



LORRAINE STUBBS of Rockwood, a member of Canada's Dressage Team, congratulates her horse, True North, for his superb test at the Olympics last week. The Canadian Team ranked behind Germany, Switzerland, the U.S.A. and Russia. (See story on page 3)

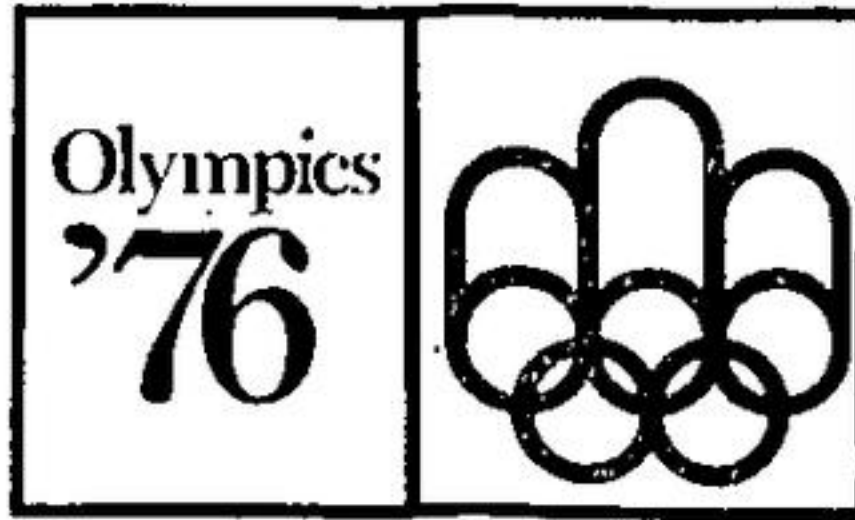
Acton native Denis Gibbons was in Montreal for the final week of the Olympics. This week he reports on local athletes and presents some of his personal observations. Formerly with the Acton Free Press, he's now sports editor of sister publication The Georgetown Independent.

—Although the Olympic Stadium was equipped with all the necessities, it had a very unfinished look about it and was not the work of art it appeared to be on color TV. The floor in the press section where I sat, for instance, consisted of boards, not concrete. Personally, I liked the Munich Stadium, which I visited last summer just as well, but perhaps that was because three years after the competition it was in a super neat and tidy condition.

Yvonne Saunders, on the other hand, told me she preferred the Montreal Stadium. "Competing in my first Olympics (in Munich in 1972) was like a dream, but then I had nothing to compare it to," she said.

Fanfares impressive
—The stadium did have some advantages, though. I sat only six rows from the field during Saturday's track and field competition and, although it rained most of the time, I didn't get wet. The roof completely protects spectators. The seats were comfortable and what I'll always remember best is the clarity of the sound system. As exciting as the events were, it was the fanfare introducing them and the medal ceremonies and the playing of national anthems which choked me up. In four days at the stadium, I didn't hear an announcer make a single mistake and their pronunciation of difficult names was amazing. It was done exactly the way it should be, in two languages clear enough that even the most elementary students of French or English could understand.

Although journalists were allowed into



Olympic notebook

the Olympic Village, they had to follow the proper procedure. It required a phone call to the Chef du Mission of the country of the athlete you wished to see. When I went to visit Georgetown's Clive Llewellyn, I then had to sign the Chef's permission slip, trade my regular accreditation for a special village pass, then pass two well guarded handbag checks, one near the Sherbrooke St. entrance and the other closer to the building itself.

Inside the village
—The village, although a very impressive structure from the outside, also had that "rushed construction" look about it on the inside. To visit Llewellyn in his seventh floor room, I had to take the elevator to the 9th, then walk down two floors. It didn't stop at the 7th: There was a semblance of a kitchenette in Clive's room, but it was clear more was intended to be added to the sink, tap and counter there. Clive, by the way, was in a small L-shaped room with wrestling teammate Egon Beiler of Waterloo and Canadian coaches London Iacovelli and Gord Garvie, Ray Takahashi and Mike Barry were lodged. There was only one bathroom, with a sink, toilet and bath.

Walls in the rooms were decorated with color drawings of the Olympics done by small Montreal school children.

Meeting the athletes
—As a visitor, the village could just as well have been a barn, for all I cared. The exciting thing was the people who were living in it. Where else could you hear the interesting sounds of hundreds of 100 different languages being spoken, exchange pleasantries with Olympic champions and come to the realization that although Canada is a great country, it is not the only one. Being there for two hours was like a fast trip around the world. That's livin'!

Holidays for Llewellyn
—Don and Margo Llewellyn wouldn't have missed seeing their son wrestle in the Olympics for the world. The two weeks they spent in Montreal were Don's vacation from work.

Athletes on opening day
—What was it like on opening day? "For the athletes," Clive told me "the opening ceremonies were fun for about a half hour. We were asked to be outside the stadium in our official uniforms at 1.30 for the march which didn't start until 3.30. Then we had to line up according to our heights and boy was it hot. Finally, athletes were getting tired. Here they were, waiting, just laying around on the grass in their white uniforms."

Oakville official
—Harvey Singleton, who teaches at White Oaks Secondary School in Oakville was an official in Saturday's high jump final at the stadium. Officials stayed at six different hotels around the city.

Weeklies not interested
—There was apparently little interest expressed in the Olympics by Canadian weekly newspapers. Lou Miller, publisher of the Montreal Monitor, who was in charge of the weeklies' pool coverage, told me he received only five requests for stories from across Canada. There were about a dozen

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SOUVENIR PINS from the Olympics were traded by Cons. Bruce McArthur, who was on duty with the O. P. P. at Kingston for a month and a half before, during and after the sailing events there. A great time and no serious problems, he reports. (See story on page 3)

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Recreation committee disbands, no applicants

The Acton and Esqueping Recreation Advisory Committee will be officially disbanded, if a recommendation by Recreation Director Glen Gray is accepted by the General Administration Committee.

Because there were no applications to fill the empty positions on the recreation committee, the members decided to disband.

At their July 7 meeting at which Ward Two representatives Pam Sheldon, Mary Ann Barrow and Ron Mitchell resigned (the latter two via messages), the committee discussed dissolving the group. All but relatively new members Elmer Dunn and Joan Agiss felt there was no need for a committee. Mrs.

Sheldon, Ed Wood and Peter Papillon felt individuals could accomplish just as much by going directly to the recreation department.

Public decide
When disagreement came from Mr. Dunn and Mrs. Agiss, the committee decided to let the public decide. They agreed the committee would continue only if they got three new members, for whom they would advertise.

They did not, at this time, announce the group would fold if the required amount of people did not apply because, Mrs. Sheldon said, "We want people who really care about the town's recreation, not just someone who does not want to see the committee fold."

Mr. Gray and Wards One

and Two recreation co-ordinator Anne Pickering were both on holidays when the deadline for applications came around. Wards Three and Four co-ordinator Karen King, however, said there were no applications at all, and that letters would be sent out to the members. Some, she said, had already been notified by telephone.

Mr. Gray said there is a possibility of the committee being reformed if seven people eventually step forward and ask to have a committee. The recreation director pointed out that he was sorry the committee was disbanded, but said the members decided not to go any longer if no new members joined.

Dragstrip land

Lots don't need park prefer \$75-\$100,000

Cash is needed for the rest of the town more than a park is needed in the estate home development on the former Toronto International dragstrip property, Halton Hills planning board decided Tuesday night.

The 16.5-acre piece of land slated originally for a park is next to the Fifth Line, on the 145-acre parcel of land stretching from the Fifth to Sixth Lines, north of Highway 7. It was formerly owned by Toronto International Dragway.

Just how much cash the town will ask will be the next step in negotiations between Murray Gruson, of Lyncean Investments, and the Town. Four lots would probably be added by building on the parkland, bringing the total

to 54 lots, each over two and half acres and some over four acres.

Planner Mario Venditti said the recreation director saw no need for a park in the area because of the large lots and the proximity of facilities in the new Acton high school, while the engineer foresaw problems in maintaining a park in that location.

Councillor Ern Hyde pointed out the park area had included the control tower, which had been scheduled to be modified into change rooms, and part of the present paved area made into tennis courts. He asked what would happen to that if the park was given up.

Mr. Gruson said the tower would have to be demolished. He emphasized it made no

difference to him whether or not the land was lots or a park, but council earlier had left the question of the park need up in the air. He explained he needed a designation either of open space or residential.

The developer pointed out the change was precipitated by council not his company, and claimed even the 50 lots was 10 too many for the market of estate homes at present.

Councillor Russell Miller admitted he had been convinced the area should be parkland, but after talking to the recreation department and people around the area, changed his mind and now felt a park north of Highway 7, would not be used by enough people. He contended they would go to Acton or Georgetown.

In reply to a question from Hyde, Mr. Gruson said the 16.5 acres on a map looks like it would yield four lots, but said it could be three, when the actual lots are laid out.

"The next step is to discuss cash in lieu of parkland," said Mr. Gruson, and suggested a formula be worked out.

Councillor Dick Howitt said he too had been strongly in favor of a park in the beginning, but now saw little need for it.

Mr. Gruson said based on a rough price of \$30,000 a lot for 54 lots the five percent in lieu of parkland, would result in a cash payment of \$72,900 to the town, after 10 percent is deducted for services and the cost of interest.

An alternative method, said the developer, based on the 16.5 acres of parkland, as three or four marketable lots could yield \$90,000 or \$120,000 to the town, less 15 percent, or roughly \$100,000.

Councillor Ric Morrow reminded council in estate type developments there are fewer services required than an urban subdivision. He said sometimes council has accepted the minimum in lower income housing, "but people buying three or four acre lots and estate homes are by no means lower income."

Morrow said the developer doesn't have to put in storm or sanitary sewers or curbs. He suggested the engineer should investigate the agreement on Caledon estate homes.

Howitt pointed out there are lot levies to be added in addition to the five per cent cash.

Councillor Roy Booth



JENNIFER ROWE, playground leader, was a bit shy about telling Santa what she wanted for Christmas, when St. Nick attended the M. Z. Bennett summer playground on Friday. More pictures inside.

Close Mill for paving

Mill Street, Acton between Main and Fellows Streets will be closed to through traffic for 30 days while Mill Street is being reconstructed.

Through traffic will be detoured on Church St. and Bower Ave.

Councillor Pat McKenzie at Halton Hills council meeting, Tuesday night, pointed out local traffic will be able to use Mill Street but contended local merchants should be notified of the move. He suggested a letter should be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, so they in turn could notify the merchants.

"We close streets all the time when work is being done to through traffic and never notify anybody," stated Mayor Tom Hill.

Councillor Ric Morrow said Rexway Drive in Georgetown has been closed to through traffic for two months, as has Normandy Boulevard.

"Do you want us to send individual notices to everybody?" asked the mayor.

McKenzie said there should be some notice. Councillor Mike Armstrong said the closing will take as much traffic off Mill Street as possible, and reduce the time and cost of the construction. "I think the merchants are well aware of what is going on, and realize the road will be much better when the work is done."

Councillor Les Duby claimed some explanation was necessary so the merchants know they have access to the parking lots and know local traffic can still use the street.

Mayor Tom Hill assured McKenzie he could still drive downtown, and promised to speak to the engineer and have him spread the word of the closure.

Reconstruction, expected to be done before now, is still slated for this year.



OTTO JELINEK will seek the Tory nomination for Halton riding in the next nomination campaign. See page 16.

Farmers' crop hit by virus

Late seeded oat and barley crops in Halton and through-out Southern Ontario have been seriously damaged by a disease which stunts the growth of the grain, according to Mark Leahy, an assistant agriculture representative for the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr. Leahy said they've received a number of reports of the disease in the area and thought there were probably several other unreported instances.

"Farmers will phone in asking what they can do about it," he said, "but there's

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