

# All-star band polished group



THE GRADE SEVEN musicians in the Aberfoyle-Rockwood Centennial All Star Band have been diligently practicing to make their Monday morning performance at the school most enjoyable.

by Barb Wynneck

It was music to everyone's ears who attended the Monday morning performance of the Aberfoyle and Rockwood Centennial All-Star Band. The kindergarten class listened attentively, tapping their feet with the percussion beat to the selection "Bugs that Bug Me."

Under the enthusiastic direction of Mr. Gallagher, the students played seven numbers with such expertise that music teacher Mr. Bauer

from John F. Ross Secondary School, remarked that this band was more polished than his grade nine group! Two tuba players from John F. Ross had been imported so that the lower half of the chords could be completed.

There are no tuba players in the local group yet.

The 70 musicians are all grade seven students and have only been playing these instruments since September. They have taken

their music studies seriously, according to Mr. Gallagher, and are having much fun doing so. At Rockwood Centennial there is no difficulty in recruiting band members — students are lined up to audition and join the group.

The All Star Band will be entertaining tonight at 7:30 at the Oral Communications Festival at King George School in Guelph. In the spring the group will head off to perform in the Niagara District.



IT WAS MUSIC to everyone's ears who heard the Monday morning performance of the Aberfoyle-Rockwood Centennial All Star Band under the direction of Mr. Gallagher.

# Master Breeder title given to national director

Earl Osborne, Rockwood, a national director for the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, was awarded a Master Breeder Shield at the annual meeting held in Toronto on February 8. This is the highest honor achieved by a Canadian Holstein breeder and indicates his ability to breed purebred Holsteins that

are above average for both type and production.

Purebred Holsteins were first purchased by Earl's father, Russell, in 1948. The prefix 'Orendale' was used until 1959 and then changed to 'Osborne'.

One of the prominent foundation animals was

Maridale Rag Apple Helen. This Very Good 'Radar' was bred to 'Citation R' and produced Maridale Citation Hess. This Very Good—Three Star Brood cow has made a significant contribution to the Osborne herd. The produce of 'Hess' was All-American Produce in 1970. One of the members of this group was

Osborne Reflection Harriet who has yielded in seven lactations, 53,268 kg. milk and 1,841 kg. fat. This Excellent female was the Reserve All-Canadian Aged Cow in 1972.

Mr. and Mrs. Osborne have six children, three boys and three girls. The oldest son, Steven, is married and at home on the farm.

Earl Osborne has taken an active part in other activities. Included in his personal achievements are elder and recording secretary of the Rockwood Stone United Church, director and past chairman of Dairyland Co-operative Milk Transport, past chairman of the Wellington County Milk Committee, secretary-treasurer and past president of Wellington Holstein Club and national director for the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada.

With an average of 22 registrations per year, Mr. Osborne required 280 points in order to be awarded a Master Breeder Shield. He accumulated 290 points. He has bred 1 Excellent, 5 Very Good bulls, 7 Excellent, 25 Very Good and 2 Star Brood cows.

## 'Wolves' in Oakville

Bush wolves are suspected in an attack on a sheep dog near Oakville last week. The attack occurred on the lot of a Seventh Line resident near Highway 5.

# Name top contestants in Oral Communications

by Barb Wynneck

Oral Communications have been dominating the activities at Rockwood Centennial School the last few weeks. Every student from the grade four level up, made a speech, competing within his or her own classroom. Two youngsters were then chosen by the teacher to compete at the Rockwood School Competition. Last Friday morning the adjudicators, Betty Jones, Elizabeth McPhedran and James Garland made the decision as to who would represent Rockwood at the Oral Communications Festival, Junior Contest at Westwood Public School, Guelph.

Their speech topics were as follows: Laura Davey, Having a Bad Day; Nathan Incedon, Dolphins; Renette Tarant, Elvis; John McQuinn, Snowmobiles; Tina Brading, About Myself; Valerie Galley, My Dog, Sparky; Laura Brown, Hiking in B.C.; Brad Stevens, Living in the Country; Julian Mitchell, Weather; Jeff Davidson, Sports.

The first place winner was Valerie Galley, followed in second place by Julian Mitchell.

In the Intermediate Division the adjudicators were Elizabeth McPhedran, Mary Mayson and Lois McRae. They made their

decision after hearing the following students speak on these topics:

Brenda Fatt, The Zoo; Rob Meadows, World War II Aircraft; Karl Fralich, Imagination; Kim Rollinson, Foxes; Bruce Carrick, Houdini; Heather Cox, Superstitions; Shelley Spencer, The Lochness Monster; Shelly Godding, Child Abuse; Sue Parinkinson, Memories; Russell Fralich, U.F.O.'s; Debbie Jones, Elvis Presley; John DeGroot, The Supernatural.

Heather Cox placed first and Bruce Carrick second. Heather will represent at the Oral Communications Festival, Intermediate Contest, South Wellington to be held tonight February 15, 7:30 p.m. at King George School, Guelph.



There's a terrible state of affairs existing in the nation's pet shops! It's almost impossible to buy a mouse! Erica needed a mouse for a scientific experiment, later to become a pet. But do you think we could find a mouse from here to Toronto? Not on your nelly.

**Mice in maze**  
It all started with a school science fair and our girl child tried to think of something fantastic to produce. Knowing I would be the shnook who actually did the work, I had to come up with something easy.

"How about a mouse in a maze?" says me brightly, biting my tongue in mid-sentence.

"Oh goody, goody," burbles girl child, "can I keep the mouse for a pet afterwards, can I huh? Can I can I huh?"

The cage was prepared. The maze was designed (that much she did for herself—actually she and Mack made a beautiful maze—surprised heck out of me.) And the next Saturday saw us driving to Georgetown to purchase a mouse.

In all of Georgetown there was no mouse. We were told "They" weren't producing mice any more. The selling price of the little beasts wasn't worth it. I wonder if anyone told the mice. (Must inform the mice in the barn they're obsolete).

However, one helpful pet store owner offered to pick a mouse for us when he next went to Toronto. Our phone number and name were duly written down - ordered: one mouse.

**No Toronto Mice**  
A week passed and the news came forth - in all Toronto there was no mouse. Disaster!

Grabbing the phone book, I proceeded to phone the pet stores in Guelph until finally, I heard the magic words, "Yes, we have one mouse."

"Good, it's sold. I'll pick it up tomorrow."

As an after thought I asked how much was the mouse. Thirty cents. Thirty cents? I wondered what was wrong with a mouse to have such a low price. Did it have only three legs. Perhaps it had lost it's tail. Didn't matter, it was a MOUSE.

Next day, the kids and I descended on the pet shop, cage in hand, to collect our mouse.

"I'm the lady for the mouse", I announced intelligently. "Oh dear," said the proprietor, "Did my daughter tell you what was wrong with the mouse?" I knew it! Thirty cents was just too cheap.

"She's pregnant," says the proprietor. "Oh, goody, goody, goody" coos girl-child.

**Instant change**  
Making instant decision, I turned to Erica and said, your science project is now raising baby mice, throw out your maze." And I plunked my thirty cents on the counter.

Another afterthought: "When is she due?" "Yesterday."

Going into a huddle with the pet-shop lady, we decided the baby mice could be brought back to the pet shop in six weeks and if we were VERY careful, we could get mother mouse home without any problems, just in time for the big event.

## Rockwood Roundup

by Barb Wynneck

When in the village next week why not drop into the Rockwood Plaza to see the Camping Display which will be set up by the Guides and Scouts on Saturday, February 18? The display will be there through Scout-Guide Week, ending February 25.

In celebration of Lord Baden-Powell Week the Rockwood guides will be holding a Guides-Scouts Own, Sunday, February 19, at 2 p.m. at the Rockwood Centennial School. Weather permitting, the Brownsies, Cubs, Guides and Scouts will assemble at the cenotaph at 1:30 p.m., then parade to the school. The service will be conducted by the young people.

This year's services for World Day of Prayer will be held Friday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rockwood

Presbyterian Church, Main St.

The Rockwood Horticultural Club will hold its February meeting tonight at the Town Hall at 8:00 p.m. Everyone welcome and admission is free. Walter Mitchell of Rockwood Hardware will be speaking about Lawn and Garden chemicals and showing slides of common garden pests.

## Organize volleyball

The winter evenings have been frigid but each Thursday much heat and energy are generated at the Rockwood Centennial School gymnasium. Over 30 volleyball players, ranging in age from 17 to 50 plus are passing and spiking that ball over the net with vigour and enthusiasm.

Last week the local group defeated the team from Hammond's Electronics in Guelph.

Co-ordinator Lorraine Root is currently organizing a league that will have Rockwood regularly competing with other established teams from Acton and Guelph. If you are an experienced player or a novice and wish to join in the fun, practice time is each Thursday 7:30 p.m. at the Rockwood Centennial School.

by Jennifer Barr

If you're caught in a blizzard with commuter traffic outside Toronto trying to creep back to Halton, don't envy the farmer with his feet on the wood stove doing nothing. He isn't. He's probably working harder than anybody.

For the agro-businessman, winter doesn't ease the amount of chores, it doubles them. Granted, he doesn't have planting, harvesting, haying, and cultivating to do. However, with animals in the barn instead of grazing the pastures, there's the stable to be cleaned, hay to be moved and fed, milking or other related chores, manure to be spread on fields, wood to be cut, and pipes to thaw.

If you think your driveway is hard to keep clear of snow, pity the farmer with yards, buildings, lanes and many doorways to shovel out.

So it's hard to start your car in below zero weather? The farmer has his truck, several tractors, as well as his wife's car to keep running.

Farming is twice as hard in the winter as any Halton or area farmer will tell you.

**Likes summer**

Harold Brown of Limehouse likes summer best because "you don't have to take an hour to put your clothes on." He quit milking after 40 years recently and now farms beef cattle and pigs. So, his chores aren't as bad this year, he doesn't have hours of milking to do twice a day.

## Trustees want parking bylaw

Parking may soon be banned in Rockwood by Eramosa township council from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. to aid snow removal, if a proposal by Rockwood village trustees goes through.

The trustees requested the township council ban parking on all streets in Rockwood from October to April, from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. The group also requested the towing away of

vehicles not conforming with this bylaw, and that a contractor be arranged to do the towing.

The trustees explained in the letter to council that the proposed bylaw was for the good of everyone as it would speed up snow removal.

Council agreed with the basic thought of the proposal but felt the hours were not practical. Reeve Bill Adsett

pointed out businesses would not get very many customers if no parking were allowed during the day. Councillor John McLeod also thought the months were unreasonable, saying that he has never seen enough snow in October to warrant no parking.

Councillor Alan Burnett, who drives a school bus for the Wellington County Board of Education, said there has been some trouble in the rural areas where school buses have got stuck trying to get around parked or abandoned vehicles. He claimed one particular car was always parked in the same spot, because the owner did not want to pull the vehicle into his nearby driveway.

Council decided to have the township solicitor draft a bylaw.

## Council makes fairs wait for annual grant

The Acton Agricultural Society will have to wait until budget time before it will receive a grant from Eramosa township council. The society wrote a letter to

council requesting the annual grant. Council decided to wait until the 1978 budget had been drawn up before any grants to area fairs were given out, including Erin and Fergus.

# Perrin Beatty is 4-H speaker

Mimosa 4-H Homemaking Club were hosts to the 4-H girls and leaders from Drumhill and Ospringe at Ospringe School on Monday evening when Perrin Beatty, Member of Parliament for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo, was their guest speaker.

The 4-H clubs joined together for the meeting People, Ideas and Laws which is part of the present Ontario Dept. of Agriculture program "Focus on Living". Leanne Taylor, Mimosa, introduced Mr. Beatty, explaining that he is serving his second term of office and is only 27 years old. He is the second youngest member of parliament ever elected.

Mr. Beatty spoke to the girls about the duties of the federal government and compared their responsibilities with those of the provincial and municipal governments. He also explained the seating

arrangements in the House of Commons and how the Speaker of the House is chosen and what his duties are.

Among the questions asked in the question and answer period that followed were such things as Quebec separation, the seal hunt, how the members liked TV in the house of commons and one member asked in French if Mr. Beatty was able to speak the language. Mr. Beatty replied in French. Mr. Beatty answered each question fully and certainly gave the clubs lots of insight into federal politics.

Barbara Majors from Drumhill club thanked Mr. Beatty for his informative talk and the Mimosa club supplied refreshments.

The three clubs will be joining together again for a meeting on safety hosted by the Drumhill club.



HOUSE PAINTER at work. Lee Nilsen adds his design to the creation of the Rockwood Nursery School.

# Winter doubles farm chores few farmers with feet up

The cattle have to be fed and the manure removed. Mr. Brown is girding his loins for spring when work is even harder. Spring planting is an arduous time and yet the cattle are still in the stable unable to go on pasture until the grass has a growth on it.

With stable chores as well as field work, Mr. Brown looks forward to late spring and early summer when work actually becomes lighter.

Angus McEachern, who lives just west of Ballinacra, still spends his winter cutting wood to fire his combination wood and oil furnace and the stoves. He proudly boasts his house uses less than 200 gallons of oil a winter because of the zeal he puts into split wood production.

McEachern's beef cattle are in the barn and the manure gets ahead of him.

Somehow the fact that a cow produces almost twice as much manure from one end as feed put in the other seems very unfair to the farmer. But then, he's used to getting a rough deal.

Hugh Eckerich, an Erin township farmer, milks 46 cows and handles a total herd of 75. He reckons he moves 1500 tons of manure a winter but he's got 250 acres to spread it on.

Erkerich says his work is lighter in the winter. Instead of working 14 to 16 hours a day, he may only work 12 hours a day when the snow files.

"Everybody thinks we've got it made,"

he grumbles, "but I don't think our days are any easier."

Hugh is another farmer getting ready for spring by fixing machinery in his own shop.

"There's always something breaking down—with automation we've constantly got a problem."

Floyd Shortill who farms on the Eighth Line above Georgetown says he "takes it as it comes."

"Winter isn't so bad when you can take a few days holidays in the fall."

Mr. Shortill takes care of his everyday chores which are considerable with over a hundred head of beef cattle. His cattle are loosehoused so he shovels manure "as the spirit moves me."

The Shortills burn wood but he never gets enough cut ahead of time and the snow is "kind of deep" to go tramping back to the bush now.

Martin de Bruyn, farming just north of Acton, is rebuilding his barn as well as taking care of his 30 milking Holsteins and pigs. It's his second winter at renovating the barn.

With a good snowlower life is simpler and his wife Angie, a teacher at Stewarttown School hasn't missed a day so far.

The de Bruyns try to get away for weekends to show their prize Newfoundland dogs although they have to hire someone to carry on the farm work.

"We get away come hell or high water," says Mrs. de Bruyn, but she also adds, "It's a great life, I wouldn't go back to town."

And then there's Jesse McEnery, a Sixth Line farmer, who says he'd like the winter "if they'd (his family) leave me alone."

"Don't ask him to go anywhere," chuckles Mrs. McEnery.

The McEnery laneway always fills in to shoulder height by February and a second lane is blown out through the fields. This year the lane has been impassable for some time and Mr. McEnery agrees there's been a lot more snow than usual.

Although he finds winter a time of hard work he says modernization has eased the burden. Such mechanized contraptions as automatic water bowls and snow blowers take some of the drudgery out of chores.

One last word from this used-to-be full-time farmer—winter on the farm is a time to be got through and that's all. The weather fights you every step of the way and everyone, animals included, gets spring fever around March.

So all you commuters snarled in traffic on the 401, remember you have a nice warm office to go to with automatic watering bowls and flush sanitary facilities.

Say a little thank you to the farmer out there in the cold growing your summer barbecued steak.