

They were prepared, but boy it was cold!

Rain didn't dampen the spirits of the North Halton Boy Scouts this weekend. When the freezing rain turned to snow Saturday afternoon the enthusiasm of 91 boys and 22 leaders didn't freeze up, dispelling all misconceptions that Scouting is for aisles. Battling the elements only added to the challenge, as the 14 patrols from Georgetown, Norval, Glen Williams, Milton and Acton competed for a trophy and pennant while working towards the winter survival section of their "Three Seasons Camper Award."

Activities began early Saturday morning as the boys arrived at Goodyear Memorial Scout Camp in the Caledon Hills. Having spent the night in

their scout huts, the Scouts were warmed up and raring to go. The first competition was a Klondike sled race, from their cars to the campsite one mile away, in the pouring rain. Supplies and camping gear were transported over the rain-soaked hills in dog-sleds that each troop had built prior to the weekend. They were fashioned after the sleds used in the Klondike Days in western Canada.

In the true spirit of Scouting brotherhood, the boys pulled together to get their sopping tents pitched and the campfires lit for their two-day stay. Lighting a fire in the rain was the next big hurdle. "We just couldn't find the right button to press," joked Ken Riddle of

the 2nd Georgetown troop. "We finally got a fire going with the help of our Scouters, and were starved by the time we got lunch made!"

"You'll never know what it's like washing dishes in this weather," muttered Mark Arcuri, a 1st Georgetown Scout. A log transport race was next on the agenda. "We had to haul our sleds up this great steep hill to a huge log pile," explained Geoff Saxon, an Acton Scout. "We had to pile ten logs in our sleds and then haul them back down again. We almost killed ourselves coming down this great big hill. Some of the sleds started falling apart!"

By supper time the air turned so cold one boy said his supper froze on his plate before he

could eat it. He added his hands were so cold he couldn't get his gloves off. "They were frozen solid; pure ice."

In fact, they said everything froze up, even the people. After dinner the Scouts suggested all the boys take their wet things up to the chalet, and dry out. Brain MacCourt, 5th Georgetown troop Scouter, and camp warden said there were hundreds of drenched pants, underwear, jackets, socks, toques and gloves hanging from the rafters. "It looked like a Chinese laundry."

All 91 boys crowded into the hilltop chalet for a mug-up (hot chocolate) by the fireplace, where they sang songs while they thawed out before bedtime. Leaders report all the

boys were in bed and asleep by 9:30. The day's activities had worn them out, and, besides, they said it was warmer in a sleeping bag. One or two youngsters complained of the cold and spent the night in the chalet, but the majority weathered the night under the stars, protected by a canvas shelter and warm sleeping bags.

Sunday morning brought a new round of competitions: a slalom race around a course on their dog sleds pulled by people; a log-sawing contest; a survival and rescue competition; compass and distance-estimating work; and each patrol had to build a survival shelter out of evergreen branches and snow. The

weather was more comfortable, though colder and the Scouts found they just had to keep moving to keep warm. Not one complained and they all said they'd go again next week if they could.

At 3 o'clock the 14 patrols assembled at the chalet for dismissal ceremonies and awards. The trophy and the Excelsior pennant and staff both went to the 1st Acton Scout troop for having earned the most total points in the various competitions.

This is the first time the North Halton District has staged a winter camp, but, because of the enthusiasm and success, they have already booked again for next year.



AHHHHH! This really living, 1st Georgetown Scout Russ Hammer savours the flavor of a smoked frankfurter right out of the fire. "It's a lot more fun than living in a house. I'd come back again next week if I could."



HIKING THROUGH the bush on snowshoes helped to wear out Mark Arcuri and Mark Bernart and the other 89 Scouts who were in bed and asleep by 9:30 Saturday night. As his icy fingers fiddled with the knots, Mark, muttered, "you'll never know what it's like washing dishes out here!"



Cable system growing up in Halton Hills

HERALD family

"Georgetown will be part of the most modern cable television system anywhere," says Halton Cable Systems' president and general manager, Arthur Jamieson.

Halton systems, formerly Georgetown Cable TV, has begun construction of a new reception tower at a site just west of Speyside. The new tower and head-end processing facilities will send the television signal into Acton, Milton and Georgetown from Speyside.

Once construction of the new tower and system is complete, conversion of the Georgetown system, which includes Norval and Glen Williams will take place.

"To accommodate the extra channels available," says Mr. Jamieson, "we must replace all the amplifiers in the existing

lines throughout the town, to a new type capable of carrying a wider range of frequencies since we will soon be offering 20-channel service."

The new tower will be twice as high as the present one located at Norval. The added height will bring in many more stations that the company will make available to the subscriber on the supplementary converter service.

Mr. Jamieson is proud to be able to use some of the best equipment available for the new system. "The result will be the best picture available," he noted.

Since the present system was put into service in 1968 technology in the cable television business has made many things possible, according to Mr. Jamieson. "Extra channels, two-way

cable (able to send and receive a signal at the same time), home security, and data transmission are all possible on cable."

The system as it is being built now will be able to provide up to 20 channels with six available at the time of installation. Two-way cable can be added to the system in the future when the need arises for the service. The biggest use of two-way is in local programming.

"Using this method, we could televise many community events live, as they happen whereas now they are videotaped and shown at a later date," added Mr. Jamieson.

The studio which will handle the programming needs of the three communities will be relocated near the Speyside tower site, equidistant from the

communities of Acton, Milton and Georgetown.

"We hope to expand our programming as other groups from the new areas ask to make use of the facilities," said Mr. Jamieson.

"This year we are experimenting with new ideas and concepts in community programming. We have included a show aimed at the Portuguese community. In addition to some of the regular programming from other years."

Prior to Christmas the company purchased a complete mobile tele-production system that will make it possible for them to present more of what is

happening around the community.

"We have added a new program this year, 'Hockey Highlights' to our lineup," added Mr. Jamieson. "The program contains interviews with the Raiders and also highlights from the previous game."

"We will be using the most modern equipment available today," furthered Mr. Jamieson. "We have been working closely with the best people in the business to design a system that is flexible enough to provide additional uses and that will be capable of providing optimum television reception."

Pack the car for fun

Forget the winter blahs and "come along" to Terra Cotta Conservation Area this Sunday for a full day of winter fun. Bundle up the kids and fill up the car with neighbors and friends, for the admission fee is only \$1.50 per car, no matter how many people are in it.

A crash course in winter survival will be taught by Georgetown's Bill Garrard of Garrard Photo. The retired

RAF survival instructor, in two hour sessions, will give a condensed version of an evening course he is teaching at Conestoga College as part of the continuing education series.

He explained the reason some people come out walking and others never come out alive boils down to their attitude and approach to an emergency situation. His course is designed to develop basic practical skills to provide first aid, shelter, warmth, drinking water and a maximum amount of food with a minimal amount of output, as quickly and efficiently as possible. "The person who considers himself qualified to go dashing off for help is usually the one who ends up in trouble," he pointed out.

"The important thing is to survive with the means that are there, and then calmly think out a plan to get help." These plans will be demonstrated along with setting and building a fire, constructing a shelter and setting snares.

If you're interested in how to take good winter photographs, bring along your camera. A Georgetown naturalist and avid photographer, F. Cramp, will be on hand to help you take some good winter shots.

Credit Valley Ski Club will have instructors there to give tips on cross-country skiing. Sheridan College is funding a special course in snowshoeing and snowshoes will be available for loan on a first come, first serve basis. A \$5 deposit will be

required and will be returned. Weather permitting, there will be skating on the pond, and tobogganing, so bring along your skates and toboggans. In any case the horse drawn hay rides will take place, sleigh or wagon, depending on the amount of snow.

Warm up by a roaring fire and have some of Dave Kentner's famous chili-corn-cake or a hot dog.

Kentner's Catering from Georgetown will also sell hot or cold drinks and marshmallows to roast on the fire.

The fun starts at 10 a.m. and goes all day till 4:30 p.m. Where else in these days of inflation could you get all this for just \$1.50 a carload? "Come Along."

"Pocket Them"

Putting things in your pocket may not always be the best idea.

However, the efforts of one man who seems to think pockets are good receptacles for some things, namely pull tabs from beverage cans is paying off. In order to get the

message across, Bob Ollivier, nature columnist for the Herald, introduced his message to the public on self-adhesive labels, manufactured where Mr. Ollivier works, Labelmasters.

"Pocket them, is the whole idea behind it," says Mr. Ollivier. "Let's get them off the streets, parks, sidewalks and into the proper containers."

Lack of government participation in banning non-returnable containers prompted Mr. Ollivier's action. The campaign to get the message out began last Christmas with the first label going to the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

"I use them on mail and one vending machine supplier has requested labels for his machines in the Toronto area," Mr. Ollivier added that the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has also requested labels for use throughout the conservation areas in operation.

"I'm concerned when I see the countryside littered with these things. It reminds me of the duck that got one stuck on its bill, in Toronto."

The labels are printed for Mr. Ollivier by the company because of their concern for the project. These labels have appeared throughout many regions of Canada and the United States bearing the message "Pocket Them."

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NOW THERE'S A GUY with a head on his shoulders. This original artistic version of the snowman was created and sculptured by two Georgetown High school boys, Steve Tucko and Scott Callaghan, both 17. It stands outside the Tucko home at 18 Dufferin Street.

High School Insights Time for change at GDHS

By Tom Bushey

Finally the first semester is finished and the second semester is about to begin!

There are mixed feelings about the end of the semester. Many of the students feel they are really glad that they have finally finished a long and strenuous semester.

The pains of regular attendance and note-taking have been extremely hard on the few students who haven't been putting their best effort forward for the last part of the year.

There are other students, however, who are glad to see the semester fade over the horizon because of the lack of "real" work. There has been a lot of review being done in the many classes and this is not really very difficult since everyone has already done the work, or at least they should

have.

Some of the teachers were giving the students a beginning to the next higher level of their course. This is really appreciated by the students who will be continuing the course but the few who don't care are really having a favor done for them.

Next week the students are going to go through the task of having to find new seats in their new classes (unless the teacher "suggests" a position in the room). If the students have a choice, however, they will either take a seat by someone they know or they might want to know others in the school.

Those students who have their lunch periods at different times will be trying to adjust to the different cycle and trying to survive. Other students have their lunch at the same time so they already are one step ahead of the many students who must

change their habits.

The teachers are either glad to see the students disappear or are sad to see them go because they will have to get used to the new students. The teachers are also glad to see a change in their timetable because they are probably the same as the students who are all almost tired of the routine.

As it seems the new semester seems like it will be full of changes and perhaps even one of the basketball teams will improve their playing. Another team, however, are the Senior Boys who are doing well and hope they don't change since they have a five-win, no-loss record. Perhaps a change would be appreciated if they could have scores which are even higher than the high ones that they have now!

Rinks ready

Georgetown's outdoor rinks are now fully operational. The mild spell of the last few weeks caused a slight setback in the recreation department's plans, but Director Doug Collison assures us that the work is going.

There are nine outdoor rinks in Georgetown, two at Kennedy School, two at Harrison School, two at Cedarvale and one each at the High School, the fairgrounds and Joseph Gibbons school. There is a possibility that another rink will be made available at

Joseph Gibbons.

The Harrison and Cedarvale rinks have proper lighting and plans are being made to provide similar lighting at the other rinks. The lights are turned off at Cedarvale at 11:00 p.m., but at Harrison remain on all night. All rinks operate on a first come—first serve basis.

Mr. Collison would like to add the reminder that anyone wishing to use the rinks for skating parties should get in touch with the recreation department.