

# Dark year for Rockwood fireworks?

BY BARBARA KERKHOF  
The Rockwood Miller

Everyone takes pleasure in watching rockets and fireballs rip open the night sky in swaths of colour and sound. Most people don't even remember the reasons for the Victoria Day fireworks anymore, but they come out in droves to watch the Lions Club fireworks display.

This year however, the skies over Rockwood will be quiet on May 23. For the first time in about

20 years, the Rockwood Lions Club will not be putting on a fireworks display.

Lions Club president Fred Pelley says they have lost too much money on the display in the past. The pyrotechnic show costs the Lions Club approximately \$3,000 each year. Last year they lost almost \$1,000 on the venture.

Says Pelley, "We usually get a very good turnout, but people are reluctant to pay at the gate when

asked for donations—even though it's only \$2 for adults and 50 cents for children. We can't keep doing the display if we get no return on."

The Optimist Club has been approached to see if they are interested in putting on the fireworks, but their interest is undetermined.

## Tot Time at Library

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# Tennis club 'set' for Year 18

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Rockwood Miller

It's fun, social and a great place to meet new friends.

It's the Rockmosa Tennis Club, which is gearing for its 18th year beside the Rockmosa Community Centre.

Numerous tournaments, house league play and the popular Junior tennis program are back for 1994, but the fun starts this Saturday, opening day, with a barbecue and round-robin competition.

Returning for a third year is the Junior program for players 18 years of age and under. On Saturday mornings

from 10 am to noon, starting in mid-May until the end of June, Kirk Bradley will be offering weekly instructions with a guest instructor each week.

"It's designed for young kids who haven't hit a ball before. They learn the basics and different strokes," says Linda Duncan, who's been a member since the club's inception in 1976 and serves as advertising manager on the executive. "You have to make it fun at that age or you lose the kids' attention span."

Duncan says the club has consistently drawn 200 members each season. She points out more people are playing the game "who love the organized play."

House league action, which goes Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 beginning in June, attracted 80 players last year, but a limit of 50 has been set for 1994.

"Some nights you'll see a 70-year-old playing a 14-year-old," says Duncan, who adds house league play makes people feel comfortable and introduces them to the sport.

Also popular is Interclub tennis, competitive play with clubs from Erin, Fergus, Elora and North Burlington. Players have the option of signing up for level A or B.

The Rockmosa club offers adult lessons with cost varying on instructor's fees, along with weekend tournaments in June and July. The club's name tournaments are the Ladies-Mens singles from Aug. 8 to 14, the doubles matches tournament from Aug. 15 to 21 and the mixed doubles event from Aug. 22 to 28.

Membership fees remain the same as last year — juniors \$28, students and seniors \$33, adults \$48, couples \$85 and a family (one or two adults plus junior members) \$98.

"It's such a friendly club and word's got around. The cost is nothing for a sport you can play from May to November," Duncan states. "The membership is what has kept it alive."

The majority of the club's executive returns from 1993. The only changes are the appointments of Jane Isbrucker and Frank Kimantus as president and vice-president. Also, Barb Price takes over treasurer duties, Irene Nickel has been named house league leader, while Bradley is junior rep.

Duncan says the major project this season is working at getting a clubhouse built. She says the club's application must first go through council. With some fund-raising (i.e. draw for Blue Jay tickets) coupled with monies from membership fees, Duncan hopes either a portable or separate building could serve as the Rockmosa tennis clubhouse.



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