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Vol. 43, No.16

Sales Representative

Wednesday, April 20, 1988

VIA Rail wants refuelling in Schreiber

Councillor concerned with potential for fuel spills from proposed service

By Greg Huneault The News

At the Schreiber council meeting last Tuesday, Councillor Ed Krause expressed concern over an informal disclosure he received of VIA Rail's intention to use Schreiber as a refuelling depot for its rail passenger cars.

Coun. Krause told the other members of the meeting he was "informally informed" of VIA Rail's plans to start refuelling services in Schreiber as well as Ignace and Chapleau.

Krause feels the issue ought to be discussed and studied before plans are implemented.

"We're the ones who are going to take the flack (if a spill occurs), not VIA Rail. What's going to happen is the fuel is going to run into our sewers. Maybe that's something-we'll have to talk about with CP Rail," he said.

Krause noted a spokesman of CP Rail said to stress VIA Rail, which is a separate operation, although both share the same railway.

The councillor's main concern centres on appropriate measures taken to ensure there is a basin to catch and contain any spilled fuel. He informed council there are presently no gauges or any instruments on the tanks to indicate the amount of fuel within them.

Schreiber Fire Chief Peter Doig, who was in attendence at the council meeting, said there is legislation dealing with reporting a spill, but there are is no way of knowing when the tank is full.

"They have an obligation to

report a spill over five gallons," noted Doig, but the appropriate legislation is provincial, so there may be problems with federal and provincial legislation becoming entangled.

"There are no gauge indicators on them. You fill them up until they overflow," Doig added.

Krause told the News after the council meeting that he hopes to speak with officials from the Ministry of the Environment and the federal government to discuss his concerns.

"There is no place in Schreiber that 's addressed for fuel spillage," he said.

Brian Birch, the agent for Petro Canada in Schreiber, told the News he had been awarded the contract to provide fuel for VIA Rail.

He said he was to have started at the first of March, but delays have postponed the start-up.

Birch wasn't certain of the reason for the delay, but speculated that "they (VIA) might be having legal problems," with respect to starting the refuelling services in the three towns.

The Petro Canada agent told the News he will be refuelling twice daily. He will provide fuel to the first westbound train and last eastbound train of the day.

Birch said a special nozzle will be needed, and suggested that there must be a gauge or a "vent alarm," which would indicate when a tank was full.

He estimates between 500 and 700 gallons will be needed for each unit, but is uncertain of the total amount required at this time.

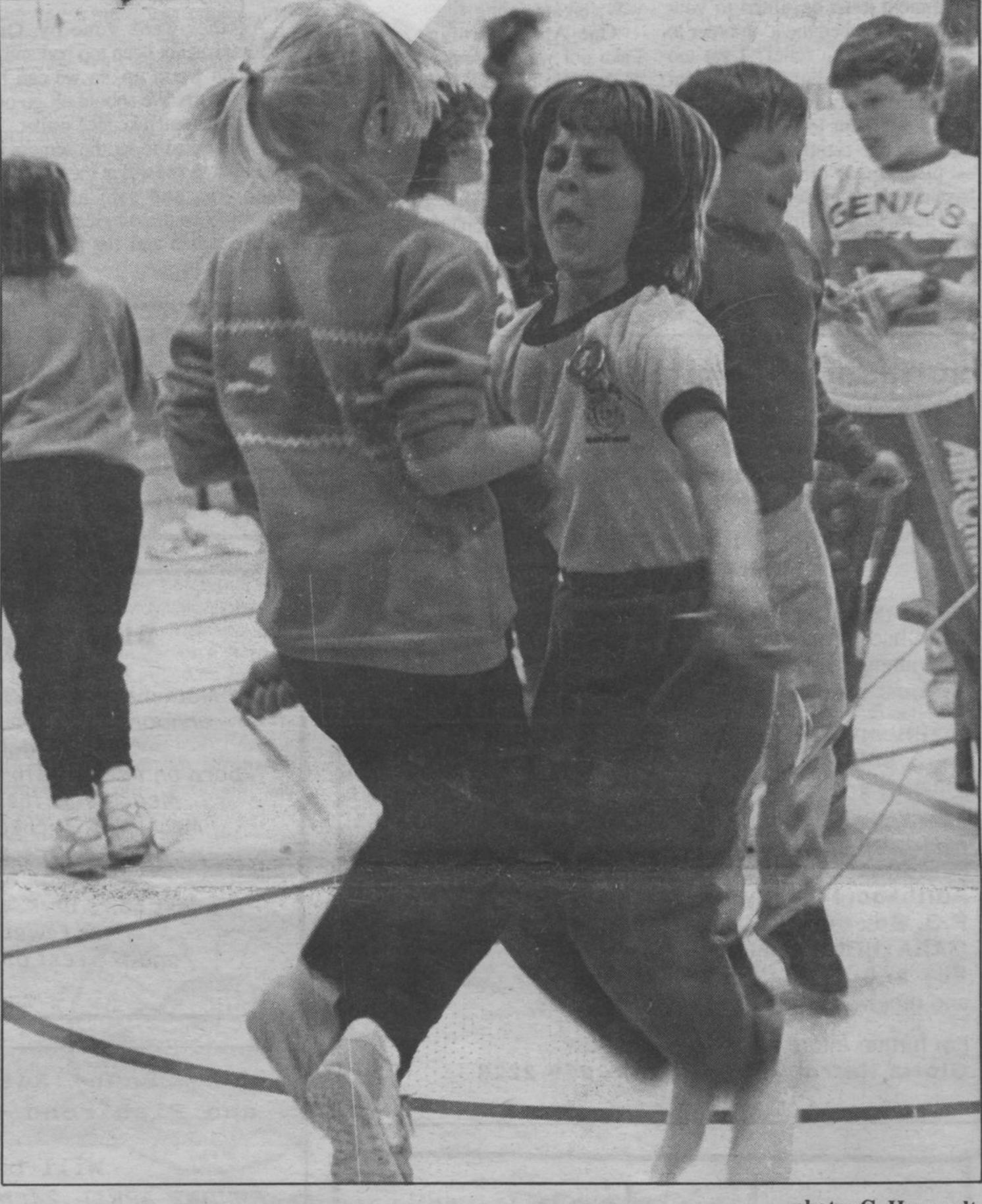


photo: G. Huneault

Skipping class to go skipping

Students at the Public School in Terrace Bay did their part to raise funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Students from Grades 3 to 8 were grouped into teams of six and went out to get sponsors. That was the easy part. They then skipped for two hours in the gym.

Acrobats promise fun, entertainment for all

The concern of environmental hazards and disasters is hitting close to home.

In next week's Issue

An Ontario Municipal Board Hearing was held in Schreiber last week to hear residents' concerns and opposition to the CP mine transfer facility. The facility is

slated to receive zinc and copper concentrate from

Minnova Winston Lake Division Mine to CPR cars in Schreiber.

Lawyer for Schreiber Township, Rene Larsen, admonished the councillors at last meeting for not being particular enough in passing by-laws covering industrial zoning. The News will examine specific and general concerns of the residents and look at what ought to be done as opposed to what is being done.

The Acrobats of the Pagoda of the Plentiful Lands, also known in China as the China Kunming Acrobatics Troupe, was founded in 1952. Since the establishment of the original group, it has made its fame by the performers' consummate technique and unique style.

Many of the items created by the troupe are popular with a large audience in China. Among the acts in their repertoire, "The Happy Cook", "Vaulting Horse", "Shooting", "Tight-wire Walking", "Spring Board", "Feat on Rolling Balls", "Jumping Through Hoops", "Juggling Feat with Hands", "Sports Acrobatics", "Vocal Imitation", "Flying Pole", and "Chair Pyramid" have won medals in various acrobatics competitions.

The troupe will present a stage of items with a rich multi-national flavour, these items will reveal the performers' superb technical abili-

At the same time, brilliant music, costume and setting design will add to make the performance more perfect. Their performance will bring a fresh and new atmosphere and lead the audience to an

endless pleasant aftertaste. The troupe is an artistic body with many young performers. they have superb and all-round technique. Their humorous performing and changing body movements will deeply impress with richness and

colourfulness. The item "Jumping Through Hoops" has made a lot of

improvements based on traditional movements. The performers jump freely through hoops on a small platform.

They move so precisely and skillfully that one cannot help praising their excellence.

"Vocal Imitation" is humorous and vivid. "Sport Acrobatics" is an item without properties, but it will share a kind of vigour, beauty, and strength with those who see it.

"Dragon Dance", "Lion Dance", and "Dunhuang Modeling" will lead you into an ancient and fascinating world of China.

China Kunming Acrobatics Troupe has performed in Japan, Greece, Burma, Laos and Viet Nam and won high opinion from the audiences.