

# Works Dept. says 'let it snow'

BY RICK SOUTAR  
The Acton Tanner

The rest of Halton Hills may already be tired of shovelling snow but the manager of the Town's Public Works Department says his men are ready for a lot more if it comes.

After two major storms, freezing rain and several light snowstorms, the Town has managed to keep the roads clear while using only 16 per cent of the \$377,000 budgeted for snow removal.

"We had spent \$60,000 up to the first two weeks of the year," said Ted Drewlo, manager of Public Works, adding the cost of snow removal varies per storm.

"We budget for 16 snowstorms a year — if you want to divide that into \$377,000 you're going to get a ballpark figure," he said.

The cost factors of clearing away a snowstorm include overtime wages, salt, sand, vehicle maintenance and may include the odd accident.

"We still have a long ways to go (as far as funding is concerned), so it is a little early to push the panic button, but we have been working very steadily all January."

Drewlo says the road crews are holding up well in spite of the long hours and the difficult conditions. It was particularly nasty during last week's freezing rains.

"With the ice storms we have a lot of problems getting on top of the roads. The rain that we had was washing material off the road almost as fast as we were putting it down."

Snow removal crews for the Town must drive in the very worst of conditions, yet despite this, their safety record is surprisingly good.

"We have trouble sliding off the road, just like everybody else," Drewlo says. But the trucks carry sand which allows them to drive themselves out in most cases. "We usually have a few accidents every winter."

This year there have been only two accidents; normally there are four or five during a winter season.

The best way to avoid accidents with snow removal equipment is to stay back at least 50 feet and pass with extreme caution.

Snowplough drivers will try to allow other vehicles to pass easily on the highway, but passing is not

recommended on local streets.

"I think they've done a great job," Drewlo says of snow removal crews. "They work hard, they work long hours, and they work under tough conditions. We really appreciate their efforts."

## Put your hands together for M-S

### McKENZIE SMITH NEWS

BY KELLY HOLMES

On Tuesday, Jan. 25 McKenzie-Smith met Brookville at M.Z. Bennett. The girls were on the ball beating Brookville real bad 41 to 10. Both Eleni Halis and Kelly Holmes with 10 points each.

McKenzie fans — if you're with us, clap your hands!

With Mr. Armstrong away, Mr. Walker filled in and hammered Brookville 33 to 13. All of the McKenzie-Smith boys won the most valuable player award.

When Sam Sherratt came to McKenzie-Smith on Wednesday, the girls made a supreme effort but were overpowered by the opposing team. One of the players for Sam Sherratt was a whirlwind, scoring 48 of their 53 points.

## Get your red nose ready

Actonites are preparing for another fun-filled "Lighten Up Canada Day." On Monday, students and residents will queue up along Mill Street, in an effort to break our own world record for the longest line of red noses.

The line will form at 11 am, so mark your calendar and get your red nose ready.

# NEWS SHORTS

## Stolen car burned

Passing motorists spotted a 1993 GMC Geo burning by the side of the road last Saturday on Concession 2 just outside of Rockwood. The vehicle was engulfed in flames before the fire department arrived to extinguish the blaze.

It was determined the car had been stolen from Square One shopping mall in Mississauga at about 9 pm the night before.

## Fight in downtown Acton

Two men involved in a fight went crashing through the front window of Supercuts on Mill Street around 2 am Saturday.

Police on the scene spotted a 23-year-old man with a cut hand a short distance away from the broken window.

The man was taken to Georgetown hospital before spending the night in jail. He was charged for being drunk in a public place and released in the morning.

Arrangements have been made to pay for the damages.

## Car burns in Hydro lot

Police and fire officials were called to investigate a burning car at 10 am last Thursday, in the parking lot of Halton Hills Hydro on Alice Street.

There was fire damage to the engine compartment of the 1985 AMC vehicle.

The cause of the fire and the dollar value were undetermined.

## Accident on Main Street

Two Acton residents were involved in a car accident on Main Street last Thursday causing severe damage to both vehicles. No serious injuries were reported in the crash, which occurred when the driver of an '84 Dodge tried to turn onto Cobblehill Road and collided almost head-on with a '84 Chrysler Laser that was headed south.

The 24-year-old driver of the Dodge was charged with making an unsafe turn.

## Rockwood man found dead

A 63-year-old Rockwood man was found lying on the shoulder of Hwy. 7 last Friday after he had suffered what police believe to be a massive coronary attack.

Police and paramedics were called at 1:22 am but there were no vital signs, and the man was pronounced dead after unsuccessful attempts to revive him.

The man's car was found a few kilometres away. It is believed he had car trouble and was walking home when he died.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Why would anyone want to move here when the Town doesn't support them?"

— Jeff Herrington, owner Herrington Printing, Front Page

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