Russian hosts by tipping back the national drink one after another, we soon discovered that there were more sensible souls at our table.

"Don't you understand that men can become very, very foolish when they drink too much vodka," an attractive young track and field student warned me.

Rock 'n roll music Russian style was provided for our dancing pleasure by a band made up of Institute students and Professor Maslov, director of the Institute proved his mustcal ability with an accordion equals his knowledge in the field of sport and physical education. It was an evening of good fun and fellowship with our Russian hosts. Most of the Institute students invited to attend, we learned later, were selected because of their ability to speak English. Hearing them handle the English language so well embarrassed me into studying my Russian language book a little harder. More about my attempts to speak Russian, the Moscow Circus, sym-



MOSCOW youngsters play table tennis in one of the city's many parks.

Daamen wins three ribbons

Milton's Marty Daamen

EDITOR SPORTS took three ribbons at the DENIS GIBBONS Brantford Legion Track and Fleld meet recently. Daamen RECALLS SOME was running with the Oakville EXTRA CURRICULAR Klwanis track and field club. EVENTS READERS

40000000000000000000000000

ond in the 400 metre event and was part of the first place 100

Omagh girls

best Acton

powerful Acton squad.

pair of losses.

Omagh bantam girls

nipped Acton 9-7 Monday

night for their first win in

three starts against the

Omagh's season record

Heather Eves pitched the

entire game against the

evenly mutched Acton girls

with Danica Wood entching.

At bat Heather McKee,

Deane Lepa, Leanne

Mackinnon batted two

singles each. Heather Eves

hit a homer and a single.

stands at seven wins and a

metre relay team. Daamen and Brenda Ryan were the only Milton athletes competing at the meet. Both Daamen finished third in are members of the Holy Rothe Atom 200 metre dash, sec- sary School Track team.

The Acton Free Press, Wed., June 26, 1974 5



Postie beats gas cost pedals to work speak Russian, the Moscow Circus, phony and bollet another week.

George Henderson is one man who has found a way to beat the energy crisis and get in shape at the same time.

Each day, weather permitting, Henderson pedals his 10 speed bieyele the 8.5 miles from his home in Acton to work in Georgetown. He is employed at the Georgetown post office as a Supervising atter Carrier.

"I save the cost of gas and get some exercise at the same ime," he says.

The experiment, which began last summer, means that Henderson must spend an hour travelling each day. "It's a little easier coming here in the morning because the trip's mostly downhill but going back to Acton takes about ten minutes longer," he said. The trip to Georgetown usually lasts 25 minutes.

. Henderson never rides his bike to work if it is raining or foggy. "It's just too dangerous to be on the road on bad days," he added.

His rides began about a month ago when the weather began to improve and to make it to Georgetown in time for work he must leave Acton around 5.50 a.m.

His role as a supervisor takes him on various routes throughout Georgetown. Henderson handles routes for regular letter carriers who are on holidays and during the Christmas rush he works inside as a sorter.

Henderson plans to continue riding his bike to work for the rest of the summer and then drive his car when winter rolls around again. "I certainly get a lot of funny looks from passing

motorists," he added.

POSTMAN GEORGE HENDERSON rides off after a long day. He rides each day from Acton to



GEORGE HEN-DERSON busily sorts out mail for his route.

Oakville takes game

Oakville came on strong with a 5-1 win over Campbellville in Halton Senior Baseball Monday night in Oakville. It was Campbellville's third loss of the season

Both pitchers went the route with Oaks' Gord Currie. limiting the Campbellyille batters to nine hits. He walked two and struck out

Villagers' Garn Mitchell gave up live runs on twelve hits as he walked one and struck out seven

Tim Black led the Oakville batting attack with three singles with pitcher Currie stamming a double and a single. Bob Conrad singled twice and Scarrow, Hull, Reynolds, Savin and Daymond each contributed a single.

Loris Faggion doubled and singled for the Campbellville crew with Steve Smith hitting two singles. Rick Mitchell, Don Hearns, Wade Bekar, Ray Evans, and Garn Mit-

Omagh splits

Omagh bats lagged behind on a wet Lowville diamond last Monday. The midgets lost 18-7.

Inglewood fell 14-4 in Omagh Thursday night unable to match the home team's offense and defense.

chell all drove out singles. Campbelly ille will try to get Dundas will travel to Campback on their winning streak bellville. Game time is 2.30

Sunday afternoon when



336 Guelph St. Georgetown-877-6111

Toyota Community Calendar

What's doing in North Halton areal

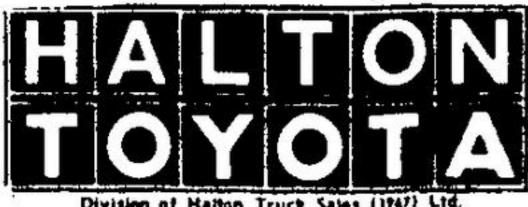
COMMUNITY CENTENNIAL DAY Come out and enjoy a full day of activities on

Monday, July 1, at Prospect Park, in Acton. The fun begins at 7 a.m. and continues all day. Enjoy such scheduled events as a rock concert at 1 p.m. and a chicken barbeque at 4 p.m. A special attraction will be the unveiling of a new Historical Plaque. Tickets are available from any Fire Fighter or Rotarian, Acton IGA, Pro Hardware, Home Hardware, Acton Delicatessen and the Arena.

> ----LACROSSE

Enjoy Junior "C" Lacrosse at the Acton Community Centre on Wednesday, June 26, at 8.30 p.m. The Acton Rams will be hosting Oshawa.

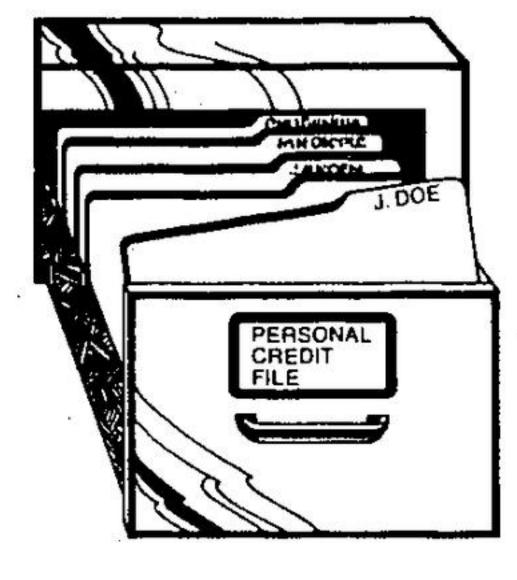
> See how much car your money will buy at



Division of Halton Truck Sales (1947) Ltd 878-4365 826-2931 Hwy. 25 Just North of 401

Your credit-rating is priceless.

This is what Ontario is doing to help you protect it.



Ontario has passed a new Consumer Reporting Act, one of the most important pieces of consumer legislation in the province's history.

It deals with the reporting, exchange and gathering of both credit and personal information related to your life-style and character.

It goes into effect July 2, 1974.

After that date you'll have the right to know what is being reported about you and to whom. And if the information is inaccurate or incomplete.

you'll have the opportunity to correct it.

This is particularly important because, today, masses of information about your buying, credit and personal habits are being collected, stored, and distributed by people you have never met.

This information can influence where-or if-you will work, how much you can borrow, insurance you can obtain and whether you are acceptable as a tenant. So your government here in Ontario has passed the Consumer Reporting Act to ensure that you have access to your own file.

The Act is designed to protect you. the consumer, as far as the law can do so. It guards your basic rights. It gives you a place to write for help if you run into problems.

To find out the many ways the Act works to your advantage, send for a free Consumer Reporting Act brochure. Write to:

Consumer Reporting Registrar Ontario 20 Queen's Park

Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1Y7 Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations John Clement, Minister



Government of Ontario

William Davis, Premier