

LOCAL NEWS - Cont'd...

ARENA - cont'd

So there would be no delay in beginning construction, the Arena Committee drew up a constitution and approached Council for support of the project.

After receiving Council approval, they proceeded to get the building plans underway. On April 24, 1972, a sod-turning ceremony was held and construction began that afternoon.

In late August of 1972 the committee informed the public that their funds were depleted and at least another \$180,000.00 would be needed to complete the arena. They made application to Council for a loan of \$180,000.00 from Band Funds. The Council did not feel that they had the authority to make this decision, so a referendum was held on October 14, 1972. The results were favourable for the committee. There were 286 votes in favour of the loan, 156 against and 12 spoiled ballots.

Council questioned the fact that there would be no responsible party to repay the loan, so a Board of Directors was formed and a loan agreement was approved by Council. The Board of Directors consists of 12 members, 2 from each district on the reserve. They are obligated to repay the loan effected from Council. They will not be active until the Arena is officially opened in April. The only official act they have performed is the hiring of the Arena Manager, Mr. Cecil Davis.

Mr. Davis, 24, Ohsweken, signed his contract Monday, January 15, 1973 and is now working in the capacity of Manager of the arena. His duties at present will include choosing a staff and contacting other

Arena Managers to find about rates for ice time and floor time for other sports such as lacrosse and roller skating.



Cecil Davis

Mr. Davis will set up a system for keeping books and records, make out time schedules and compile information from daily records for monthly reports to the Arena Committee.

Mr. Davis says Minor Sports will have first priority for ice time, etc.

Up to the present time the Arena Committee has been reorganized several times. Now Syd Henhawk is the president, Charlie Thomas, 1st Vice-president, Don Montour, 2nd Vice-president and head of the building committee.

Originally the building was to have an auditorium but the committee says that it will cost another \$100,000.00 so the idea has been discarded. The Community Hall will remain intact on the fairgrounds.

Outside donations have been made toward the construction such as Brant Transit Concrete who do-