

Terrace Bay Reeve replies to accusation

By Conrad Felber

Terrace Bay Township Reeve Ollie Chapman told the News in an exclusive interview this week that she has taken exception to comments made by Lake Superior Board of Education trustee Gerry Armour in an article which appeared in the February 26 issue of the *Marathon Mercury*.

In the article, Armour was quoted as saying that Reeve Chapman has been using the issue of the Board's recent closing of the Terrace Bay High School auditorium to all events licenced for the sale of alcohol as "a political football" to gain support for the building of a community hall in the township.

"That statement was totally unwarranted," Reeve Chapman explained. "Terrace Bay Council has many important and time consuming projects on their list of priorities ...

(but) the recent action of the Board to close the high school has become an unexpected issue."

She added, though, that as the issue is a concern of the taxpayers in Terrace Bay, "it thusly becomes a concern of the Terrace Bay Council ... we as a council must address all issues, no matter how aggravating or controversial they are."

Something else in the *Mercury* story which she noted was the way it made it sound like she was the only one to meet with the Board trustees on the matter.

"It should be noted that the school board trustees of Terrace Bay and Marathon met with Terrace Bay Town Council and not just with 'Reeve Chapman', as is suggested in that article," she said.

"As Reeve, I meet and act on issues with my council ... I am only one person on a council of five per-

sons," she added. "I hope this will clarify the situation for the people of Terrace Bay."

The Board's original motion, which was passed in January, affects all schools within its area of jurisdiction. The high school in Terrace Bay is the most affected because the township does not have a community hall to take its place.

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Penner wants railway inquiry

Cochrane-Superior Member of Parliament Keith Penner has called for an independent inquiry into rail safety in Canada, according to a news release from Penner's Ottawa office received last week.

Penner stood in the House of Commons on February 13 and told the Minister of Transport, Don Mazankowski, that "railway employees throughout northern Ontario have told me for years ... that maintenance is a major factor in the rash of derailments that we have every year."

He added that he wonders if the Minister would agree to initiate an independent inquiry into the maintenance standards that are practised by the

railways.

"Once having that information, and changing the situation that exists today, would he not agree that we could improve the situation and have a safer railway system?" Penner asked.

Mazankowski replied at the time that he has requested the Canadian Transport Commission (CTC) to undertake a comprehensive review of all railway accidents and derailments dating back to 1984. The CTC is to report back to him in April, the release noted.

Penner agreed that an investigation is required, but he also questioned the appropriateness of the chosen investigators, and said an independent inquiry would be better.



Last class

The last day of school is traditionally an unusual one for most students, and it wasn't any different for the last day of Wendy Landry's exercise class for women in Terrace Bay on February 27. A number of

students decided to dress up to liven up the atmosphere, and they are shown here with the rest of the class. (Photograph by Conrad Felber)



Visitors win

Even while down on their knees, members of the visiting Nipigon team, in white, managed to clear their end during a game against Terrace Bay on the second day of the March 1 and 2 Terrace Bay Ringette

Association Fun Tournament. All divisions, from Bunnies to Belles, were included in the weekend contest. Nipigon Belles won this contest 10-2.

Ski Club hunting for \$90,000 to open hill

The Terrace Bay Ski Hill, which closed down about five years ago for a number of reasons, may still reopen as early as this fall if enough funding can be generated by then, according to the President of the Ski Club.

Dan Moore explained last week that the club has received a number of quotes on repairs and general construction that would be required at the site before the hill could be reopened. He added that about \$90,000 would be required for the project.

The matter was discussed at a recent meeting of Terrace Bay Township Council, and a general report including the project

quotations has been prepared.

Moore explained that the hill requires a new or used T-Bar ski lift to replace the outdated one at the site now. According to a letter from a company in Orangeville, a used ski lift would be \$11,000 plus \$500 for government certification, \$20,000 for installation and a minimum of \$1,000 for inspection trips, for a grand total of over \$31,500 for the lift alone.

Materials and labor for the new chalet would be almost \$19,000, according to a quotation from Kodila's Building Supplies in Terrace Bay. Electrical costs would run up to \$24,000. As of February

12 this year, the Ski Club had \$3,065 in its bank account.

According to Moore, the Township Council has suggested that the reopening take place over a period of two years, which would mean that the hill could open, if all goes according to plan, in the fall of 1987 or winter of 1988.

Moore explained that the club will go through all three levels of government — municipal, provincial, and federal — to obtain funding for the project, though he added that the club will also raise money by itself on a local level, as it has done in the past.

"We've got to start from the ground up," he said.