

GRAPE VINE

Toronto Wood Treating plant on Wallace Street caused residual from a manufacturing operation to run along Wallace and into a stream that feeds Fairy Lake.

However, Dave Phipps of Total Forest Industries says the green liquid was 99.9994 per cent water and wouldn't cause any harm to the water quality in Fairy Lake.

"Lucky it's winter and sitting on ice," Halton Region Public Works employee David Miles says. He, along with the Ministry of Environment responded to the incident. "If it was spring it could have been far worse."

Night on the Town II

"It was a fantastic trip, well worth the money."

That was Trish D'Ambroso's response after winning the Acton Rotary Club's Night on the Town draw last year. She was taken by limousine to Toronto for dinner and a Toronto Maple Leafs game.

This year, the Rotary Club has upped the prize to four "red" Leafs tickets - April 13 against Edmonton. Also included is dinner-for-four at Ed's Warehouse, \$25 for a taxi to the game and \$100.

Five-hundred tickets, at \$5 each, are available by calling Rotarians Rob Charette (853-4577), Jake Kuiken (853-4299) and D'Ambroso at Scotiabank (853-2420). The draw is April 2.

KFC move premature

Mike Manes, who runs the Milton IGA, quashed rumours last week that KFC was being forced out of the Mill-Main Mall because of an expansion to Acton IGA.

"I hear tons of rumours every day," he said. "There are no plans to expand at this time. We have, however, done some drawings of how to expand here if and when we choose to do so."

Added Henry Ho, KFC district manager for Acton, "I don't know why that rumour is floating around. I haven't been approached at all by IGA management. I have two more years on my lease."

Abacadabra!

Claude Haggerty, the Niagara Falls-based "master illusionist," returns to Acton High this Friday, from 7 to 8:30 pm, with a show that features cougars, tigers and state-of-the-art pyrotechnics.

Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children, available at the door. You'll want to arrive early to get a good seat. For details call 853-2920.

Rotary Bowl-O-Rama

Shine up those bowling shoes and loosen up your arms, folks, because the Acton Rotary Club is presenting a week-long Bowl-O-Rama starting April 15 to raise funds for McKenzie-Smith Bennett in their purchase of computer and networking equipment.

Their goal is \$12,000 (150 bowlers times \$20 per bowler).

Bowling will run through the week at 5 pm, 7 pm and 9 pm, with the finals scheduled for April 21.

Chemical spill controlled

A recent chemical spill at the old



WATCH THE BIRDIE! Kevin Walker returns a serve during a doubles match at a recent evening of recreational badminton at Acton High. Badminton enthusiasts meet Thursdays from 7-10 pm in the school's gymnasium. (Karen Wetmore photo)

You've got big trouble when...

I think my fragile psyche has healed enough to objectively put down my thoughts without tears flowing. I am referring to the column written three weeks ago by my colleague on the page opposite (the ravishing and jovial Joanne - J.J. for short) regarding her skiing accident. In it, she suggested I'd have a "hey day" making fun of, I suppose, her injuries. As if!

Au contraire, my dear J.J. When I heard about your unfortunate incident (even after you tried to hide it from me) did I not immediately call to express my concern? Did I not counsel you to seek medical advice? Did I once make an inappropriate humorous remark? Of course not. "Hey day" indeed!

I feel I have been, dear readers, wronged in print.

In fact, the only reason I feel compelled to write about this hurtful incident at all is to pass along some tips in the hopes that none of you will suffer a similar injury.

In my youth, I was a modestly accomplished skier. I even did a little racing and teaching. I know all too well how easy it is to seriously injure yourself. I played football for six years (high school and university) and skied for almost 30, and I have the knees and ankles like Jello to prove it.

Like all sports involving speed, it's very easy for novices to hurt themselves. Injuries usually occur later in the day when you are tired and reaction time is way down.

To me, the basic rule of skiing is: don't take chances - take lessons. For a reasonable sum, a qualified instructor will show you the basic maneuvers you need to ski safely. If you were writhing on the snow with a torn cartilage and someone said "for 30 bucks I can fix your knee," you'd spend the money. Take lessons first and avoid such incidents.

Be especially careful in the weeks to come. Spring conditions can be dangerous. "Corn snow" is very heavy but fun to ski. Accomplished skiers also call it "break your leg" snow, so be careful.

In the interests of public safety, and strictly to offer some positive

The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



suggestions for J.J.'s next skiing adventure, I called some old friends up north to see exactly what happened last month. Here are a few skiing tips for J.J., and for you dear readers, to make your next day on the slopes more enjoyable.

J.J. often writes about the trials and tribulations of juggling her time between her duties as wife, mother, journalist and involved citizen. It's easy to see how some things would become automatic. Here's tip Number 1: *While it's true that good skiers will wax their skis, washing and vacuuming them is seen as overkill. It really identifies you as a beginner.*

Our J.J. is an experienced water skier. Although both sports share a name, there isn't much crossover in technique or equipment. Tip Number 2 is: *To enjoy snow skiing, it's not necessary to hook an ice boat up to the lift line. The workers just get mad and the sails tend to foul-up the pulleys.*

The "fall line" is an imaginary line that would be taken by a huge ball rolling down the hill. It's the line taken by good skiers to go faster. Tip 3 would be: *One is not required to fall every time they cross the "fall line."*

Just a quick hint. You'll be seen as a rookie if you suggest repairing a "sitzmark" with Clearasil.

Water skiers, as everyone knows, are a friendly bunch. They gaily wave at others who pass them, usually going in the opposite di-

rection. When snow skiing however, if the other skiers are going in the opposite direction, you've got big problems. Tip 4 is: *Forget the wave with smile and address the problem at hand. Quickly!*

I don't want to be critical but, even for a water skier, standing at the top of the hill yelling, "Go! Go! Go!" was thought to be somewhat eccentric. Weird, even.

Our J.J. likes to try different sports. She has to realize however, that each event has its own etiquette. *It does absolutely no good to yell "fore" as you crash into a group of skiers at the lift line.* This would be tip Number 5.

At the risk of sounding picky, if you fall when snow skiing, it is not necessary to "tread snow."

If you do get hurt skiing, the ski patrol is there to render first aid, and if necessary, transport you off the hill. These people are dedicated and professional. They do get angry though when they take an injured skier down in a toboggan and that person says only "Whee - what a great ride! I want to do it again!" Tip Number 6 is: *Ski patrols are not there to entertain you.*

Lastly, "nice shush" is only a skiers way of congratulating you on a good, fast run. There is nothing inappropriate here. The dirty look was uncalled for. Tip Number 7 is: *Learn the jargon.*

As for our J.J., well, I think she should try another winter sport. She's always going on about how our PM is such a good water skier. With government employees going on strike, maybe she should take up his winter sport.

Get out there on those picket lines J.J. and thump out a couple of protesters. Dress warmly and be sure to wear your mittens.

HEY!

Was Jean Chrétien right in man-handling protester Bill Clennett?



"Yes. The RCMP should have been looking out for him better. I don't think Chrétien is to blame. It's scary walking through protesters. I don't know if anyone else would have done things differently."

Louise Duffiele, Greenore Crescent

"I think he was. This guy lunged at him. He (Clennett) can pay for his own dentures and end it there. Clennett could have had a foreign object. He showed a lack of respect.

Canada is getting more violent."

Madeline Bonnette, Elizabeth Drive



"I don't think he was at all. He could have done something else, but the RCMP wasn't doing its job. It looks bad when this is shown across the world. It says that Canadian people are violent."

Cindy Jackson, Storey Drive

"I think he was. It's just someone going after a free buck, who wants the publicity. Sure, some people may lose a little respect for Chrétien, but he's gaining publicity as well. The RCMP should have done more."

Amanda Brock, Greenore Crescent



Same time last year ...

Town Council refuses to endorse BIA plans to upgrade Mill Street at a cost of \$375,000 ... McIntyre Fuels is awarded Entrepreneur of the Year by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce ... In the same ceremony, Tuitman's Garden Centre wins an award for Civic Pride.