

Pop Tournament Cork With Pipes, Drums and Hi-Jinks



Georgetown's reeve Ric Morrow handed the official face-off duties at the start of an opening night exhibition game to launch the annual International Bantam Hockey Tournament in the Memorial Arena, Friday night. Facing off are Gerry Perkins, right, the Georgetown Referees Association's chief, and a member of the Professional Golfers Association hockey club.



The Legion Branch 120 pipe band took part in the ceremony which officially opened the International Bantam Hockey Tournament here Friday night. The actual tournament play got underway Saturday and continues daily until championship games climax it this coming Saturday night.

Howson Transferred New T-D Manager Here

Terry Dickinson is the new manager at Georgetown's Toronto Dominion Bank branch on Main Street North. Mr. Dickinson succeeds Ray Howson, who will open the new City Centre branch in Bramalea next week. A native of London, England, Mr. Dickinson joined the bank when he came to Canada in 1957, and has been at various Metro Toronto branches, lately at Kipling & Dixon as manager, and before that at Brown's Line & Horner. He has purchased a home on Dawson Crescent and his wife and daughter Kimberley will be joining him here the end of May. She is the former Mary Lynch and comes from Dublin, Ireland. For Mr. Howson, this will be his second bank opening. He came to Georgetown from Millbrook when the T-D branch opened here in November, 1966. Mr. and Mrs. Howson will continue to live in Georgetown for the present at 57 Stevens Crescent.

Set April 7 Date for Crazy Credit Cruise

April 7 is the Saturday of Georgetown's Junior Chamber of Commerce, Crazy Boat Race. JC Paul Atkinson says they have received 30 to 40 entries in the comic class so far. There are six classes of boat races, a seven mile course, and seven trophies to be won. The races will begin at noon. A class the comic class: B class rubber rafts and boats; C class boats of all types; D class motorized crafts; E class two man canoes; and F class professional canoes and kayaks. The course extends down the Credit River from the 10th line bridge at Glen Williams to Norval.

ODD CRAFT
The comic class is the most memorable part of this annual event. There are two trophies given in this class, one for the most unusual boat, and another for the winner of the race. Last year someone started the race in a giant flower pot, the year before the Whitty JCs raced a giant boat with a paper swan mounted on it. Registration takes place that Saturday morning, the fee this year has been raised to \$3 over last year's \$2. Paul Atkinson says there will be five weeks of planning for the event and from 300 to 400 man hours spent.



North Halton Golf and Curling Club pro Don Findley is a defense stalwart with the Professional Golfers Association hockey team which played the Georgetown Referees Association here Friday.

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A Mild Rebuke To An Angry Protest Letter

The following article in regard to trapping was included in the Ministry of Natural Resources newsletter for February 1973.

A BAD NAME
EDITOR'S NOTE: The recent spate of anti-trapping articles and letters reaching our newspapers and magazines lately has only served to give a bad name to a skilled trade that has been passed down from generation to generation; the only livelihood of many Northern Ontario Indians. The following article is by Carl Monk, an information officer with the Ministry of Natural Resources in reply to one of the irate letters appearing in an employee publication. It is reprinted here, in the hope that it will serve to clear up many of the misconceptions associated with the trapping of furbearing animals.

"This is a mild rebuke to an angry protest — also on behalf of our furbearing animals. Her plea that more humane methods for harvesting some of the annual fur crop should be found commendable. No serious minded person would dispute this. Unfortunately, as so often happens when we let our emotions run away with us, we lose sight of facts. She blew it in her final sentence: 'and do openly refuse to buy an item of wild animal fur.' Wild fur is a natural resource. It was Canada's first industry. For more than 300 years an annual crop of furbearers has been taken from the bush. And it has not cost her or any other citizen one red cent.

FINEST IN THE WORLD
"The modern trapline management program in Ontario which began in 1946 is the finest of its kind in the world. It brought back the furbearers some of whom at the time were literally tracking into oblivion. In fact, with one or two exceptions, the crop of furbearers in Ontario during the last decade has never stood higher. This was accomplished through legislation, surveys, controls, communications, education, dedication and common sense. Present day trapline management in Ontario may well be the greatest conservation achievement of this century.

GOOD CITIZENS
"The 10,000 or so professional trappers who harvest the annual crop of furbearers are human beings, do pay taxes and are good citizens, they do practice humane methods of trapping. (The record shows that 95 percent of all wild furs in Ontario are taken humanely). They are real people who often have to live and work outdoors under harsh conditions.

"The fur industry in Ontario is especially vital to our northern residents. It provides many of them with the necessary cash to clothe and feed their families. For some it's a way of life carried on for centuries before the white man came, and guaranteed by treaty afterwards.

75,000 JOBS
"The letter writer is... all for banning wild fur commerce altogether! That commerce in 1969 was worth 79 million dollars - and it's all the more important because most of the fur was exported. It represents about 75,000 jobs at a time when this country can ill afford to lose anything.

"But the case for furbearers, trappers and the fur industry is not just one of economics — it is one of conservation. Fat-outs, overcrowding, die-offs, disease, nuisance and misery will un-

doubtedly fall in the wake of any policy to ban the annual harvest of furbearers. The spread of rabies throughout Ontario and New York State during the 1950's was directly attributed to a high density of foxes.

CONSTANT WORRY
"Today the unusually high number of beaver colonies in much of the animals southern range is a constant worry to wildlife managers, farmers and maintenance crews. "Live trapping and restocking elsewhere, however, is not the answer because most of the land is already at or beyond its carrying capacity. (At the present time there are close to two million beavers in Ontario.)

HIGHER THAN EVER
"The old chestnut about endangering an vanishing furbearers also needs to be pulled out of the fire at least here in Ontario.

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"As stated earlier, the stocks of furbearers today are as high or higher than they have ever been. The possible exceptions are muskrat and wolverine. There are fewer muskrats because marshes and swamps have been drained or filled in and watercourses have been trenched, concreted and or dammed.

CONSTANT RISK
"This has left the animal with less habitat and a constant risk of being drowned or frozen to death whenever his water levels are raised and lowered. The wolverine probably never was very plentiful. A few (50-100) still inhabit the remote regions of Northwestern Ontario, such as Cape Henrietta Maria, Sachigo and Sandy Lake. "Most of Ontario is suited to the production of furbearers — some of it suited to little else.

That the management of these furbearers is not at the highest possible level cannot be disputed. To suggest that all animals be taken humanely is just and proper. **UNDERSTAND LITTLE**
"To suggest that all trapping be banned is unwise. It can come only from people who understand little about the nature of things."

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