

# THE PROBLEM: *Kid gloves are on for acid removal*

It seems likely that the 39 tons of hydrofluoric acid in the derailed CP Rail tanker in a ravine beside CP Rail's main line through Medonte Township will remain where it is until next week according to information from the Ontario Solicitor-General.

On Wednesday, Solicitor-General George Taylor said the job of removing ice and debris from the derailment site so that two CP Rail cranes could get at the tank car was proceeding less swiftly than expected.

The day before at the previous press conference it was announced that an attempt to move the tanker, or to drain it, would be made Wednesday.

On Wednesday afternoon Taylor said it is likely that the acid will

be transferred through steel piping into another tank car. The alternative is to pick up the derailed tanker and transport it through heavily populated sections of Ontario to the Allied Chemical Plant near Windsor, he

said.

Taylor estimated that between eight and 12 hours will be needed to transfer the acid. One day, perhaps as early as yesterday, would be spent turning the tanker over so that the dome and valves in the top can be examined.

Transfer of the acid would be done on another day, or perhaps spread over two days, depending on the circumstances of the

transfer, which will be done in full daylight hours.

The evacuation order for the immediate area and the approximate 30 residents remains in effect.

CP Rail trains will be using the track during the night when the workmen clearing the wreckage are sleeping, CP Rail representative Steve Morris said. CP Rail is using an agreement between

itself and Canadian National Railways to divert its trains around the problem area on Canadian National Railway track during the daylight hours.

During the actual transfer of acid, the area of the derailment will be cleared except for eight firemen, two chemical experts, and a lesser complement than the normal complement of 12 that operates each of the two cranes that

will be used.

The Solicitor-General also announced that Medonte Township will be reimbursed all of its costs of fighting the fire that resulted from the derailment, the direct costs of the fire department, and the indirect costs as well, such as food for firefighters and fuel for vehicles. Medonte Township should "not have to bear the cost," the Solicitor-General said.



**Community Newspaper**

Vol. 6, No. 10, Folio 19

Friday, March 5, 1982

Penetanguishene, Ontario

## 1982-83 contract talks on Local board, teachers, over a year behind

While most other boards of education and their teachers have started to negotiate on contracts for the 1982-83 school year, the Simcoe County Board of Education and its elementary and secondary school teachers have yet to agree on a contract for 1981-82. Negotiation started more than a year ago.

Provincial legislation requires either a board or the teachers' union to contact the other party sometime in January to ask that contract negotiations begin, and that negotiation begin within 30 days of that notice, SCBE secretary Irving Harris says.

Harris could recall a contract negotiation dragging on until February on one occasion. Usually a contract is settled before the start of the school year.

In late February, a mediator, Dr. David

Tough of Toronto, was appointed to go between the SCBE and the elementary school teachers' union. A mediator for the board and the secondary school teachers had previously been appointed.

Bob Sporning, part of the district Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) negotiating team, reports that at a meeting of 700 secondary school teachers Tuesday at Barrie Eastview Collegiate, "98 per cent voted in favour of asking for assistance from the provincial office" of the union.

In future, two members from the provincial OSSTF office will join in the negotiations.

A news blackout on the negotiations has been imposed by mediator Dr. David Tough.

### Le Caron comes alive

Trombonist and lead singer Bernard Grenier led the Ottawa/Hull-area band Syncopé in a stirring one-hour concert performance at Ecole Le Caron in Penetanguishene Wednesday night before a crowd of about 100 students and local residents. Grenier and company got the place moving with a selection of French-Canadian pop-rock tunes and a lively stage show.



### Citizen briefly

#### Send Brian your best

There's nothing like a few words of encouragement from home when you're facing the most pressure-filled moments of your life -- even for a seasoned champion like Brian Orser.

Orser, Penetanguishene native, member of the Midland Figure Skating Club and reigning Canadian Senior Men's Figure Skating champion, is in Denmark preparing for next week's world championships.

Last year, Orser was sixth. This time he wants a medal.

Your words could give him a big boost toward that important goal.

You can send a telegram to Orser at The Hotel Scandinavia, Amager Boulevard 70, 2300 Copenhagen S., or you can telegraph him at either DK 3311 or DK-2600, Glostrup, Denmark.

Orser will be arriving in Copenhagen today after training with the rest of the Canadian team this week in Helsinki, Finland.

He'll begin competition Tuesday with the figures event, continue Wednesday with the short program, and finish off Thursday with his long program.

#### Costs will total \$184,000

Total costs of all dock and related improvements in the planned Penetanguishene waterfront improvement scheme -- including those at the proposal stage -- total \$184,000, according to an official statement announcing the Ontario government's intention to grant the town a portion of the costs.

Penetanguishene will receive a \$26,500 grant -- and possibly a second grant of about \$15,000 if preliminary work is carried out -- from the Municipal Affairs and Housing Ministry under the province's Board of Industrial Leadership and Development (BILD) program.

#### Bellisle at convention

Penetanguishene Mayor Ron Bellisle has been attending a Public Utilities Convention in Toronto this week. As a result, Tuesday night's administration and finance committee meeting was postponed. Mayor Bellisle returned from the convention yesterday.

#### Employment service

The Canada Employment Centre for Students has moved into the office it will occupy for the rest of the year.

The office is at 288 King Street, Suite B, Midland (in the walkway beside Arcade Drugs).

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