MATILDA WINTER CARNIVAL

CARNIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, January 12

The opening ceremonies, 27th annual Matilda Winter Carnival Queen Pageant, Volunteer of the Year Award in memory of Gary Shaver takes the stage at Matilda Hall at 7 p.m.

Sunday, January 13

10:30 am thro' 1 pm, Pancake Breakfast, Entertainment provided by Antony J. Lee, Magic & Illusion Show, Show times 11:30 am and 12:30 pm, Family Skating, Games, Hot Chocolate at Dundela Rink.

Monday, January 14

Country & Western Night featuring Line Dancing with Gwen Bosma and the River-View Cloggers.

Tuesday, January 15

Shuffleboard at the Matilda Hall from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm. Everyone Welcome.

Wednesday, January 16

Matilda Women's Institute Afternoon Tea & Sing-Song from 1 pm - 3 pm.

Thursday, January 17

Euchre at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, January 18

Kids Craft Night with Nancy Blokland and Susan Terry. Ages 5 to 7 years and 8 years plus. Contact Nancy at 652-2096 to register. No fee!

Saturday, January 19

Annual Dr. Thom Maxwell Snowmobile and Car Rally. Register at Matilda Hall from 11 am to 1 pm. Dinner from 4 pm to 6 pm (Brinston Church Ladies), Entertainment by Mary Perry and Country Classics 2 pm - 6 pm, Dance to the music of Jeff Callery and Runaway Train from 9 pm - 1 am. Draws (Rally Winners, Buttons, Pins, 50/50 Tickets) 11 pm at the dance.

Sunday, January 20

Sleigh Rides from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm at Ron Smail & Family Farm, east of Brinston on Henderson Road to Coons Road. Ecumenical Church Service at Matilda Hall at 7 p.m.

Enjoy the 27th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival!

27th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival set to go this weekend

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

It is THAT time of year again when thoughts turn to winter: cold, snow, shivering, shovelling, laughter, sliding, skating, skiing and other such outdoor activities and as usual the first out of the starting blocks is the 27th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival.

Set to kick off nine fun-filled days of activities geared to family fun, the Carnival Committee has been working long and hard to bring things together.

Although we could use some more snow, there is no doubt people are thinking of how they can best enjoy winter and what better way than to be a part of the local Winter Carnival?

Securing talent, entertainment and a range of activities that will appeal to all ages, the Committee has just about finalized the entire program.

Returning patrons will recognize familiar events and faces, while a few new ones will be infused to continue the tradition of fun in winter.

As the 27th edition gets going, residents will be coaxed out of hibernation, off that couch and away from that remote control. Whether as an active participant in an event or a supportive spectator, there will be something for YOU at the Matilda Winter Carnival.

Something that remains steadfast and sure is the generosity of the community when Carnival time rolls around each year. Local business people rally to show their continuous support of the events by donating prizes for the Carnival Queen contest as well as the numerous other events that will have winners declared.

Speaking of the Carnival Queen contest, there is a delicate number of young ladies vying for the crown this year, although organizers are hoping that once school is in session once again there will be more young women stepping forward to strut their stuff, the more the merrier!! There will be some wonderful prizes up for grabs this year and it is a terrific experience for anyone who gives it a shot.

Because Matilda hosts the first Winter Carnival of the season the crowds are always large at each event. A great way to welcome the new year and take advantage of winter the Annual Carnival is a fun way to set a right tone for the rest of the year.



Matilda Royalty

Samantha Boone was crowned Matilda Carnival Queen for 2001 on a snowy Saturday evening in South Dundas last year. Standing along with the Runner-Up, Lisa Martell who was also named miss Congeniality by the other entrants. Congrats!! *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

Official Opening and Carnival Queen contest always a highlight

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

A highlight of each and every Matilda Winter Carnival, and certainly not to be missed is the Official Opening and Carnival Queen Contest.

Municipal dignitaries and the ribbon cutting that signals the start of the activities draws a huge crowd. Saturday, January 12 is the date and Matilda Hall in Dixon's Corners is the place. If you don't want to miss any of the action, arrive in time to grab a seat and settle in to enjoy the evening.

Open to young ladies from any corner of South Dundas Township between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age as of December 31, 2001. The first ten entries are being accepted and since to date there are only three girls who have come forward, there is room for some more who would like to be involved in this "once in a lifetime" experience. If you have not yet let your intentions be known, call Janice Gilmour today at 652-4714 or e-mail her at jaygil@sympatico.ca or give Bev Sabourin a call at 652-2405. Either of these Matilda Recreation members will be more than pleased to answer questions you may have or provide information, or simply add you to the list of hopefuls.

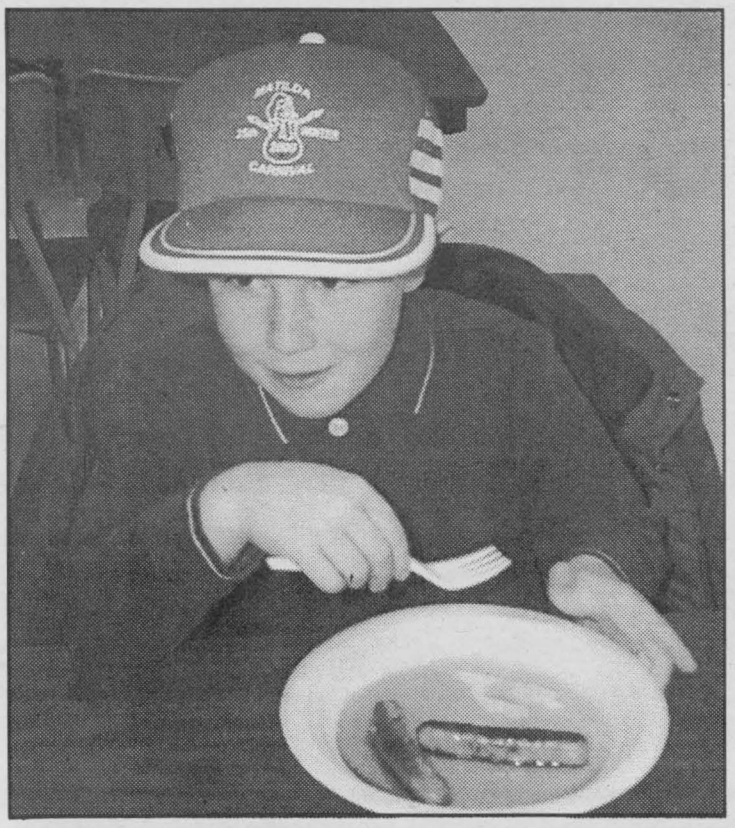
The walk down the runway, the introduction each gal does of herself, or the answering of a question pertaining to your peer group or just your friendly smile may be what clinches the crown for you. Just imagine how proud you would be or how your parents will almost burst with happiness when you are crowned Matilda Carnival Queen 2002. Changing outfits from casual to dressy gives the judges the opportunity to see both sides of your personality and how comfortable you are in heels or sneakers.

The judges this year are all councillors from North Dundas Council, and include Estella Rose, Gail Parker and Alvin Runnalls. The MC for the evening is Mike Rose of 103.7FM, The Point in Brockville.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by Billy Lewis who has graced the audience with his accordion music for almost every one of the 27 years the Carnival has been taking place. A self-taught musician, Bill does an excellent job and is certainly one important factor that makes the Carnival the success it is each year. Betty Casselman will handle the ivories once again this year. She too has been on the piano bench for many years at the Annual Carnival, whether playing during the silences or providing music to get the gals to the stage or down to their seats again. New this year will be a young lady with a mighty voice. Lacey Venema will provide musical interludes in the program that are sure to please.

A unique chance for the young ladies who take part, whether

Please turn to page 5



Annual pancake breakfast always tastes great!

Rally always a hit with older crowd

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Saturday, January 19 the parking lot will be a buzz in Dixon's Corners at the Matilda Hall as the Annual Dr. Tom Maxwell Memorial Rally hits the route. Always popular and always a load of fun, this Rally is enjoyed by all ages, whether on snowmobiles or in cars or trucks.

If there is enough snow the engines of snowmobiles will be heard as drivers don helmets and suits and ensure they have their 2002 trail permit in place as they speed off for a wonderful day in the great outdoors.

The less stout at heart will take to road route to decipher clues and answer questions from the warmth of their car or truck.

Registration begins at 11 and continues until 1pm when the final riders will hit the trail or road for a fun filled afternoon. A delicious hot meal will be served from 4 to 6 pm. The Brinston United Church ladies ensure there is enough to fill every belly and these gals can cook up a storm, so you'll want to stay around for supper. For your enjoyment Mary Perry and Country Classics will entertain the first rally folks back at the hall as well as those who take their supper here as well. The stage will be taken over by Jeff Callery and Runaway Train from 9pm til 1am for the Annual Dance. So, shine up your dancing shoes and enjoy the tunes, it promises to be a great time for all.

Winter Carnival goers will have the choice of Buttons or Pins, costing $2.00 each to put their names in the draws. There will be 50/50 tickets sold as well and at 11pm at the dance, the draws will be made as the rally winners will receive their prizes as well.

There will be Free Will Donations at ALL events with the money helping to defray costs for the Carnival. Your generosity is appreciated.



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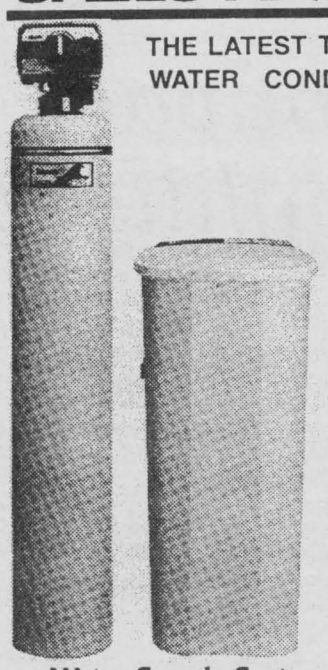

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A week of Fun and Adventure awaits you

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

On Sunday, January 13, the Hall in Matilda will once again smell of sizzling sausages and hot coffee. Pancakes will be flipping in the kitchen and maple syrup will flood over the flapjacks as they are stacked on plates. Juice will be available as well.

The Annual Pancake Breakfast, tradition of great breakfast enjoyment will get underway at 10:30 and serving will carry on throughout the morning and into the afternoon until 1pm when all the hungries should be satisfied.

While filling your faces, you will be able to enjoy the magic and Illusions of Antony J. Lee as he spins a web of secret. He will entertain young and old alike at 11:30 and again at 12:30. Don't miss your chance to see this master of magic he does some pretty awesome stuff! With over 20 years experience, he has more than a few tricks up his sleeve. Coming to Matilda from Cornwall, he is a crowd favourite...remember his cutting off the young man's arm last year???

Best Wishes Matilda Winter Carnival

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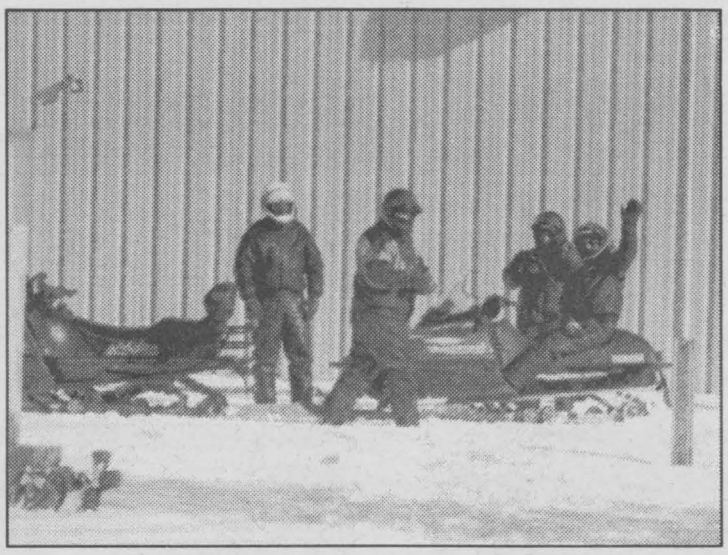

Set to hit the trail

These snowmobilers are ready to hit the rally trail in the Annual event which is part of the Matilda Winter Carnival providing there is enough snow, once again this year riders will hit the snow for a day of fun.

New Award is to be presented this year

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

According to one of the organizing committee for the Matilda Winter Carnival, Janice Gilmour, as she tells The Chieftain,"There will be no Citizen of the Year award this year."

In fact Janice goes on to explain that the Committee has decided to suspend this award and in its place they will award a "Volunteer of the Year" award. According to those organizing the event, they feel that this idea will work because although the people deserving of either award may well be the same, the Volunteer designation seems to fit the bill better than Citizen of the Year does. "We are trying to recognize people who go above and beyond their responsibilities in Matilda. The people who never say "No" when asked to take on a job. There are lots of them out there and without them there would be far less accomplished. They never ask for renumeration for their efforts, a job well done is reward enough it seems. Like no place else, Volunteers are truly the backbone of what we are in Matilda!"

There will be two awards presented this year. The first will be presented posthumously to the man in whose honour someone will be recognized each year, the Gary Shaver Memorial Award for the Volunteer of the Year goes to Gary in 2002. Well deserving and a very nice way to remember this young man as well as show appreciation for what he did.

There will be another award presented to a gentleman who is also well deserving of such an award. No, no leaks here!! You will have to come out on Saturday evening to learn who the recipient is!

These awards will be presented during the Carinval Queen contest.



Billy Plays On

Billy Lewis has played his accordian for almost all of the Matilda Winter Carnivals since they began. A real tradition, Billy is a big part of the fabric that is Matilda Winter Carnival each year. A self-taught musician, Billy does a terrific job with the squeeze box.

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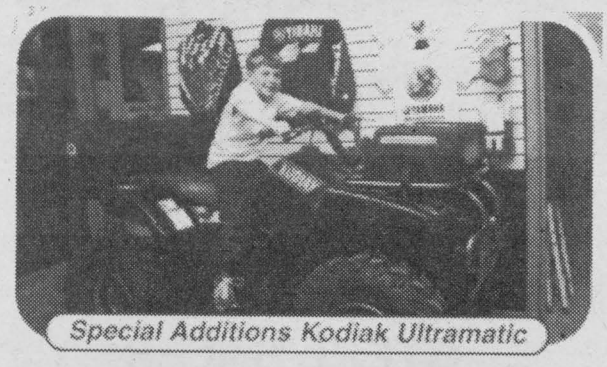
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MATILDA CARNIVAL EVENTS

Saturday, January 12, 2002

7:00 p.m

- Official opening of Winter Carnival
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
- Carnival Queen Pageant
- Volunteer of the Year Award (In memory of Gary Shaver)

Sunday, January 13, 2002

10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Pancake Breakfast
- Entertainment provided by Antony J. Lee's Magic & Illusion Show, show times at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
- Family skating, Games, Hot Chocolate at Dundela rink

Monday, January 14, 2002

7:00 p.m.

- Country/Western Night featuring Line Dancing with Gwen Bosma and the River-View Cloggers

Tuesday, January 15, 2002

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- Shuffleboard at Matilda Hall. Everyone Welcome.

Wednesday, January 16, 2002

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- Matilda's Womens Institute afternoon tea & sing-song

7:00 p.m.

- Bingo at the Matilda Hall

Thursday, January 17, 2002

7:30 p.m.

- Euchre

Friday, January 18, 2002

7:00 p.m.

- Kid's Craft Night with Nancy Blokland and Susan Terry. Age groups 5-7 and 8+. Contact Nancy at 652-2096 to register. No fee!

Saturday, January 19, 2002

- **Annual Dr. Thom Maxwell Snowmobile & Car Rally**
- **Registration** - 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Matilda Hall
- **Dinner** - 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. provided by Brinston United Church Women
- **Entertainment** - 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. by Mary Perry and Country Classics
- **Dance** to the music of Jeff Callery and Runaway Train from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
- **Draws** - Rally Winners, Buttons, Pins and 50/50 Tickets at 11 pm at the Dance

Sunday, January 20, 2002

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

- Sleigh rides at Ron Smail's farm east of Brinston on Henderson Road at Coons Road

7:00 p.m.

- Ecumenical Church Service at the Matilda Hall

From Front

Opening

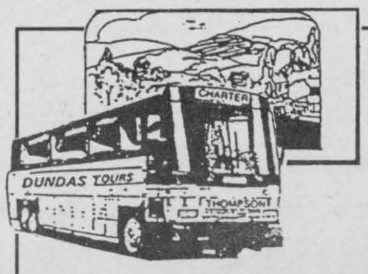
alone on stage or with your escort, all the girls who enter are winners in Matilda!!

As any of the girls who have taken part, they will all encourage you to enter. Talk to the former Queens, many of whom are married now with families of their own, they will all tell you it is a great experience, one not to pass up. Have your name added to the list, your photo on the wall at Matilda Hall, join Cathy and Shelley (Byers) Gibson, Wanda (Douma) Zandbergen, Leslie (Baldwin) Disheau, Gayle (Ault) Carroll, Nancy (Duffield) Cooper, Robbin (Kerr) Whitteker, Penny (Roke) Major, Angela (Mackler) Casselman, Claira Karlse, Leslie (Keeler) Casselman, Sharon (Kennedy) Andersen, Pam (De Vries) Dickson, Rhonda (Van Beilen) Lapier, Connie (Bartlett) Bosma, Debbie (Hodgson) Cooper, Tammy (Mudde) Henderson, Jennifer (Thompson) Sluiskes, Kelly (Baelde) Smail, Angela Thompson, Heidi Tibben, Rebecca Cooper, Marsha Halladay, Jo-Anne Larocque and Tracey Lewis have all experienced the feeling when their name was called as Queen. Good luck to you all and have fun!

Come out and enjoy the Carnival, you'll be glad you did!



Former Matilda Carnival Queens return to the stage.



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CELEBRATE WINTER



Rally Riders

Young Jordon Smail was set to hit the rally route with his dad, Tommy as they registered for the Annual Snowmobile Rally. There were 157 snomachines on the route for this event. Each year the rally depends upon the amount of snow we get. This year is shaping up to be a good one.



Royalty crowned at Carnival each year.



Sleigh ride a fun experience for all ages at Ron Smail's farm.

A sleigh ride together with you

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

"Sleigh bells ring...are you listening? In the lane...snow is glistening...a beautiful sight...we're happy today...riding in a winter wonderland."So goes a familiar winter song. If there is enough snow the air down Henderson Road will be filled with the jingle of sleigh bells on Sunday, January 20.

Between 1:30 and 3:30pm Ron Smail and Family will offer sleigh rides to the bush where a bonfire will ward off the chill and folks will make sure laughter and gaiety are major ingredients of the day. Hot dogs and hot chocolate will warm the innards and everyone will enjoy an old fashioned winter treat.

As the horses pull the sleigh, their feet will crunch the snow and the runners will effortlessly glide over the blanket of white, both young and older among the crowds who turn out for this adventure are sure to go home pleased.

Bundle warmly and plan to have a hoot. Singing as you travel slowly along the trail to the bush, you will think of times when life was not so rushed as today and your children will create memories they are sure to savour all through their lives. Whether a new adventure or a means of recalling how it used to be, you will not want to miss this activity.

Later this same evening at the Matilda Hall, an Ecumenical Service will draw the 27th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival to a fitting close. The first Carnival, the one that sets the standard for all to follow will be over. As local clergy gather to provide the guidance for this service, everyone is more than welcome to come out and share the Word as the community gathers to thank God for the many blessings we have in South Dundas Township.

Be sure to come out to enjoy as many of the events as you can. This Winter Carnival is one of the tops ways to celebrate the season. The people make it happen and your support is vital to the success of each and every event.

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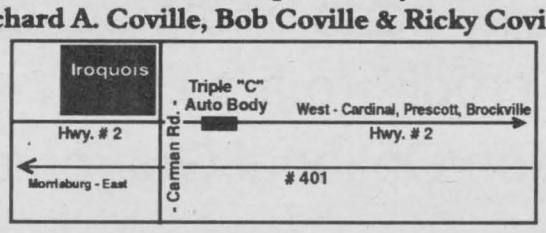

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Line Dancers kickin' up their heels!

Fun Events will bring people to Matilda Hall

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

When you are full and warm on Sunday afternoon, grab your skates and head for Dundela Rink. A slate of fun activity on the ice is planned to keep everyone busy. Games and free hot chocolate will be available, so bring the kiddies and enjoy some old fashioned fun on the outdoor rink. Rumour has it that Mayor Whitteker will lace up his skates again and join the fun!

On Monday, January 14, you'll need your cowboy hat and boots to fit in as Country and Western Night brings out the Line Dancers along with the Riverview Cloggers. The music starts at 7pm and these groups will show you how to kick your heels in style.

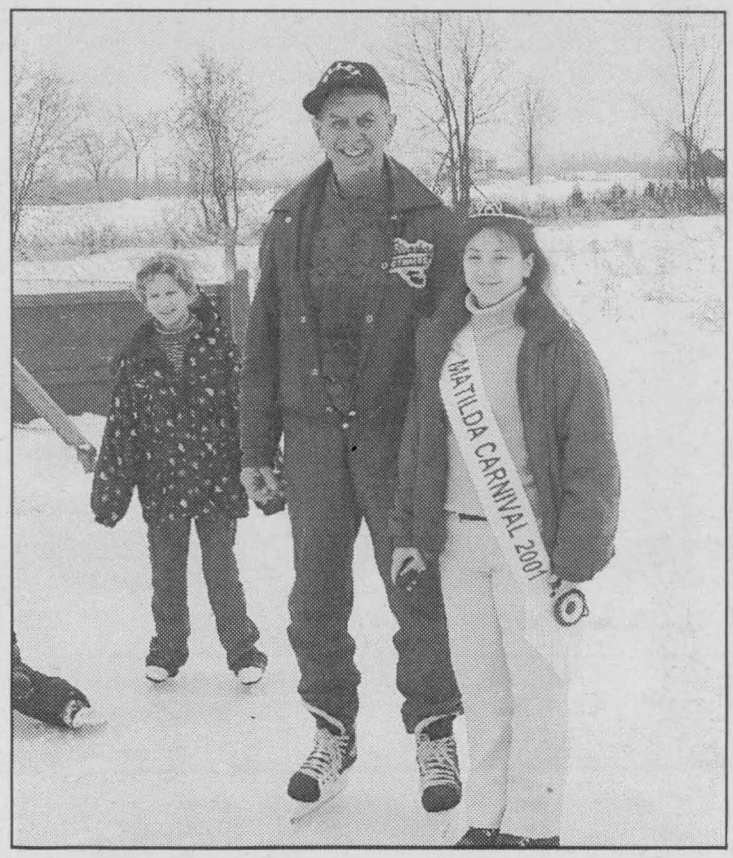
Tuesday afternoon from 1 til 3pm there will be the opportunity to play Shuffleboard, again at the Matilda Hall for all who have an interest in this sport.

The Matilda Womens' Institute will take over on Wednesday afternoon as they host a tea and a sing-song. A relaxing time with some special treats, this is a not to miss event if you can make it. I attended last year and enjoyed a cuppa and was glad I did. Later that evening at 7pm, the tables will be filled with Bingo enthusiasts. Grab those daubbers and lucky charms and get set to watch those cards..."under the L" for luck!!

January 17, Thursday night the Hall will be shuffling as a Euchre Game of vast proportions will take over. If you enjoy a good hand of Euchre, join the fun. If "trump" and "following suit" are in your vocabulary, you'll not want to miss the fun.

Bundle the kids up and get them to the Hall on Friday night, January 18. This is being billed as Kids Kraft Night with glue and creative juices beginning to flow at 7pm. Two age groups will work on a variety of crafts. Those 5 to 7 years and those 8 years+ will work on some awesome crafts.

Nancy Blokland and Sue Terry will share their imaginative creations with the youngsters as they demonstrate the way to make the items. Smiles will be prominent as the children find how they can actually make certain items and take them home. There is no charge for the evening of crafts, and so if your child wants to take part in making a craft please give Nancy a call at 652-2096 to register or gain helpful information.



Mayor Johnny skates with Carnival royalty.

No fun like snow fun

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

We are a hearty lot who enjoy winter, why else would we live in this part of the country?

As things fall into place for the 27th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival, the landscape seems to fit the theme. As snow flakes flutter effortlessly to the ground, thoughts turn to winter activities. Bundled against the elements we are ready to beat the cabin fever that tends to creep into our very being at this time of year. Getting outside and enjoying the weather, the scenery and the atmosphere that breeds excitement when a Carnival rolls around cannot be beat.

There is something for everyone to take part in or to watch. Whatever you choose to attend, you will definitely not be disappointed. Matilda Winter Carnival 2002 is the place to be!

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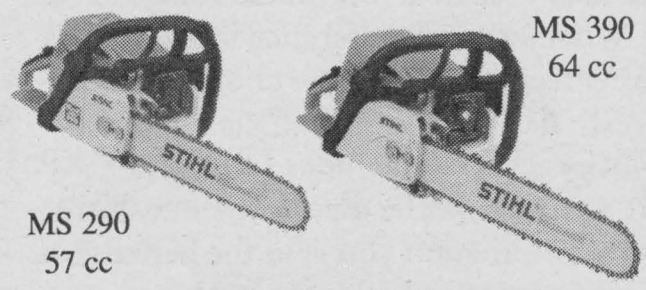

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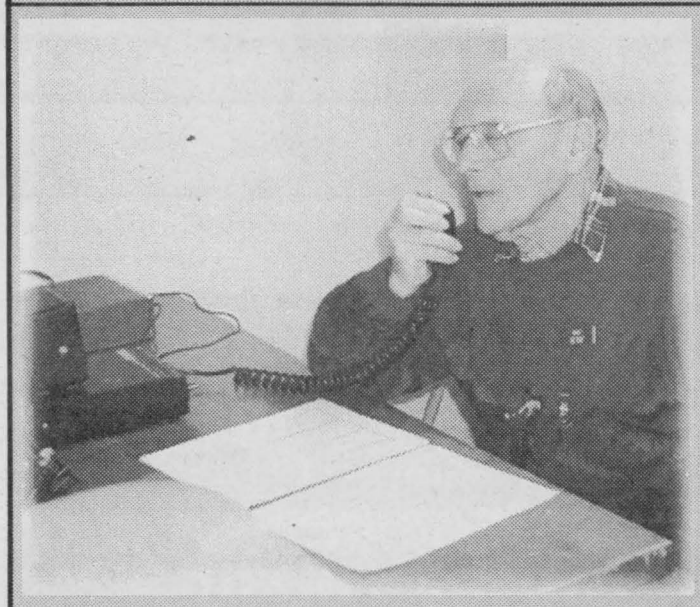

Ray at the Ham Control Centre

Chieftain Photos - S.L. Johnston

Recreation Committee missing valuable member

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The Recreation Committee will be missing one valuable member this year as Gary Shaver was a familiar fixture the past number of years at Winter Carnival. His dedication and contributions to the event, his smile and his ever ready-to-help nature will be sorely missed.

Gary enjoyed the Winter Carnival. He liked the hustle and bustle, the rushing and the excitement. He got caught up in the atmosphere that pervades the air at Carnival time and enjoyed every minute of it!

His disposition made him a natural as he went about his duties and made sure whatever he was responsible for was ready to go on time and in shape. His passing left a void that will be most evident at Winter Carnival.

Things will carry on, they always do, but those who took part in past Carnivals in Matilda will be aware of the missing link in the chain that operates the various activities.

There is no doubt, Gary is keeping tabs on how things are coming along. He was always so busy when the Carnival rolled around. He was a quiet and shy fellow who never wanted to be recognized for anything he did, but he was a major player in the Matilda Winter Carnival and his presence WILL be missed this year and into the future. Not a person to take centre stage or be in the spotlight, he was forever making sure things went along as they were planned, as they were supposed to happen. Always the one in the background, confidently going about his business, Gary was a big part of the Carnival. He will be missed by the committee and the people who come to the events. Patient and always ready to talk about what was on the program, the local press will miss the young man too.

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