MATILDA WINTER CARNIVAL

Carnival Highlights

Saturday January 11
The opening ceremonies and 22st annual Matilda Winter Carnival Queen Pageant takes the stage at Matilda Hall at 7:00 pm.

Sunday January 12
Pancake Brunch and Face Painting at Matilda Hall from 10:30 to 1:30. And games too!

Monday January 13
Line dancing and cloggers at Country Night. You won't want to miss it.

Tuesday January 14
Amateur Talent Night begins at 7:00 pm. Don't miss it!

Wednesday January 15
Afternoon tea and fashion show from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Thursday January 16
BINGO at 7:00 pm with a $1000 JACKPOT. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

Friday January 17
Pre-teen dance from 6:00 to 8:30 pm with Karaoke Express. Teen dance from 9:00 to 12:00 pm. with Theatre of Soul.

Saturday January 18
Car and snowmobile rallies with afternoon and evening full of live entertainment. Stay for the dinner and then dance the night away with "Jim Wicks and Westburg Union."

Sunday January 19
Sleigh rides and ecumenical service at 7:30.

Turn to page 4 for a full listing of Winter Carnival events

Winter Carnival is looking good for 1997

While the annual Carnival brings with it the events that have become a tradition in the Township each January as things get going, there are a few new ones to add to the list this year.

As the 22nd Carnival becomes a reality it should be noted that from January 6 until January 11 the judging of the "Mackie Look-a-Like Contest" will be in full swing. If the weatherman co-operates, all that is necessary is for the youngsters at your house to construct a snowman that looks like the Township mascot, Mackie on your front lawn. This snowman will not have to stand tall for very long...according to organizers, as soon as your snowman is ready to be judged, telephone the Clerk's Office at 652-4403 or Nancy Blokland at 652-2096, with your house number and a judge will be there as soon as possible to check out the effort.

There is No house decorating contest this year, however, there will be a Citizen of the Year, if nominations come from the residents. As a way of honouring a resident, this is a nice idea, no matter by what name it is called. Those who have accepted the award have done so in the spirit it has been given, hopefully if someone is chosen this year, they too will accept this as it is meant to acknowledge the effort that people in a caring community extend to fellow citizens and visitors alike.

The evening of the Snowflake Ball, Matilda Winter Carnival 22nd Annual Queen pageant, the most elderly lady and gent in attendance will be recognized.

An event of this magnitude does not just happen, it takes a lot of hard working people to come together and make it happen. The Recreation Committee deserves a hearty pat on the back for their work. Things look like there is something for everyone. If anyone does not have fun, it will be their own fault. Matilda carnivals have a great reputation for being one of the best in the area, each and every year. This year looks like nothing less. See you all there!



Amateur night!

One of the most popular events during Winter Carnival week, has to be the Amateur Night competition. Residents from across Matilda Township, flock to the Matilda Recreation Hall and participate by showing off their talents. This year the show takes place Tuesday January 14th and you won't want to miss it! And yes... The popular karaoke machine that made its first appearance at the talent show last year, will once again be available for those aspiring Dolly Partons!

Chieftain photo by M.C. Bailey.

The Snowflake ball is sure to impress you

The 22nd annual Matilda Winter Carnival will swing into gear on Saturday, January 11, 1997 at 7 pm.

The "Snowflake Ball" will see a bevy of young ladies vie for the honour of being named Matilda Carnival Queen for 1997. The pageant is set to get things started for the celebration of winter in Matilda, the first in the area.

According to Recreation Committee chairperson, Dennis Cooper, the format is similar to last year's. Each girl who enters the contest will be sponsored by a local business. "This ," according to Cooper," Allows everyone to be a bigger part of the Carnival Pageant."

Each girl who comes out to take part and try for the title will receive a sash complete with her sponsor's name. The winner of the Queen title will have a special sash. This way each contestant gets a souvenir of her evening and each one who comes out deserves to be recognized for their effort and courage.

In order to become a contestant, the girls need to be between the ages of 15 and 18 and must be a resident in the Township of Matilda.

During the Pageant, each girl will answer a question and will arrive on stage in casual wear as well as in semi-formal attire. A walk down the runway will allow the judges to see how each contestant carries herself and how well she adapts to an audience.

Before the Pageant an interview for each gal with the three judges will give Pat Harper, John Doran and Don Hill a chance to get to know each girl better. As well it will give the judges an opportunity to speak one on one to each girl and perhaps gain insight into each that cannot be gained on stage. Pat Harper is a veteran contest judge who operates her own business and has extensive experience in judging public speaking events. Don Hill is a Manager at Beavers Dental in Morrisburg. He possess extensive experience interviewing people. The third judge is as yet unconfirmed.

The judges will be looking at each contestant's sincerity, the originality that she uses to answer her question. They will look for confidence while each gal is on stage, her level of enthusiasm, the tone she uses as well as her voice. They will listen for each gal's grammar and whether there is a concern for others on her behalf as well as various other characteristics they feel contribute to a winner.

Doing the honours as Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be Greg Adams, an OPP officer from Prescott who does speaking engagements from Kingston to Cornwall during his spare time; he will be familiar to some in the audience.

The 1996 Carnival Queen, Tracey Lewis will be on hand to crown the new Queen of the Snowflake Ball for 1997 after she takes her final walk down the runway.

Betty Casselman will once again provide the musical background for the evening's festivities. Her entertainment as she tickles the ivories will keep the action moving along. Billy Sypes will return

Please turn to page 7

Township of Matilda

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The winners

The 1996 Matilda Winter Carnival royalty included Stacey Lewis who won Miss Congeniality, Tracey Lewis who was crowned Carnival Queen, and runner-up, Angie Thompson. Pictured above, the girls prepare food at the annual pancake breakfast. *Chieftain photo by R. van Noppen.*

Looking for Nominations

There are many in the community who deserve the honour.

There have been many who have accepted the honour over the years.

There have been years when no nominations were received.

It was way back in 1982 when Matilda Council began bestowing the honour of "Citizen of the Year" upon a deserving individual from Matilda Township. Last year the award was put on hold and no one was chosen to receive the honour. This year the Recreation Committee decided to continue the tradition and are calling for nominations from residents who feel they know someone deserving of he award. Hopefully the person so chosen will accept the honour in the vein it is given.

There has been talk about changing the name of the award to "Outstanding Citizen" in hopes that people would be more receptive to accepting the award.

During the years 1991 and 1992 there were no nominees, but previous winners include:

1982- Ruth Coons

1983- Joan Zandbergen

1984- Gerald Munroe

1985- Helen Gilmer

1986- Allan Tysick

1987- Grace Strader

1988- Gwen Shaver

1989- Lorne Strader

1990- Frank Sisty

1991- No nominee

1992- No nominee

1993- Robert Thompson

1994- Jerry Bureau

1995- Ken Kirkby

While the person chosen may not have done anything special in the year they are chosen, they, in all probability have done numerous things over the years. These things will typify what the Township of Matilda would want as their representative in any number of places and under various circumstances.

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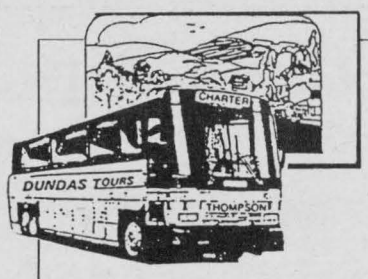

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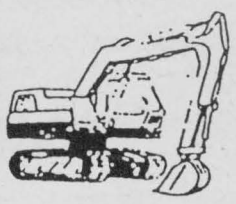
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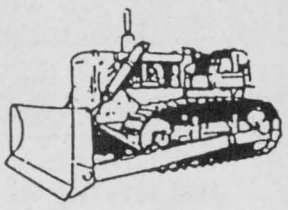
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No need to cook breakfast

No need to cook breakfast or lunch on Sunday, January 12. Matilda Hall in Dixons' will be alive with the smell of sausages sizzling and the sound of syrup dripping off a pile of the best pancakes this side of the St. Lawrence River. They will no doubt draw appetites for certain. The annual Pancake Brunch sponsored by the Recreation Committee as part of the Carnival will be held.



Contestants

Pictured above are the 1996 Winter Carnival Queen contestants. In the front row (l-r) Sherri Shaver, Angie Thompson and Amy Casselman. In the back row (l-r) Joanne Fawcett, Stacey Lewis, Lesley McDonell and Tracey Lewis. Vicki Zandbergen was absent when the photo was taken. *Chieftain photo by R. van Noppen.*

Serving from 10:30 until 1:30, the infamous Matilda recreation chefs will be cooking up a storm. Treat you and yours to pancakes, syrup, juice, coffee, tea and donuts. This is always one of the best meals around, don't miss it.

The only price is a free will donation for what you enjoy. The 1st Iroquois Scouts are to be on hand to lend their efforts to cleaning up after the meal, as a community service to the Recreation Committee.

At 10:45am, the Matilda Majorettes will strut their stuff and their performance is not to be missed. The young ladies will demonstrate their ability for all to enjoy.

As part of the day, Paddy Stewart will be there to entertain the youngsters, and the young at heart. He will be performing from 11:30 til noon and then again from 12:30 until 1pm. If you missed him last year you will want to catch him this year. If you saw him last year you will not want to miss his show this time either.

There will be face painting available, free will donations will again be accepted. The Carnival Queen will be one of the painters...how about getting your face painted by royalty. Decorating your face to celebrate the Carnival is a great way to enjoy the activities.

Following the brunch, there will be various activities for all the family to take part in. If the weather turns bitter the hall will be used, but if the outdoors cooperates there will be a woodsman competition. If there is snow, snowmobile rides will be offered, a Mackie colouring contest for the youngsters. Tobogganing will provide laughter and excitement for all ages as well.

Bundle up and come out and enjoy the fun with your family. Things should wind up about 3pm.

Fashion Show

Two years ago the Matilda Carnival had a fashion show added to the lineup and the Committee has not looked back since. Such a success, this fashion show was that it continues to draw crowds.

On Wednesday afternoon, January 15, a large crowd is expected to be on hand to see what Marge Veltkamp and Fashion Network have to offer this year in the way of new attire for the discriminate shopper. Fashion Network is a company that sells clothing through home parties. The head office for the company is in Richmond Hill. This line of affordable clothing is fast growing in appeal.

As well, Lisa Froom will present Leigh Morgan Children's Fashions.

Organized by the Recreation Committee, with help from the Matilda Women's Institute, there will be a tea complimented by the fashion show, featuring local models from 1:30 pm til 3:30pm. A free will offering will be accepted at this event.

A highlight this year will be a skit presented by the Women's Institute members...could be fun!!

Anyone wishing information can call Bev Sabourin who is in charge of this event.

Amateur Night Tuesday

The annual Amateur Talent Night is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14. This event is always well attended as the community comes out to show what they can do. Matilda residents have a multitude of talents and this evening allows them an opportunity to show just what they can do.

The time is 7pm and this year there will be two categories, one for talent and the other for those who want to try their hand at karaoke. Thanks to Karaoke Express this should provide the shyer folks with a chance to show they can do it too.

Whether you sing or dance, play an instrument or tell a story, bring your talent and come on along.

This evening provides the community with a showcase of local talent and allows everyone to see what their neighbours can do on stage, if given the chance.

Open to all age groups, all you need is to show up, register yourself or your group and get ready to show what you are capable of. Whether your talent is generated by yourself or you want to work with the Karaoke machine, it will be fun.

Three cash prizes will be given in each category.

There is a rumour running around that once again this year The Chieftain and The Leader will face off in a talent duel, the likes of which you may never hear or see again...

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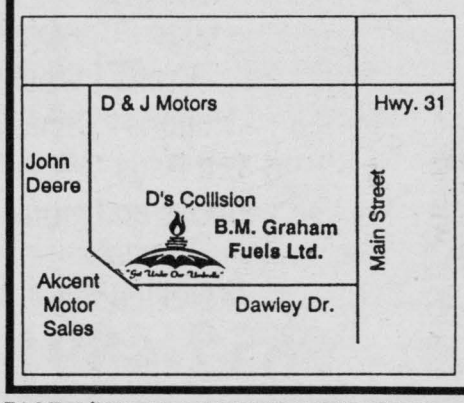

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Country and Western Theme Scheduled for Monday Night

Monday evening, the 13th of January, you will want to grab your cowboy boots and hat and slip into those denim jeans.

The Country and Western shindig gets underway at 7pm.

There will be door prizes, and the Riverview Cloggers will come on down from Johnstown to entertain as well as get you up dancing as well. Gwen Bosma and her line dancers from Hainsville will have your toes tapping in no time short and you will find you cannot sit still. This is always a fun filled evening of dancing and enjoyment.

There will again be a donation box at the door if you feel you want to help the Committee.

Calendar of events

Saturday, January 11

7:00 p.m.
- **Opening 22nd Matilda Winter Carnival 1997**
- **Winter Carnival Queen Pageant** (Marc Beach will sing to Queen)

Sunday, January 12

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- **Pancake Brunch & Face Painting**
  Matilda Majorettes will perform at 10:45
  Paddy Stewart entertains 11:30-12 and 12:30-1
- **Afternoon activities till 3 p.m.**
  Mackie Colouring Contest
  Snowmobile Rides
  Woodsman Competition

Monday, January 13

7:00 p.m.
- **Country/Western Night**
  Gwen Bosma, Line Dancing - River-View Cloggers from Johnstown

Tuesday, January 14

7:00 p.m.
- **Amateur Talent Night**
  2 Categories:
  Talent generated by participant & Karaoke by KARAOKE EXPRESS
  (3 Cash Prizes per category)

Wednesday, January 15

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- **Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show**
  Featuring Marge Veltkamp (Fashion Network) &
  Lisa Froom (Leigh Morgan Children's Fashions)

Thursday, January 16

7:00 p.m.
- **Bingo - $1,000 JACKPOT - Doors open at 5:30 p.m.**
  Sponsored by Iroquois/Matilda Lions Club - Canteen Open

Friday, January 17

6:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Pre-teen Dance (up to 13 yrs.) **with Karaoke Express**
Admission $2
9:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Teen Dance (13-19 yrs.) **Music by "Theatre of Soul"**
Admission $3
Canteen available at both!

Saturday, January 18

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.
"Dr. Tom Maxwell Memorial Car & Snowmobile Rally"
Supper, entertainment & dancing with "Jim Wicks & Westburg Union"
11:00 - 1:00 - Register for Car/Snowmobile Rally, Dixon's Corners Hall, $3/person
3:00 - 6:00 - Matinee with Jim Wicks & Westburg Union
4:00 - 6:00 - Supper - $7/person; $3/children 6-12 yrs.; Under 5 yrs. FREE
Brinston United Church Ladies preparing meal
9:00 - 1:00 - Dancing to Jim Wicks & Westburg Union - $5/person

Sunday, January 19

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- **Family Sleigh Ride and Weiner Roast**
  (Ron Smail's farm - east of Brinston - watch for signs)
  Please plan not to arrive before 1 p.m. - 3 teams of horses/sleighs**
7:00 p.m. - Hymn Sing - Dixon's Hall
7:30 p.m. - Ecumenical Church Service
*(Sponsored by Matilda Helping Hands Senior Group) *Refreshments after service*

January 6-11

Mackie Look-Alike Contest
Build a Snowman in your front yard...Call Clerk's Office 652-4403 or Nancy Blokland 652-2096 to have yours judged
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Come Out & Have A
Good Time at the
Matilda Winter Carnival

Under the T...Bingo Thursday

Grab your dauber and whatever good luck charms you have and come out on Thursday night, January 16...that is the night when Bingo will be held. Featuring a $1000. jackpot, the Iroquois/Matilda Lions Club will be calling numbers starting at 7pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.

The canteen will be open for refreshments and the action will heat up in no time as this popular event gets the players going.

Bundle up and come on out, for an old fashioned ride along the snow covered trails, a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon in Matilda Township.

A free will donation will help out with costs incurred.

Later that same evening, a hymn sing will get everyone in the right frame of mind at Matilda Hall at 7pm. Following the singing, an Ecumenical Service will get underway. Sponsored by the Matilda Helping Hands, Seniors Citizens, this is always a most fitting way to end the Carnival. Refreshments will be served after the servcie.

Carnival organizers are looking forward to a very successful event again this year. Plans call for an exciting and entertaining week of festivities. Be sure to come out and be a part of as many as you can. Geared for the whole family the events sound like a load of fun. Make this 22nd Matilda Winter Carnival...The Snowflake Ball the best yet!

Judges Special Award

Last year, a special award was granted during the Carnival Queen pageant..."The Judges' Award".

Unplanned and not included in the program notes, this one was a spur of the moment deal. The judges were so very impressed by the sincerity and honesty shown by one of the contestants during the interviewing period that they felt she deserved special recognition. Thus the new award was born.

This year may well see this award granted again to some young lady, it is all in the judges' hands. Whether one of the contestants this year is found to be deserving of this award...we will all have to wait and see. It is not a regular part of the pageant, but if and when the judges feel appropriate, it will again be bestowed.

Last year some 300 people turned out to watch the young ladies as they vied for the crown. This year promises to be as exciting as last, if not more so.

As The Chieftain goes to press, organizers are still unsure if Mayor John Doran will actually be a judge this year. There has been a problem getting in touch with the Mayor, but according to Chairman, Dennis Cooper, if he cannot attend, there will be someone from outside the area, "We like to choose judges who do not know the girls and have no ties in Matilda, it is just easier for everyone that way." We will see Saturday evening.



Runner-up

Pictured above, 1996 Matilda Winter Carnival Queen runner-up Angie Thompson, takes a stride down the cat-walk. Angie is one of two contestants returning to the competition this year.

Chieftain photo by R. van Noppen.

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It's Rally fun!

The annual Dr. Tom Maxwell Car/Snowmobile Rally is the best attended event at the Matilda Winter Carnival. Hundreds of people from across South Dundas take part in the rally. Pictured above, some sleds take off from the Matilda Recreation Centre last year. This year the rally will be held on Saturday January 18.

Chieftain photo by M..C. Bailey.

Annual Car Rally revving up next Saturday as action begins

Dedicated to the memory of Doctor Tom Maxwell, the annual Car/Snowmobile Rally is a vital part of the Matilda Winter Carnival each year. Tom was a keen amateur radio operator who enjoyed working at the rally each year. Co-ordinating things from the Matilda Hall, keeping in touch with fellow radio hams who were scattered about the Rally route, knowing how many were yet to pass a certain check point and being aware of any and all difficulties on the route brought a broad smile to his friendly face. His community spirit lives on through such events. When Tom passed away, the Carnival lost a dedicated worker and a keen Carnival attendee. Thus it was wonderful that the organizers saw fit to dedicate the Rally each year to Tom's memory, he would be proud.

Saturday, January 19 will see the vehicle owners register at the Matilda Hall in Dixon's Corners from 11:00am until 1pm. This event is something the entire family can enjoy. Whether you snowmobile (weather permitting) or jump in the car, it can be a fun experience for everyone. Take a picnic along and the kids will enjoy helping you solve the problems asked enroute, and choose a reliable navigator or you may end up confused.The cost to enter the rally fun is $3. per person.

Once you have completed the route and arrive back at the Hall, you can enjoy a hearty, hot meal. Thanks to the generosity of the ladies of the Brinston United Church who have graciously consented to cooking the food, this should be a great meal. Supper will be served from 4pm continuous until 6pm. The cost is $7. per person. Those from 6 years of age to 12 years of age eat for $3. while those 5 years and under eat free.

Those who chose to stick around the Hall after the Rally and wait to eat will be entertained by Jim Wicks and Westburg Union as they provide a matinee from 3 to

Pleaes turn to page 7

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Sleigh rides Saturday

The 22nd Matilda Winter Carnival...Snowflake Ball winds up on Sunday, January 19 with a little more of a relaxing event.

Starting at 1:30pm (organizers ask that you do not arrive prior to 1pm, please!) and continuing until 3:30pm, families can take advantage of the sleigh rides offered at Ron Smail's farm, east of Brinston. Signs will be posted for those unsure of exactly where Ron lives.

Once again, the Smail family have offered to allow the Committee the use of their teams of horses, three will be shuttling folks this year as the sleighs run from the farm barn to the bush where a toasty bonfire will warm everyone. While in the bush, a weiner roast will keep everyone busy and fill those tummies as well.

"Oh What fun it is to ride in a two-horse sleigh and all"...o're the fields we go, laughing all the way. This is a popular event and the Committee expect a large crowd.



A tradition

Matilda Township resident Billy Sypes (pictured above) has played his accordian at every Matilda Winter Carnival. The appearance of Billy has become an annual tradition that the whole community looks forward to. *Chieftain photo by R. van Noppen.*

Dance the night away

Karaoke Express will have the pre-teens dancing at Matilda Hall on Friday, January 17 with the music getting things moving at 6 and continuing until 8:30pm. An admission charge of $2. will get you in the door to be a part of the fun.

A break will allow Theatre of Soul to get set up and then teens, 13 to 19 years of age can swing and sway to their favourite tunes. A $3. admission charge applies. Be there or be square as they say!

The canteen will be open for both youth dances for alcohol free drinks and chips etc.

Rally

continued from page 6

6pm. They will return to the stage at 9pm and play for your dancing enjoyment until 1am. The cost of the evening dance is $5. per person.

There is no package deal for the Rally and meal or the rally and dance as in previous years, each item is separate this year, so catch the action and enjoy the fun.

Last year some 223 people paid to enter the car rally to be part of the fun, this year that number could even grow. The snowmobile rally depends on the amount of snow, and organizers are hoping for a good cover of the white stuff and a good number of entrants.

Anyone needing information concerning the Rally can give Garry Shaver a shout at 652-1819.



Snowflake

continued from the front

for his 22nd appearance at Matilda's Winter Carnival as he continues his tradition of playing the accordion.

Marc Beach who many will have heard sing will serenade the newly crowned Queen as she takes her victory walk down the runway to the applause and appreciation of those attending.

At press time, seven young Matilda ladies have entered this year's pageant: they are Angie Thompson who is sponsored by Gibson Electric; Marla Duval sponsored by Stinson Gas Bar, Iroquois; Megan Swerdfeger sponsored by Third High Farms; Lisa Addlington who is sponsored by The Nook; Rebecca Cooper, sponsored by Cooper Sport Trophy, Sherri Lee Shaver sponsored by Shaver Heavy Equipment and Erin McDonnell who Harber's Flame Centre is sponsoring. Anyone not yet entered can do so by calling Dennis Cooper or the Clerk's Office at 652-4403 before January 3, 1997. If a sponsor is a problem, the Committee will assist you, so why no give it a shot girls? You have nothing to lose and plenty to gain...just the experience is most valuable in later life.

Anyone wanting information can give Dennis a call at 652-4630 or Joy Harbers at 535-2301.

See you all at the Carnival Queen Pageant of the 1997 Snowflake Ball in Matilda Hall, Dixon's Corners.

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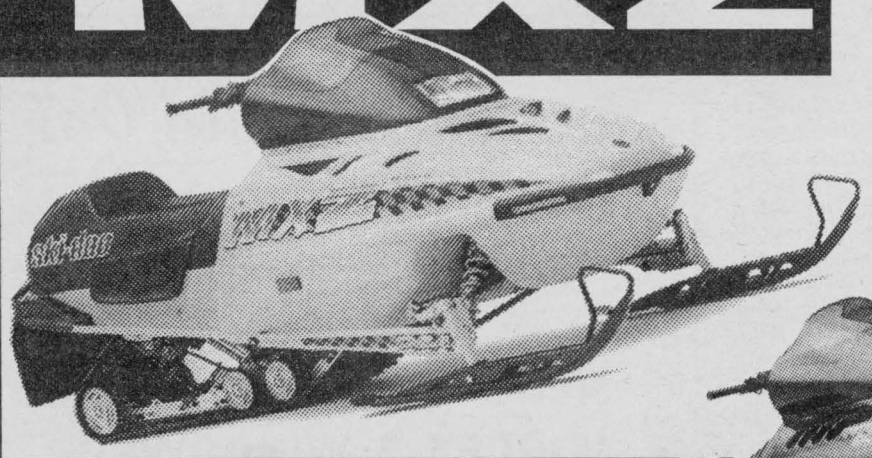

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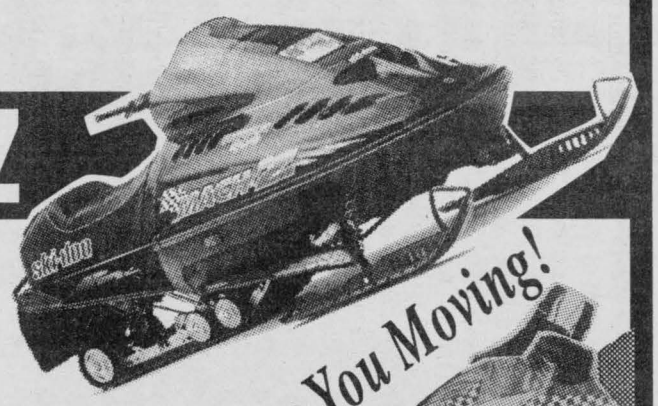

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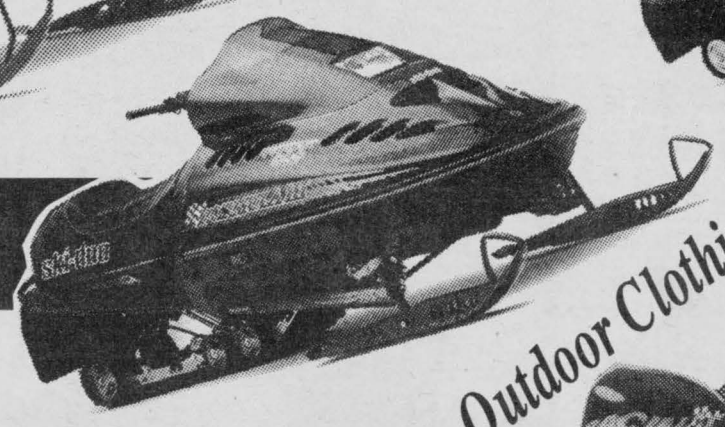

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