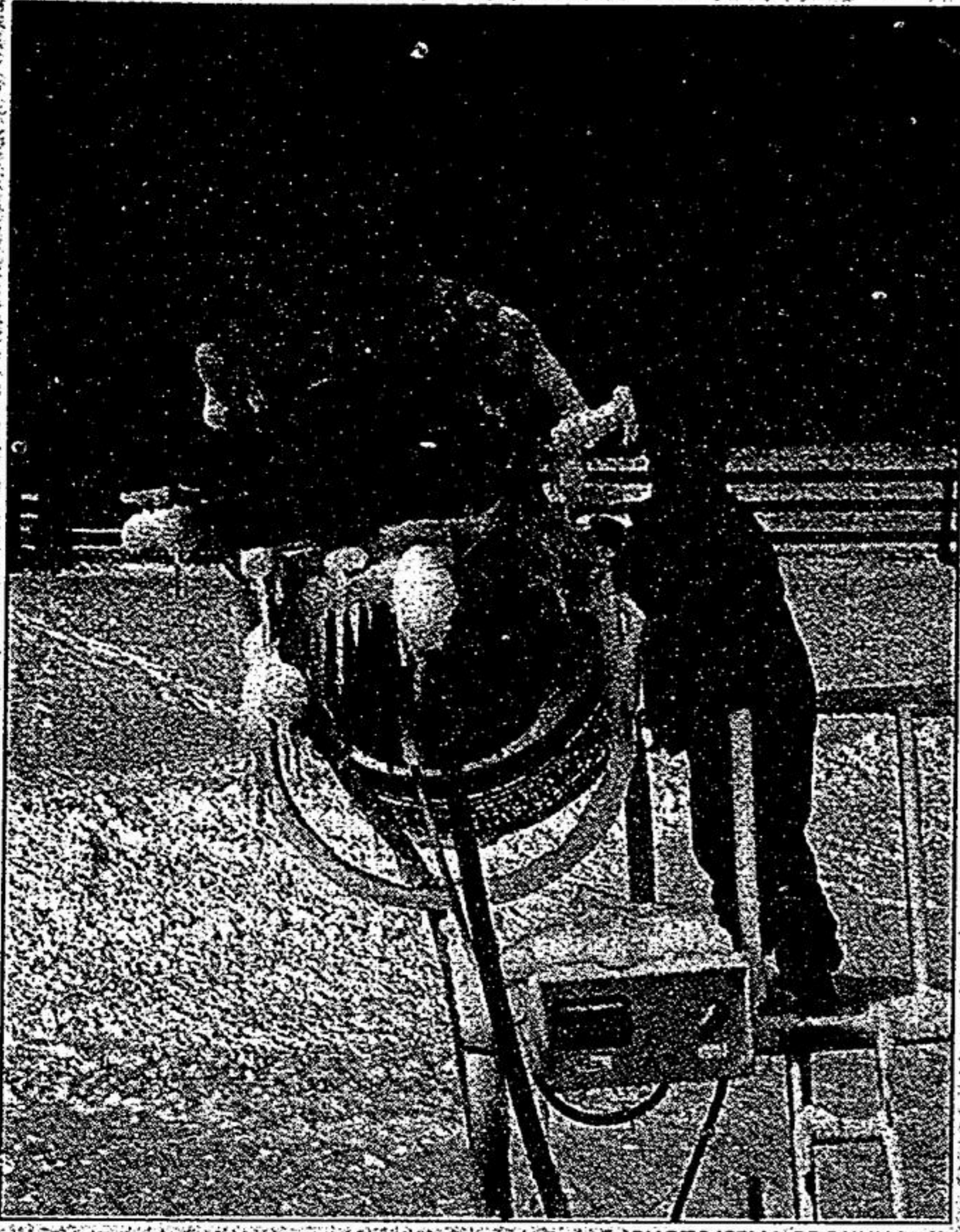


AUGMENTING MOTHER NATURE



PHOTO/CELIA BRONKHORST

Jason Hunter operates the snow maker at Dagmar Resort as the resort geared up for its opening yesterday. Dagmar is located on Lakeridge Road in Durham Region.

Principals replace high school teachers as supervisors

from page 2

Clare said he's tired of having to justify his job every day and is upset at government "interference" in education.

The province recently passed Bill 74, which hikes the time teachers spend in class to more than four hours a day. Teachers' unions say, under the legislation, they do not have to perform the supervisory duties.

That has left principals and vice-principals with the responsibility of making sure students are safe before, between and after classes, as well as during lunch.

Milliken principal Jim Orfanakos and his two vice-principals were much busier than usual Friday, covering hallway supervision and two lunch periods.

Usually five people carry out those duties.

"Let's put it this way: it's not chaos but it would also be nice to have teacher supervision, too," he said.

"It's not business as usual but we're doing the best we can to deal with the situation."

The board, he added, has provided the money to hire two people to help the three administrators.

Board spokesperson Ross Virgo said officials have not determined how much money needs to be set aside because administrators will decide whether they want the extra help.

Virgo noted the board could pay "non-teaching personnel", such as school council chairpersons to cover the activities.

Milliken was teeming with students on stairways and in hallways.

Grade 11 student Shelton Julian Patrick fears there will be more fights, pointing to an unoccupied area that is usually watched by teachers.

"There should be three or four teachers there," chipped in Grade 9 student Sinthujan Sunthi. "There's going to be lots of problems. There will be more food fights and fighting in the hallways."

Teachers have not estimated how long their campaign will continue. No contract talks are scheduled in the immediate future.



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