

Profit down on skiing

by Linda Kirby
For the first time in eight years, Eden Ski Area has failed to show a profit, the result of a disastrous ski season.

Despite an increase in lesson sales and season passes, spells of rainy, mild weather washed away any chance of ski profits and resulted in a \$4,000 operating deficit, for the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

Add to that major expenditures for capital projects and maintenance and the final deficit is \$167,604. This includes a \$37,036 deficit carried from the previous year.

The figures were released at an Authority meeting of the Conservation Areas—Community Realities Advisory Board, Thursday evening.

Compared to a "good" skiing season in 1982, when officials recorded more than 100 skiing days, there were fewer than 70 days in the past season.

Though some expenses were down from the previous year, due to the decreased

amount of skiing, the popular ski hill fell \$309,915 short of reaching revenue budget of \$796,000.

Capital improvements during the year amounted to \$77,175 and accounted for the addition of snow making hydrants, timing equipment for the new racing program and work on lifts.

There was also a \$26,667 payment on a \$266,000 capital expansion bank loan, interest payment of \$15,041, and an operating loan repayment of \$7,613.

Traditionally, a successful ski season has resulted in sufficient income to offset the costs of any major capital improvements or loan payments, made over the year.

In a written summary, Sandy Bell, manager of the Conservation Areas Division noted, "although there was a small operating loss this year, this is only the second time that we have ever had one."

"If we wanted to show an operating profit, we could easily sell equipment stock from the rental shop to offset the deficit."

"We had an exceptionally bad year, but we are a lot better prepared than ever before. We were able to extend the season and we were ready to go when the season opened," he said.

"However, by keeping it in stock, we can continue to sell and rent out this equipment in following years thus bringing in more revenue to the Area."

"Therefore, we have developed this large facility and all that is owed is the Ontario Municipal Board secured loan at \$133,333 and the accumulated deficit," continued Mr. Bell.

The success of operations at Glen Eden over the past few years is evident in the fact that just over \$1 million has been spent in capital.

Some fears
His optimism did little however to alleviate the fears of several Board members who felt it could take some time for the Authority to recoup the loss.

Members expressed skepticism with a proposed 1983-84 budget presented by Mr. Bell showing a projected revenue of \$813,500 or close to a 70 per cent increase over the actual revenue of the past season.

That figure is based on a 90 day operating season and would take into account an increase of approximately five per cent in skiing rates.

Authority members will review the budget including both projected revenues and expenditures at its next meeting June 2

Drive for funds questioned

An organization called The Recreational Rehabilitation Society of Ontario (RRSO) commenced a fund raising drive in Halton Hills this week but an official with the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded questioned the need for another organization to assist the disabled.

David Williams, executive director of the NHAMR said those who are solicited for donations to this new society should be cautious about the use of their money since

both the Easter Seal Society and the Ontario March of Dimes have said they have adequate facilities to handle all physically disabled children in Ontario who want to benefit from a camping experience.

The Recreation Rehabilitation Society of Ontario has been raising money in the province since last October. They are promoting Camp Mikashawnee which they hope to have renovated and operating by

Wilson edges Hillsburgh 3-1

MOSQUITO

Acton Wilson Car Sales Mosquitos defeated Hillsburgh 3-1 last week.

Paul McLeod, Kevin Priestman and Paul Westaway all scored goals for the winners in the game. Erik Veldman and Geoff Maltby played good games for the locals.

In another Mosquito game, Acton 1 blanked Rockwood 9-0.

Dave Boyle, Sean Sears, and Dale Stewart each had a pair of markers for Acton, with Jeremy Adema, Gareth Marks, and Marc Vanden Akker hitting for singles.

The local squad played good positional soccer in this match, going into the second half up 6-0 and holding off for the shutout.

Sears leads the team in goals so far this season with nine. He is followed by Stewart with four.

MINI-SQUIRT

Bob's Angels got by the T-Birds 5-2. Christopher Wilson netted a pair of goals.

Foodland felled 11-4 by Puslinch

The Acton A&B Foodland Tri-County Atoms dropped their game of last week, 11-4 to Puslinch.

After the locals fell behind by eight runs, they settled down and played better ball.

Jason Dunn scored a pair of runs for Acton in the game, with Sheldon Stuckless and Adam Fabian adding the others. Chris Schiek had two RBIs.

Thomas' fire...

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the apartments and firefighters were able to retrieve it and hand it over to police.

No one was home at the time the fire started, the chief pointed out.

Fire operations were hampered by the blaze burying itself in the walls, ceiling and roof and the men were unable to get at it. That coupled with the swarms of yellow jackets coming from the building's eaves made fighting difficult. Several times the firefighters had to stop what they were doing to fight off the bees and turn hoses on them.

Cunningham pointed out one of the problems was trying to get a hole in the roof to act as a chimney for heat, smoke and flames. Venting of the roof "was crucial". Once that was done, the men could see what they were doing.

Two Acton pumpers and the rescue van, and 17 men were at the scene, as well as the aerial truck and 20 men from Georgetown. A Georgetown pumper sat at the Acton hall in case another fire started elsewhere in town, and the men switched off with other firefighters to give them a rest.

Ambulances were on the scene from Milton, Georgetown, Brampton and Guelph. Cunningham praised an attendant from Brampton who coordinated the efforts of all the attendants.

Three fire hydrants and 1800 feet of hose were used.

Firefighters did not take any of the video equipment out of the first floor stores, but did throw protective covers over the machines to protect them from smoke and water. They were later removed from the building by the owner, relatively unscathed, the chief said.

At the same time, however, Cunningham pointed out, the crowds were a problem and the police had a difficult time keeping them out of the way.

The Acton Unit of the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and many individuals helped out tremendously with coffee, pop and sandwiches. Cunningham pointed out, and Catherine Kelly at Dawe Real Estate opened the building to act as a food depot for the tiring men. Volunteers ran air packs back and forth from the fire hall a block away to the fire throughout the evening.

Cunningham was proud of the way his men handled the situation. "They gave 110 per cent under the conditions they had to work. They did extremely well and went above and beyond the call of duty."

He described it as a fire that the men just did not seem to be winning because of it being hidden in the walls and ceiling. He also noted it is a great stress to see your friends collapsing around you and wondering how they are doing after they are taken away.

"There's no question this is the hardest fire since the Dominion Hotel," Cunningham said.

The hotel burned down in August, 1979, killing one person, and levelling the building.

Sunday firefighters started to return to the hall about 10.45, but remained there until 2 a.m. cleaning up.

By the next morning, Thomas' had opened shop in the former Phylmor Fashions building on Main St. Any video disc machines that had been rented over the weekend can be returned there.

Fortunately the firm's records remained unscathed and Dave Watson and his employees have sorted out what equipment is on rental and to whom.

for the Angels. Douglas Frehs, Greg Johnson, and Steven Holbinski all booted singles.

Seth Homer and Elliot Goldman both found the mark for the T-Birds, who put up a fight despite only having half a team in uniform.

MAJOR-SQUIRT

Jandel drew 1-1 with Glasvan in Major-Squirt action last week.

For Glasvan, it was Bradley Cripps booting home the lone goal, while Marcus Higgins split the pipes for Jandel.

CanAm and Pineview B locked horns in another 1-1 draw last week.

Kevin Tribe collected the goal for CanAm.

PEEWEE

Acton's Standard Products tied Milton Koske Glass 1-1 last week.

Acton's goal was scored by Walter Krozen.

MOH's assumptions raise local ire

Comments by Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Peter Cole about socio-economic conditions in the north of Halton, and particularly Acton, have been greeted with skepticism by members of the medical profession and some residents.

Dr. David van der Bent of the Acton Medical Group, asked his opinion of the projected survey Dr. Cole announced last week and Dr. Cole's assumptions about what it will show said, "Dr. Cole has prejudiced the survey with his assumptions and rendered any survey invalid."

Dr. Cole said researchers may find a lower health level in Acton compared to Georgetown and there may also be a higher incidence of smoking and drinking in Acton. He also said there may be differences between the south of the region and the north. "Generally speaking, the level of health appears to be higher in the south than the north," he said in a statement which has angered residents.

Dr. Cole also made statements this week about the incidence of venereal disease in Halton which has aroused ire. His assumptions were again questioned and it was suggested by one doctor that Acton residents may have a lower incidence of VD than in the south.

See editorial on Page 4.

Coles' slaw

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that many out there were listening came when the opposition parties clamored for equal time and slammed the "6 and 5" as hard as Pierre espoused it. It infuriated them that Trudeau and the government would take any credit for lowering of the inflation rate or interest rates.

Those who have had their wages harassed by the 6 and 5 policy know Trudeau was correct, whether they like it or not. But it is interesting to note the same people who won't give the government any credit for slowing down inflation, or dropping interest rates, are not slow to blame them for the crippling rates and high inflation that previously existed.

Ironic, isn't it?

But if as some maintain this country is going to the dogs then there has been ample proof of it in this family journal the last two weeks with stoop 'n' scoop, the letters columns, and the contents of this column last week. When I wrote that piece about yapping dogs I never really appreciated how widespread the irritation is. When so many people told me I must have been writing about their neighborhood because they were cutting it out and sending it next door, I knew I struck a responsive chord.

But it has been so hot lately and these musings are coming to an end before I exhaust your patience and your politics.

Osprings 40 at reunion

by Doris Flies

In 1933 the first McKinnon-Thomson family reunion was organized, and on Sunday, June 26, 50 years later, about 40 of those original people and their descendants, gathered at the home of Stuart and Barbara McKinnon for their annual get-together. Their ages ranged from two-year-old Colleen Diner of Waterloo, to 100-year-old George Davis of Erin. The person who came the farthest was Mrs. Muriel Thomson from Winnipeg, Manitoba. They report a favorable day all around.

Gordon Aitkin has returned from spending a week with his daughter Joan and Mike Hutchison and family at Elgin.

Eighteen students graduated from grade 7 at Osprings Public School. We wish them continued success as they pursue their studies at Erin District High School in September. Happy holidays to all the students and teachers.

An athletic assembly was held on Monday at the school to recognize all the students who had achieved good scores in track and field, sports and the bike rodeo. On Tuesday the academic awards assembly was held. The bus patrols received wings from Denny Bus Lines. Barry Pleitch of grade 7 received recognition for top marks in history. Osprings School is beginning an honor roll, and pupils who receive outstanding achievement will have their names added to the honor roll.

Congratulations to Brian Thomas, who had top score in the Wellington County math quiz. He received a trophy.



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'83 SCHEDULE					
Date	Opponents	Times	Date	Opponents	Times
Wed July 6	Tulsa	8:00 pm	Sun Aug 21	Montreal	3:00 pm
Wed July 13	Vancouver	8:00 pm	Sun Aug 28	Team America	3:00 pm
Sun July 17	San Diego	3:00 pm	INTERNATIONAL GAMES		
Sun July 24	Seattle	3:00 pm	Sun Aug 7	Benfica of Lisbon	8:00 pm
Tues Aug 16	New York	8:00 pm	Wed Aug 10	Juventus of Italy	8:00 pm

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