

Experience the subtle sounds of nature by stalking the outdoors

By BOB OLLIVIER
Herald Columnist

Skiing is not for everyone. Almost everyone can SNOWSHOE. Skiing is very popular and there seems to be no end in sight to its growth.

However, there are many who can not or will not ski and the reasons are many and varied. Personally I have a bad back problem, and the long thrust of the cross country ski, and the risk of a fall in downhill prevents me from enjoying these pastimes.

Snowshoeing is basically walking and most of us can do that. The difficulty of the trail or area of travel is the only restriction, and the choice of snowshoe design can help here.

Most of us can afford only one pair of "webs" and the selection must be done with care. Generally, it will be found the Modified Bearpaw which is the Bearpaw

with a tail, is the best all round choice.

If the user is staying strictly to trails, then the Alaskan shoe will be an excellent choice as their greater length would not be a deterrent but essential. Longer and more narrow, the Alaskan should not be used in the bush, unless you enjoy fighting tangles.

SIZE CHART

The accompanying size chart will assist in purchase and the styles pictured will better explain the shape of each. Harnesses come in many styles too but this is a matter for later experiment, and usually you will find a set of harness sold with the shoe.

When purchasing your first pair of snowshoes, check for these important points of construction: The Master cord. This is the large cord that runs across the shoe just below the toe hole.

As this cord takes the brunt of the



Ontario Outdoors

By BOB (R.C.) OLLIVIER
Herald Columnist

wear and weight, it should receive the most attention during construction. It should be neat and tight, and the cross bar should be smooth.

The Cross Bars should be mortised and well made with no rough edges. If they don't fit into the frame tight and neat,

discard that pair and choose another.

Lacing or webbing should be tight over the whole shoe and well finished in the frame. Knots should be neat and the varnish should be well coated over the rawhide lacing.

A HISTORY

A "Foot extender" for easier travel over deep snow was supposedly used in central Asia around 4,000 B.C. The Snowshoe as we know it was developed by the North American Indians. The French took them in the early 1600s around Quebec, and clubs sprang up around the year 1700.

The snowshoe clubs are still popular with about 60 groups and 3500 members in the Canadian Snowshoers Union in Quebec.

To use the shoes, simply place the foot on the webbing so the toe can slip into the toe hole that runs across the shoe. This will place the ball of the foot on the master cord and the harness should be snug. Choice of

footwear is yours, just make sure they don't damage the rawhide lacing.

The addition of a ski pole or two will help with balance and hooking them under the toe of the snowshoe will aid in backing out of a tough spot. Make your own trails, don't wait for the Government to cut one for you as the snowmobilers do. Taxes can be used for better than cutting trails for noisy machines.

FISHING WITH SHOES

Fishing: I have used snowshoes in the wild parts of Ontario and the rural country. In four feet of snow on a lake and one foot in the bush all in the same day. It is all in the game of snowshoeing. They can't be beaten for getting back into the lakes around the perimeter of Algonquin park and such country.

The lakes are hard to reach without them and the fishing is tops. Just check the fishing regulations and make sure the area

you are heading for is open.

Winter camping is the ideal situation for the snowshoe. Needless to say, you must be sure of your camping skills. The local Conservation areas have snowshoes to rent if you wish to try them out before investing your hard earned cash.

Terra Cotta Conservation Area will be ready to go as soon as we get the snow. Mountsberg west of Milton also has trails ready and these areas are a haven for wildlife in the winter.

Snowshoes are the photographers best bet as they give the stability needed with the long lenses used on wildlife. As with all outdoor winter activities, watch for frostbite and dress with several layers of clothing rather than one thick coat. They can be peeled off and stored in a pack.

Learn to read maps and venture

Continued on page B2

the HERALD

SECTION B, THE HERALD, Monday, December 21, 1981 - Page 1

NORTH HALTON SPORTS
"For All Your Sporting Goods"
Downtown Georgetown 877-7777

Sportsweek

Firestone HARVEY'S TIRE CENTRE
Moore Park Plaza, Georgetown
877-5110

Local girls challenge ancient Greek traditions

Centennial Middle School girls persuade their teachers to coach them in the physically gruelling sport of wrestling

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Sports Editor

Around 600 years before Christ, Greece became the cultural centre of the western world where young male soldiers went through rigorous wrestling routines in training for war.

In present-day Canada, Georgetown Centennial Middle School youths have joined in forming the first ever local female wrestling club to challenge any opinions that 1981 wrestling is linked to Greek times or traditions.

Last Monday night (Dec. 14) Centennial Middle School girls attempted their first three-quarter nelsons, pins and worked at reaction drills under the tutelage of physical education teacher Cam Crosby and fellow teacher Mrs. Holtz plus vice-principal Mrs. Wachley.

Some 25 girls attending their first wrestling practice after a list of names had been given to Mr. Crosby to prove sufficient interest was warranted to start such a club.

Centennial already has a boys wrestling team and with such a prestigious profile given the team, the girls decided they also wanted to try the sport.

A few girls approached Mr. Crosby and he told them if enough girls were interested in wrestling he would help them start a club. The next day 30 signatures from females in grades six to eight was received.

A form stating permission to participate in the sport, similar to all those required for school athletics, was circulated to the parents and all of them complied. Mr. Crosby told The Herald:

WANTED TO TRY
Centennial vice-principal Mrs. Wachley is happy the wrestling club has been formed, explaining that the girls "want to try everything they can try." The girls had just recently been discussing examples in which

discrimination and prejudice related to females. Sports seemed to be one of the major areas talked about, she added.

The girls have a number of programs in sports after school, said Mrs. Wachley. Although house league sports conflict with Monday night wrestling, the girls were willing to choose wrestling, said Mrs. Wachley.

The teachers were surprised at the 25-girl turnout from all three grade levels. Mr. Crosby intends to show the girls a new wrestling move each week, then spend the rest of the practice on combative games and reaction drills. He said he will teach the girls the same way he does the boys' wrestling team, although he told the girls they should understand some grips and holds will be embarrassing at first to adjust to.

Coach Crosby said the wrestling club members would like to see other schools get involved so that it might be possible for the Centennial girls to compete in a small tournament.

He would like to see the girls give a demonstration of their skills, perhaps when the Centennial boys hold their Invitational Wrestling meet Saturday Jan. 9 in Georgetown.

NO RIVALRY

Mrs. Wachley said it would be hard for the girls to compete amongst themselves

as if there were no competition provided for them in the way of inter-school rivalry.

Jack Richardson, physical and health co-ordinator for the Halton Board of Education was contacted by The Herald last Thursday and said he wasn't aware of the wrestling club. Before wishing to comment on his reaction to the club, Richardson wanted to contact Centennial school.

Richardson said the Peel Board of Education had a case of one girl two years ago from Central Peel High School who contested in the courts her right to belong to the all-male wrestling team.

The coach of the Georgetown District High School, Bob McKay told The Herald he remembered a girl in junior public school winning one of the weight categories against her male counterparts.

But concerned with the physical well-being of the female athlete, coach McKay did not offer his wholehearted support to wrestling for girls. "I don't think wrestling is a sport for ladies, especially when they reach puberty," he said.

NOT THE SAME

A girl's anatomy is not able to withstand the constant pounding as much as a male athlete, and girls can't develop muscles to the same extent as boys, although girls are more flexible, he said. There would probably be more injuries to female wrestlers than male wrestlers, McKay said.

"If a girl came out for our wrestling team, I'd have to have a serious talk with her. A wrestling match is a totally physical experience where very seldom wrestlers aren't in contact with one another," he said.

"I wouldn't encourage wrestling at the secondary school level. If high school wrestling for girls was developed, I'd support it, but I would not initiate it," he

said.

Coach McKay said one year ago he allowed a girl to wrestle in the Georgetown Invitational wrestling meet as a favor to a fellow coach who said the girl had been turned down at a couple of other meets.

The girl wrestler signed a special waiver form drawn up by the Georgetown High School claiming no responsibility on the school. Coach McKay said he "wanted to see for myself" how the girl would do but she couldn't compete well against the boys.



Wrestling may be a new sporting experience for Centennial Middle School girls, but that doesn't hamper their fun or enthusiasm towards learning. In the picture above, the girls squat on their knees ready for their number to be called in a reaction drill. Mr. Crosby is seen demonstrating some proper wrestling techniques amongst a circle of girls on all-fours while two students (picture to the right) tussle on the mats.

(Herald photos by Dave Rowney)

Hugh Graham out to make Equestrian team

Toronto Bureau
Herald Special

A one-time rodeo rider from Georgetown has a good shot at riding with Canada's Equestrian team in Europe next year.

Hugh Graham, 31, of RR1 Shomberg, dreamed of being a cowboy as a kid in Georgetown. It was there that Ron Ineson taught him to ride western style. Soon after, he met Fred McKenzie and learned how to cut rope.

From 14 to 18 Hugh travelled rodeos in Canada and the United States missing two days of school a week in the spring and fall. But at one show when he was 18 he was pinned in the chute, his horse fell on him and broke his leg.

He didn't ride again for two years. Hugh finished school, went to university and teacher's college but instead of teaching he went to work for Jim Day at Sampson Farms in Oakville.

TAUGHT PATIENCE

"Milo Heatherington of Simcoe taught me patience. He taught me that a horse eventually comes around if you are patient with it," Hugh said.

Heatherington's lesson was the starting point that would lead Hugh into a new career.

At Day's farm he switched from western to English riding. Here he developed an interest in jumping.

In 1973 he bought a jumper and that year he won the Open Jumper championship at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. The same year he won the International Jumper championship in Washington.

Over the years he has built his show stable "into one of the finest in Canada". "I've been trying to develop young horses into winners," he said.

Hugh said next year he has excellent prospects of making Canada's equestrian team and riding in competition in Europe.

TEAM PROBLEMS

The Canadian team has had problems over the years, not so much with riders, but finding good horses.

"It has to be a combination of horse and a rider with ability."

Hugh is riding Abraxas, a gelding owned by Laura Tobias of Toronto. He says

the horse is ready for international competition.

"I couldn't ride him at the Royal this year because he had a temperature the first day. I have been bringing him along slowly but he is ready now," he said.

Hugh plans to ride the fall and spring

circuit accumulating points for the equestrian team.

Representing Canada is a whole new challenge for Hugh. That's a long way from dreaming about being a cowboy as a youngster in Georgetown.

OHA MAJOR INTERMEDIATE (A) HOCKEY LEAGUE

LEAGUE SCORING STANDINGS DECEMBER 16

NAME AND TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
Peter Sturgeon, Georgetown	22	24	36	60	10
Bill Hamilton, Georgetown	21	32	27	69	12
Greg Scarlett, Collingwood	22	27	27	54	30
Dave Payne, Collingwood	22	21	31	52	42
Steve Lyon, Georgetown	19	6	45	51	22
Tim Colley, Collingwood	18	20	20	48	8
Gary Ford, Georgetown	18	19	29	48	31
Myles McCauley, Collingwood	24	22	24	46	14
Paul Regan, Barrie	19	18	28	46	53
Bill Barclay, Owen Sound	20	20	23	43	25
John Matthews, Collingwood	24	18	22	40	29
Gary McFadyen, Georgetown	22	17	23	40	41
Tom Colley, Collingwood	24	10	29	39	24
Hick Green, Owen Sound	15	23	15	38	115

Raiders lead scoring stats



Hugh Graham is making a name for himself on the jumping circuit, now trying to accumulate points to earn a spot on Canada's Equestrian team.