



Off and running

A total of 16 schools (405 runners) took part in last Friday's Area 3 Cross-Country

Meet at Mountain View Ski Hills. St. Joseph's School won top prize in the day-

long meet which turned out to be the biggest meet of its kind for Area 3 schools.

McLean says: Key to cutting energy costs

—BY AL MCLEAN,
MPP SIMCOE EAST

Higher prices for Canadian oil and gas are the result of Ottawa's energy policies. The pricing agreement signed by the federal and Alberta governments last year, and the National Energy Program, are continuing to push the price of conventional fuel higher and higher.

With the Federal Government's recent commitment to help bail-out Dome Petroleum, taxation on oil and gas will continue for sometime to come. But Dome Petroleum's story deserves closer examination. I can think of no better instance of how fuzzy federal thinking in the energy field has resulted in higher costs for Canadians.

Dome got into trouble with the banks when it bought out Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas. This purchase occurred because Dome was encouraged by the federal government's National Energy Program.

As a result, Dome is now receiving support from Canadian banks and our federal tax dollars because of a purchase that was encouraged by a federal program.

While increased Canadian control of our natural resources is a worthwhile goal, it would appear that the National Energy Program is taking the most expensive route to achieve this end.

Ontario has been charging a tax on sales of oil and gas, but we have also been encouraging homeowners and motorists to look to alternative fuels.

In many centres across the Province, the operators of fleets of

vehicles such as couriers and taxi companies have converted their vehicles to propane. Propane is not only cheaper, it is easier on an automobile engine and does not freeze in winter.

Several gas companies are now offering propane for sale at their filling stations. Sunoco is among the companies that is providing propane at selected outlets.

I would recommend farmers give a serious look at using propane instead of oil and gas in their vehicles, as well as for home heating.

Last year, the Ontario Government introduced a temporary grant to pensioners to help them meet the burden of increased home heating costs.

The Province, through the Energy Ministry is also providing advice to homeowners on how to better insulate their home and take advantage of other heating fuels.

With Ottawa committed to keeping Canadian oil and gas between 75 percent and parity with the world price, there is little chance the price of these fuels will go down.

Over the long-term, the best solutions to cutting energy costs are conservation, improved energy efficiency and conversion to abundant alternatives.

Youngsters escape serious injuries following mishap

Two three-year-old children escaped with their lives following a freak mishap early Sunday evening in Penetanguishene.

According to Police Chief Dennis Player, the pair had been left in an unattended auto parked on Burke Street.

One of the children is believed to have accidentally released the gear shift causing the car to cross the street.

The vehicle initially struck a garage and then slammed into a near-by home where

the car finally came to rest.

Total damage thus far has been set at \$800, although the local police department is continuing its investigation, reports the police chief.

Meanwhile a motorcycle stolen from 69 Burke St., the same day was recovered later by police at the Beck site after the machine apparently had run out of gas and had been abandoned.

And police expect to arrest two Kit-

chener women in connection with the theft of linen from the Brule Hotel.

Finally, two scuba divers from Midland who left their wallets in a parked car at the Red Dock reported to police Sunday that when they returned to their car their wallets were missing.

Apparently the wallets belonging to Wayne Stubbs and John Therrien were taken from the men's trousers while they were scuba diving in the bay.

Landing in town under negotiation

Penetanguishene General Hospital and the Ministry of Health are negotiating an arrangement so that emergency medical cases can be picked up by helicopter in Penetanguishene, and not at Huronia Airport.

At one time, two or three times a year, a helicopter would pick up emergency cases at PGH by landing in the hospital parking lot. Some months ago the government produced new requirements which has necessitated

in the interim taking a patient from Penetanguishene in case of emergency to the air-

port for pickup.

Under the agreement being negotiated the new landing site will be

in Penetanguishene. The ministry sent a letter to hospitals last April requesting a

response from those hospitals interested in getting a new landing site.

Skating underway at Penetanguishene Arena

The chips have been falling in record numbers at Penetanguishene Arena as the local public skating, pre-school skating, senior skating and pay-as-you-play hockey programs have gotten underway.

First to roll was public skating, which

began Sunday (1:15 to 2:45 p.m.) and continues each Sunday and Friday (6:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.) throughout the season. Admission is \$1 for adults, 75 cents for students and 50 cents for children.

Yesterday, the pre-school skating program got underway. It'll go

each Tuesday (10:30 to 11:30 a.m.) and Thursdays (1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.), and it's free. Each child must be accompanied by an adult and helmets are required for the kids.

Last night, the weekly sessions of two-hour (beginning at 8:45 p.m.) pay-as-you-play hockey

started up; it'll continue Thursday and the same two days every week through the season with a \$1.50 charge per player per session.

Senior citizens and adults skating starts tomorrow and will run from 2:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. every Thursday 'til spring.

Contact
Community information
526-9333 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Pre-schooler Program

"Enjoying Your Pre-schooler Program" begins on Oct. 13. A program for parents and their preschool children age three to four years which offers information about child development, suggestions about dealing with expected and unexpected problems of toddlers in constructive ways of sharing experiences with other parents, an opportunity to learn and experience ways of spending enjoyable time with their children.

This program consists of eight weekly sessions which are 1½ hours in length. Each session has a theme dealing with an aspect of child development or child management.

The theme is emphasized in a group circle activity, in a discussion period with the parents, and in a specific activity for the day. Each program accommodates up to 15 parents and their children.

The cost of the program is \$5. The program was developed through the joint efforts of several mental health, social, educational

and volunteer agencies serving the Midland-Penetang area. It is now run jointly by the community services team and local educational people. For further information and registration call CONTACT 526-9333.

"Opportunathon '82" will begin on Oct. 16. A 24-hour tele-a-thon to raise funds for the Huronia Association for the Mentally Retarded.

As well as telephone pledges, an in person Auction will be available as an added feature this year. Articles will be displayed for sale throughout the Opportunathon and the public is invited to drop in to view them. Harvey Kirk will be the M.C. and Fred Hacker the host for the Opportunathon.

The Huronia Association for the Mentally Retarded coordinate a variety of programs for children such as:

The Developmental Nursery for preschool aged children who demonstrate delays in two of the major learning areas, motor skills, cognitive skills, language development,

socialization, and self-help skills. This program also has an in-home component offering practical assistance to parents to achieve individual program goals. The Development Centre with programs designed for children age 6 to 18 who are currently unable to benefit from programs offered in the school systems; and The Summer Day Camp program which is offered for all developmentally handicapped children of school age.

Programs for adults include: The Adult Rehabilitation Centre (Arc) housed in its own building in Midland which offers training for competitive industry or sheltered employment through an individual program play designed to meet the needs of each client based on assessment in the areas of academic, life and vocational skills; Residential Services which is the Adult Training Home (Hugel Place), a temporary home providing accommodation, assessment and training in living skills with a view to

having them move out on their own.

The individualized Multi-Sensory Program is offered in separate quarters of St. Andrew's Centennial Manor serving the needs of 21 Manor Residents requiring a curriculum containing programming for cognitive, socio-emotional, communication, motor and self-help development skills. Speech, behaviour, management and physio-therapy consultants are part of the inter-disciplinary team. The Pre-Vocational Program which is offered at Georgian View in Midland for certain residents of St. Andrew's Centennial Manor with emphasis on living and personal, social, household and good elementary work skills, and Pilot Parents which is a support program for the parents of a newborn handicapped child. The purpose is to offer emotional support from other parents who have been able to have a positive, successful experience with parenting a handicapped child.

Call CONTACT your Community Information Centre today.