



HELPING HAND for Corp. Bob Arbour is thoughtfully given by Bo Bo the clown at Sunday's skate-a-thon. They both made it around the ice as two of the guest skaters.

## 364 skate for funds at arena on Sunday

A total of 364 skaters circled the ice at Acton arena Sunday, rolling up pledge sums for Rotary and school projects. It was the last event in the arena before the ice goes out, and it was an unusual one arranged for the first time by the members of the Rotary club.

M. Z. Bennett, Robert Little, Speyside, Limehouse, Ospringe and high school students were all invited to take part in the program. Pledge sheets were circulated and signed for

amounts promised per lap. There were 334 eager student skaters and the others were guest celebrities. Some were more celebrated than others.

**Celebrities**  
Two former Argo players, Peter Martin and Bill Symons, delighted the youngsters with their presence. Joe Gardia, Sabre president, was another sportsman on blades for pledges.

Arena manager Harold Townsley was joined by his father Sonny Townsley.

Member of Parliament George Kerr was a welcome guest skater, as well as councillors Les Doby and Pat McKenzie.

Police chief Bob Arbour joined the ranks of skaters and John Gay was another volunteer participant. Rotary members Gary Dawkins and Al Hall took to the blades for money, too.

Bo Bo the Clown was a big success. (Would you believe Wayne Moss?)

The guest skaters covered 15 laps each.



GETTING READY for his skate-a-thon shift is nine-year-old Chris Gamsyager. He's a grade four student at M. Z. Bennett school.



CINDY CALVER, 10, skated the skates loose Sunday and Bo Bo the clown gave her a helping hand. She's in grade four at the M. Z. Bennett school and he's (believe it or not) in a Mill St. store.

## Stays at 24 No reduction in politicians

A move to have the membership of Halton Regional Council whittled from 26 to 15 members fell by the wayside Wednesday when only five councillors supported the action.

Oakville Councillor Carl Erikson was the driving force behind the proposed reform. He argued the smaller group could give better representation for ratepayers and eventually lead to better policy.

He said the argument that there was a need for 24 members was weak. "On that basis we would need 2,400 members in the House of Commons. We are over-governed. There are four levels of government. There has to be a point when we say, that's it."

Weighted vote  
Halton Hills Councillor Ite Morrow approved the prin-

ciple but noted that if Erikson was serious he'd have to realize there had to be a minimum number of councillors from each area. He favored a reduction in numbers and urged a return to the county system where Oakville and Burlington had the same number of representatives as Halton Hills and Milton but had a voting advantage through weighted ballots.

Oakville Councillor Bill Mason said the move was too premature. He pointed out area councillors felt they were out of it now and some felt they were second class citizens.

Councillor Pat McLaughlin of Burlington felt the smaller council would lead itself more to block voting and decrease the accountability. He disputed the claim that the reduction in members would provide a saving. The first thing

councillors would do is say "we're doing twice as much work, so we'll double our salaries," he suggested.

Keeping track  
Terry Mansell, Oakville supported Erikson's move. "I knew this was coming up to-day so I decided to keep track of how many councillors left their seats, how many times councillors got up to get coffee, how many seats were empty from the start. But my pen ran out of ink and I've lost track," he chuckled.

"You haven't lost your choice," an unidentified councillor interjected.

Mr. Mansell continued to say the meetings would be easier to control, the responsiveness of the council would increase and the calibre of representation would improve with fewer members.

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## Spring storm . . .

Continued from page 1  
town trucks were involved in one of them Saturday on the ninth line. It had some damage.

Town men who had opened grades in Acton found later they couldn't locate them after they'd been filled in by drifting snow. One of the men found one... the hard way.

The cemetery was specially plowed for the funerals. There was slightly more snow in Georgetown than in Acton, Mr. Morette estimated.

In Erin township, some of the equipment had the plows removed in expectation of spring. The township men also worked many hours overtime there.

Acton detachment of the O.P.P. said almost all snow-related calls were inquiries about road conditions. There were plenty of stuck and skidding cars, but no serious accidents.

The Milton detachment of the

O.P.P. which covers Esquimaux and Nassagoywa reported only a handful of accidents even though driving conditions ranged from icy to slushy and visibility was poor. Const. Larry Scott said they handled only four accidents.

Staff Sgt. Russ Edwards of the Halton Regional Police said either everyone stayed home or they weren't going fast enough to have accidents. "The only trouble we had was getting around ourselves," he said, and cruisers were taken off the road at one point. Ten men had to push one of their own cruisers out.

Stranded motorists filled the rooms in local motels.

Weekend skiers dared blocked roads to have a last fling at the slopes.

By Monday, Thursday and Friday's fierce snow was dribbling down the gutters in the sunshine.

## Think Celsius

Think Celsius is the new government ruling. For those who are having difficulty adjusting to the new thermometer count try this little rule of thumb. Whenever the weather announcer gives a temperature reading, double the amount and add 30. Eg., a ten count in Celsius doubled, is 20, plus 30 makes the reading 50 degrees.

Not so bad! But remember, the rule only applies to temps. above zero.

## Accident

On Monday, March 31 at 3:25 p.m. a two-car accident on Sideroad 20 of Eramosa township resulted in minor injury to Richard Halliburton of R.R. 5, Rockwood.

The other vehicle involved was driven by Leslie Allan, R.R. 3, Rockwood. Damage was estimated at \$1,300.

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF ACTON**

... would like to thank every-one who contributed to make the Skate-A-Thon a huge success!

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★ SPONSORS ★ ARENA STAFF  
★ PLUS ALL THE BEHIND THE SCENE PEOPLE.

**THANK YOU!!**

**Ottawa Report**

By Dr. Frank Philbrook  
HALTON MP

Several people in the riding have called me about adopting children who are being evacuated from South Vietnam. They are concerned about red tape and delays in getting the children here because of the havoc in Vietnam.

I was in touch with Robert Andras, Minister of Immigration, about this. He had set up a special emergency desk in his office to handle the Vietnam children. We want the children placed in Canadian homes as quickly as possible with a minimum of red tape and delay.

I have also contacted the provincial authorities to ensure complete co-operation of the two levels of government on this important matter. We will take as many children as we can, depending on Canadian couples who will adopt. Canada has probably the most humane immigration policy in the world and we want to show our true colors by helping these unfortunate victims of a terrible war.

**Abortion committees**  
On another subject, I am concerned with the small number of hospitals in Canada which have set up hospital abortion committees since the abortion laws were changed in 1969. It is not fair that some Canadian women can make application to an abortion committee and others cannot. This is not just to have permission for an

abortion, but to be able to obtain group medical opinion and information.

The federal and provincial Ministers of Health must make the program fair and equitable everywhere in Canada. Incidentally, there is no problem in Oakville.

**Vaccine**  
The Connaught Laboratories are one of Canada's leading suppliers of vaccine. Connaught is a key member of the Canadian Development Corporation and is our major Canadian owned drug company. The current controversy has me concerned for two reasons. First, because of questions about quality control.

I am staying in touch with Marc Lalonde, Minister of Health, until the internal strife at Connaught is cleared up. It should become an efficient money-making operation for Canada and a major economic contributor to our country's development.

On a lighter vein, the people in Burlington and Hamilton who recently spotted unidentified flying objects in the sky might be interested in knowing that the federal government has allotted \$6,000 for research into UFO sightings through the Canada Council. John B. Musgrave, who teaches at Athabaska University in Edmonton, will focus on historical rather than scientific data.

Handicapped persons in Halton Hills afflicted with arthritis, multiple sclerosis, loss of limbs and other crippling diseases are attempting to form an organization.

An Acton area group of handicapped people are already enjoying the facilities at the Acton swimming pool each Sunday and the group hopes to expand into other fields. The Sunday pool program has been so successful, the group hopes to extend it into other outdoor activities.

Anyone wishing to participate in the program afflicted, or just interested in assisting with a handicapped program, is invited to phone Mrs. Emily Price in Acton at 853-3234.

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## Charges laid

On Wednesday an Acton man and a Georgetown man were charged with causing a disturbance and trespassing following a report from Family Billiards. The call came about 8:15 p.m. reporting the men used obscene language and refused to leave the premises.

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**AIRPORT 1975**

CHARLTON BRUSH

Saturday Matinee **CAPTAIN SINDBAD**  
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**Toyota Community Calendar**

What's doing in the North Halton Area!

"NIGHT CLASSES"  
Night school classes begin again this month at Acton High School. See registration form in today's Free Press.

"HAM and BEAN SUPPER"  
Mimosas Church Annual Ham and Bean supper. Country style ham, home baked beans and home made pie. Saturday, April 26th, Serving from 4.45 p.m. Tickets by pre-sale only from Barb Boyes, Orton, 855-4332; Murray McKenzie, Guelph, 824-8589. Proceeds for church extension.

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**Green with Envy** 598 25 LB BAG  
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