MATILDA WINTER CARNIVAL

Carnival Highlights

Saturday January 10
The opening ceremonies and 23rd annual Matilda Winter Carnival Queen Pageant takes the stage at Matilda Hall at 7 p.m

Sunday January 11
Pancake Brunch and Face Painting at Matilda Hall from 10:30 to 1:30. And games too!

Monday January 12
Line dancing and cloggers at Country Night. You won't want to miss it.

Tuesday January 13
Amateur Talent Night begins at 7:00 pm. Don't miss it!

Wednesday January 14
Afternoon tea and fashion show from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Thursday January 15
BINGO at 7:00 pm with a $1000 JACKPOT. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

Friday January 16
Pre-teen dance from 6 p.m to 8:30 p.m.. Teen dance from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. with Kingston Radio D.J.

Saturday January 17
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 18
Sleigh rides and ecumenical service at 7:30.

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

Carnival Queen Contest is the highlight

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Bundle up warmly and come on out and be a part of the winter fun as Matilda gears up for another wonderland of winter fun.

Matilda Winter Carnival,1998 edition is a full 10 days packed with events that will offer something for every age.

Many of the events are almost tradition as they have been a part of the annual Carnival for numerous years. The first carnival in the area, the one that gets things started as celebrations of winter are held throughout the region, Matilda kicks the season off in style each January.

As the 23rd annual Winter Carnival to be held in Matilda becomes a part of the fabric that is rural Canada it seems that the weatherman is co-operating perfectly. Enduring the snow storm that dropped a pile of the fluffy white stuff on the ground, organizers look to the week of January 10-18th as one fun filled event.

A hearty lot, the people of Matilda turn out in large numbers to ensure that the Carnival is a huge success each year. From the opening ceremony until the entire week comes to an end with the ecumenical service there is bound to be something you would like to be a part of, become a spectator at or volunteer to assist with. No matter your age or ability, there is sure to be an event that you can come out and enjoy.

The action had already heated up as the call went out, way back in November, for donations to help off set costs incurred during the week of events. It was at the same time that the search for Carnival Queen contestants began.

In order to be able to enter the contest, a girl must be between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age. She or her parents must be residents in Matilda. The array of prizes that await each girl who enters is usually quite fantastic and a sponsor is entitled to spend up to a maximum of $100. to purchase their contestant a new dress, shoes, a new hair style or a casual outfit for the evening's festivities.

At press time, there are only two contestants signed up and ready to go; namely Heidi Tibben and Stephanie De Vries. With school back in session this week, the organizers hope more young ladies will step forward and join the excitement.

Judges for the Queen pageant include former Mountain Township Reeve, Estella Rose; former Rideau Township Reeve, Glen Brooks and local Auctioneer extraordinaire, Flora Dumouchel.

The Master of Ceremonies for the event this year will be a local, well known gentleman: Principal at Dixon's Corners Public School, Gerry Morrell.

Back for the 23rd time this year will be Billy Sypes playing his accordion. Billy is self-taught and does a fine job each year as the judges retire to consider their choices. Also back again this year will be Betty Casselman at the piano. Betty took over the keyboard from Ruth Coons who played for many years as the pageant evolved. Taking care of the photographic assignments during the evening, from the Queen to the gals with their escorts will be Charlene Hummell. As yet there is no confirmation of a singer to serenade the winner as she takes her walk down the runway. Details like this will be in place, there is no doubt, as committee members work feverishly to complete last minute items and ensure that when next weekend rolls around and things get underway in Dixon's Corners, everything will be set.



Runner up Megan Swerdfeger, Queen Angie Thompson, Miss Congeniality Erin McDonnel.

Carnival shaping up to be another winter success story

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Throughout the week long load of events there will be door prizes which have been generously donated by local businesses. In order to be eligible for these, you will need to purchase a "magnet"...a new idea this year, in-lieu of the buttons which have been popular over the years, this time around a magnet will take the place and be a memento of the Carnival as well.

On Sunday, after the Carnival Queen has been chosen, things will kick into high gear for family fun.

Getting things off to a sizzling start at 10:30am is the annual Pancake Brunch which will see no one go hungry. Flipping those flapjacks until 1:30pm, there should be no tummies growling when the hall is cleaned up.

While there is no charge for the food, which includes sausages,(the smell of these links sizzling in the pan will draw you closer) maple syrup,(drizzled on a pile of the best tasting cakes this side of the nation's capital, yummy!!) juice and coffee, a donation would be appreciated to cover some of the costs. Appetites will be satisfied as there will be no need to cook on this day, folks...come on out and enjoy the brunch cooked up by Matilda Recreation members.

After you fill up, there will be two shows to keep you entertained as Princess Karma brings her "Magic and Illusion Show" to Matilda Hall at 11am and again at 12:50pm.

Please turn to page 7

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HAVE A GREAT TIME AT THE MATILDA WINTER CARNIVAL!!

Amateur night

Tuesday, the 13th will see local talent showcased.

Always popular this year, the event promises to be fun as well as informative...there is a pile of hidden talent among the residents in Matilda.

Whether you sing, play an instrument, dance or tell stories or jokes, this is your time in the spotlight. An opportunity to show what you can do.

Open to all ages, it is fun to see what talent your neighbour has been hiding all these years.

A couple of years ago, The Leader and The Chieftain faced off in a talent filled duo. Last year things did not come to fruition...who knows this time around? Come out and join the fun, whether you take part of provide an audience for those who do, you will have a pile of fun.

Anyone considering entering can give Nancy a call at 652-2096, so the committee can set up a program. If you are shy and wait until the last minute to decide to enter, just show up tuesday evening and enter then and there.



Amateur talent by Crystal Cooper

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Country and Western night

Heels will click and toes will tap as Country and Western Night comes to Matilda hall on Monday, January 12.

The action will get started at 7pm as Gwen Bosma will have everyone shufflin' and struttin'. Line Dancing is popular and easily learned. It provides a good outlet and will relieve stress. Gwen welcomes those who have tried it before as well as those who have not yet enjoyed the pleasure of trying.

Get into your denims and cowboy boots, grab a plaid shirt and your western hat and get involved in the Country and Western shindig this year for certain.

Also on hand will be the River View Cloggers from Johnstown, who will show how it is done. Some local folks have joined this group and are always a treat to watch...Great time to grab some pointers on how to accomplish western style dancing too.

Yahoo! be there or be square!!

The NOOK (Sears Agent)

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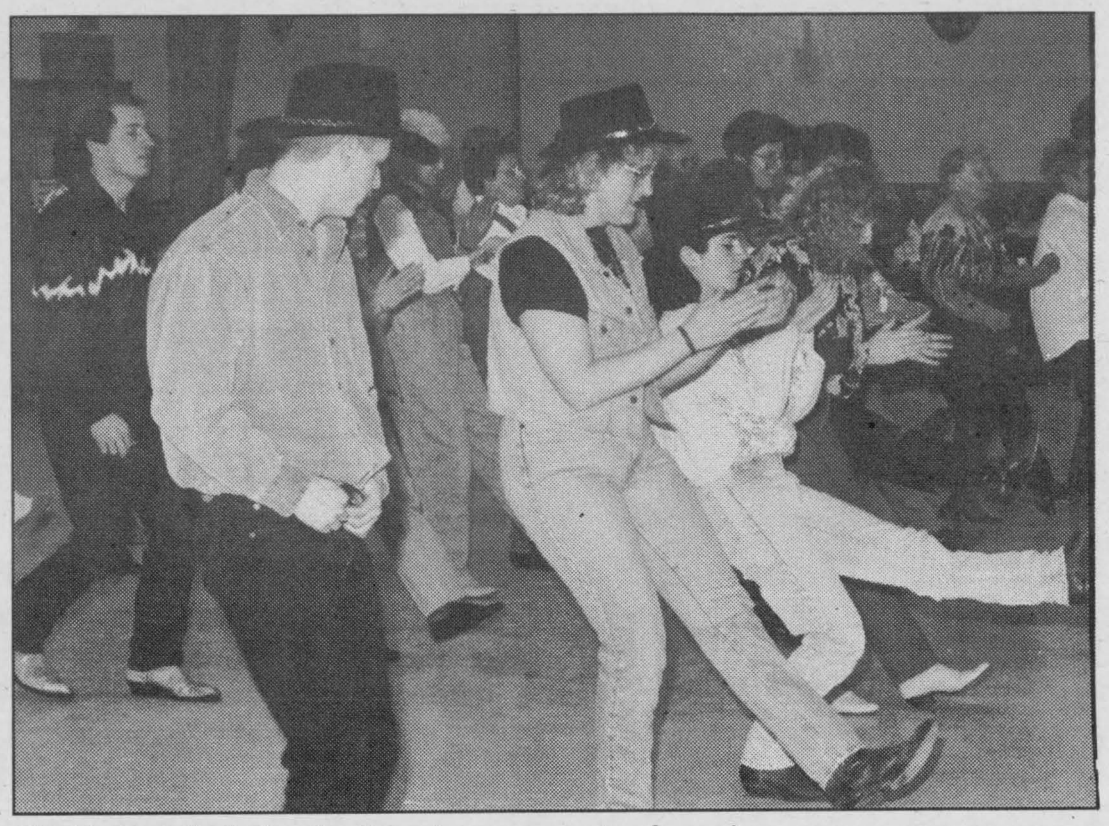
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Congratulations On Another Fun-Filled WINTER CARNIVAL



Kickin' up their heels, line dancers enjoy learning.

Carnival activities wind up

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Sunday, January 18 will see the 23rd Annual Matilda Winter Carnival wind up with..."Dashing Through the Snow"you get the idea, horse drawn sleigh rides will take the family through the Matilda countryside east of Brinston.

The horses will be anxious to head for the bush about 1:30 and in order to avoid congestion organizers ask those who want to take part, not to arrive prior to 1pm.

Three teams will offer a fairly steady service of rides to the bush where a blazing fire will warm participants and provide the chance to roast weinies and enjoy to the fullest the wonders of nature.

Ron Smail and family have generously offered their farm, a team and driver to enable recreation to offer this to folks as part of the Winter Carnival. Don Barkley and Roy Sherrer will also have their teams on duty to take loads of people to the bush.

Always a very popular event, the organizers expect a large crowd for this one and promise everyone will enjoy themselves.

Why not travel back in time to when things ran at a more leisurely pace? Take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy winter from a different angle. A sleigh ride is fun for the whole family. Dress warmly and come to have a great time.

Later this same evening, at 7pm, a Hymn Sing will set the stage for the Ecumenical service sponsored by the Helping Hands Senior Group in Matilda. Refreshments will conclude the evening's worship as well as the 23rd Matilda Winter Carnival. A fitting way to end a successful week of events, this service always has something for every age and every denomination. Join your neighbours and say thanks for what has happened over the course of the week in the best little community in Ontario!



Carnival Queen Angie Thompson and 1997 Citizen of the year Sandra Lee Johnston.



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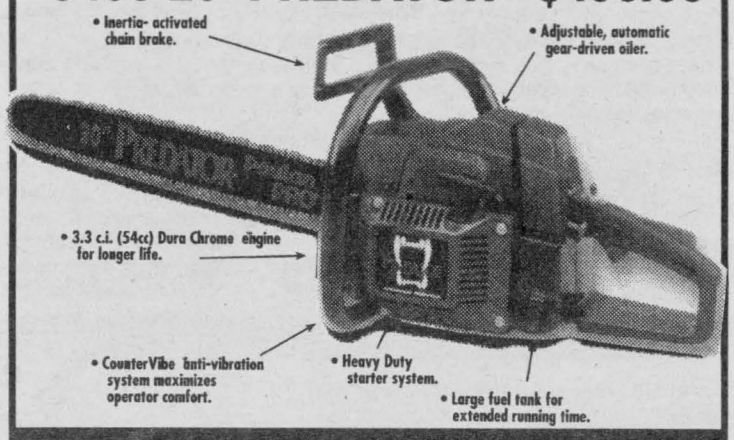
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Saturday, January 10

7:00 p.m.
- **Opening 23rd Matilda Winter Carnival 1998**
- **Winter Carnival Queen Pageant**
- **Judges: Estella Rose, Glen Brooks, Flora Dumouchel**
- **M.C: Gerry Morrell, Principal D.C.P.S**

Sunday, January 11

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- **Pancake Brunch (Donations appreciated)**

11 am & 12:50 pm Princess Karmi Magic & Illusion Show
Mackie Colouring Contest
Free Face Painting
Fish Pond

- Afternoon activities till 3 p.m. in Dundela
Re-dedication of McIntosh Park
- **Family Skating**
- **Toboggan Fun**
- **Woodsman Competition**

Monday, January 12

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

Tuesday, January 13

7:00 p.m.
- **Amateur Talent Night**
(NO KARAOKE THIS YEAR)

Call 652-2096 (Nancy) leave message to enter

Wednesday, January 14

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- **Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show and Social Time**
Bea Laming - Option L Fashions
Cheryl Nickerson - Nickerware Kids Fashions
- **W.I. will serve**

Thursday, January 15

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 16

6:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Pre-teen Dance (up to 13 yrs.)
Admission $2
9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. - Teen Dance (13-19 yrs.)
Admission $3
D.J. from Kingston Radio 'John Mulikow' &
Canteen available at both!

Saturday, January 17

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 - 5:00 - Matinee with Jim Wicks & Westburg Union
4:00 - 6:00 - Supper - $7/person; Under 6 yrs. FREE
Brinston United Church Ladies preparing meal
7:00 - 8:00 - Hall closed for cleaning and etc.
8:00 - 1:00 - Dancing to Jim Wicks & Westburg Union $5/person

Sunday, January 18

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- **Family Sleigh Ride**
(Ron Smail's Farm - east of Brinston - watch for signs)

**Please plan not to arrive before 1 p.m.
- 3 teams of horses/sleighs, Ron Smail, Don Barkley, Roy Sherrer
7:00 p.m. - Hymn Sing - Dixon's Corners Hall
7:30 p.m. - Ecumenical Church Service
(Sponsored by Matilda Helping Hands Senior Group)
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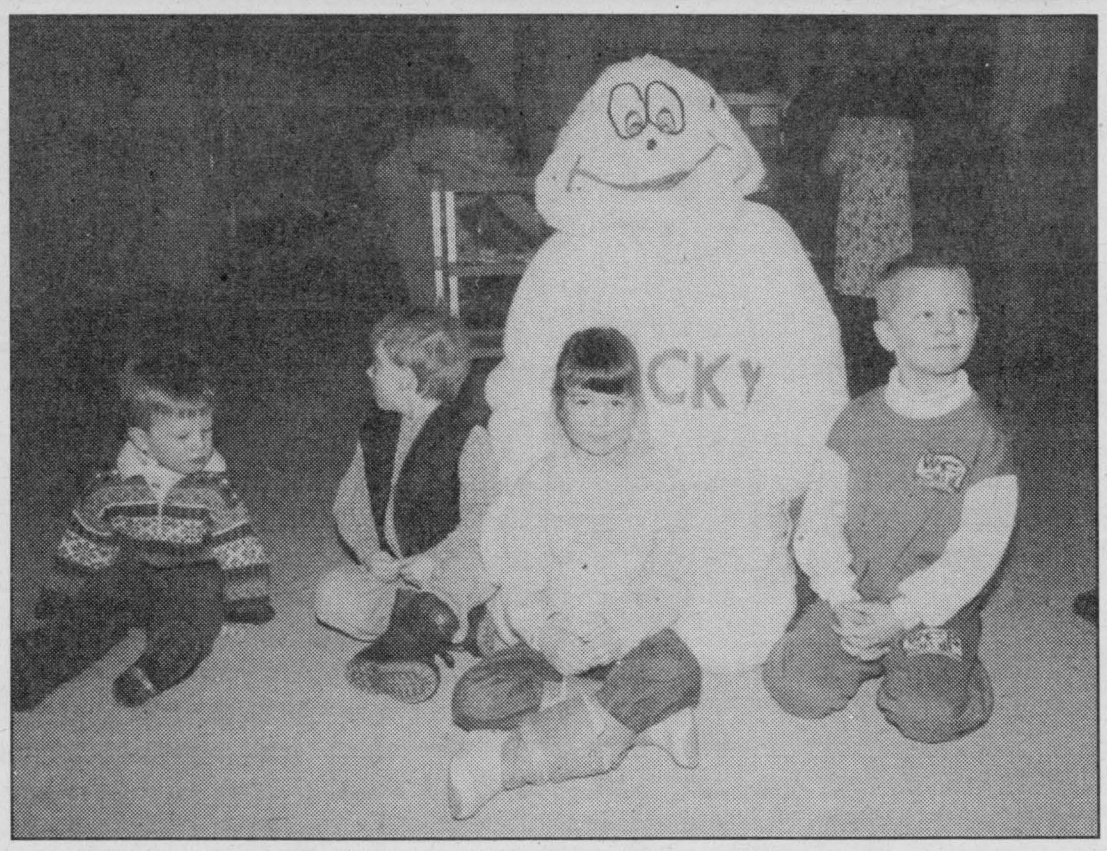
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Kelly, Cindy, Emily & Staff
hope to see everyone supporting the
1998 Matilda Winter Carnival!



Mackie and Friends '97 style

Car/Snowmobile rally

If the weatherman continues to co-operate, there should be snow for the Annual Doctor Tom Maxwell Memorial Snowmobile Rally and even if he does not, the Car Rally will be operational.

So rev those engines, get those brains in gear (to answer questions along the route) and get set.

Doctor Tom was a keen supporter of the annual rallies, offering his time and talent as an amateur radio operator. Co-ordinating the entire check-point network from his radio central headquarters at the Matilda Hall, he was a familiar face and voice at the event each year. It was fitting then, when he passed away that the rallies continue and bear his name.

The part played by the ham radio people in the rallies cannot be understated. They really make the whole thing safer. Ensuring that no one is lost and everyone gets safely back to the Hall before dark sets in, they man the checkpoints along the route and handle problems that may arise. Constant radio contact with oneanother as well as the Hall allows the organizers to avoid trouble.

Registration is from 11am until 1 pm at the Hall in Dixon's Corners at a cost of $3.00 per person taking part, whether in a land vehicle or on a snowmobile. Rallies are great fun and no matter your mode of transport, can be rewarding. families can take part and a day can be great fun for all...even when you find you are not quite sure where you are!!

Once you complete the route and return to the Hall, you need not worry about supper, the Brinston United Church ladies will have a hearty, hot meal waiting for you. The cost is $7.00 per person with youngsters 5 and under eating FREE.

Jim Wicks and Westburg Union will entertain during the afternoon, from 3 til 5 pm, for those who complete the course earlier than most.

Supper will be served from 4 until 6pm. The Hall will be closed briefly from 7 to 8 so that the meal can be cleared away and things straightened up and then will open for the dance from 8pm to 1am. Jim Wicks and Westburg Union will again provide the tunes to trip the light fantastic to. The dance will cost $5.00 each for those who chose to stick around and enjoy some of the best local talent we have.

Each item is separate, as far as cost is concerned, so you can come out to be a part of any or all of the events on Saturday.

This is always the first rally of the year and provides the opportunity to try those sleds out while enjoying the scenery and fun a rally allows. If you chose to take the family in the car or truck, the fun never stops as you attempt to locate items, answer questions and keep a sharp eye for turns and gather clues along the way. A fun adventure for everyone, this is a grand way to spend a Saturday with someone special.

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Family Fun Sleigh Rides

After Tea/Fashion Shows

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The idea of including a fashion show as part of the Winter Carnival came to light three years ago and the Committee this year feels it is a wonderful way to show folks what is available right here as well as a nice way to entertain those who come out to the social tea on Wednesday afternoon (1:30-3:30pm).

A large crowd is anticipated as Bea Laming of Option-L ladies Fashions will show what is available this spring while Cheryl Nickerson will have some younger models showing what she can offer to moms and dads for the younger set. She will demonstrate Nickerware Kids Fashions.

The Women's Institute ladies will help serve the tea and treats as those who come out will enjoy a social afternoon and pick up some pointers on fashion.

A pleasant way to spend an afternoon for sure on a winter day in Matilda. There is no charge, but again a free-will offering will be appreciated.

Bingo excitement

Thursday night is when the action will be at Matilda hall as the Bingo machine is wound.

"If you hold a Bingo...they will come" and they will, armed with dabbers and good luck pieces. The doors open at 5:30 with the first number called at 7pm.

The canteen will be available for the thirsties and provide munchies as well.

Featuring a Jackpot of $1000. this is one not to be missed. The Iroquois-Matilda Lions Club will work the floor and call the numbers.

Pre-Teen and Teen Dances at Matilda

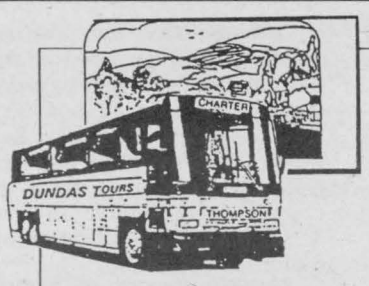
The younger folks will take to the dance floor on Friday night as John Mulikow, a radio DJ from Kingston will spin the CDs and keep the action heated up.

Things start surfin' at 6 and continues until 8:30 for the Pre-Teen gang. Those up to 13 years of age can come out, chaperons provided and enjoy kicking up their heels or try crowd surfing.

Admission is only $2.00 per person and promises to be great.

After a brief break, at 9pm the Teens (13-19) can come out and listen to the music and dance to their favourite tunes. The cost is only $3.00 and a canteen will be available at both dances with alcohol-free refreshments available as well as munchies.

Grab a gang of friends and come out for some fun on the dance floor, Friday evening, January 16.



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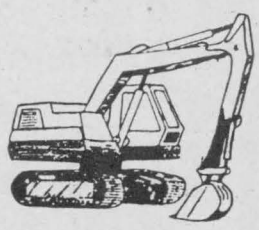
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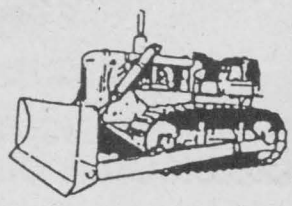
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Carnival

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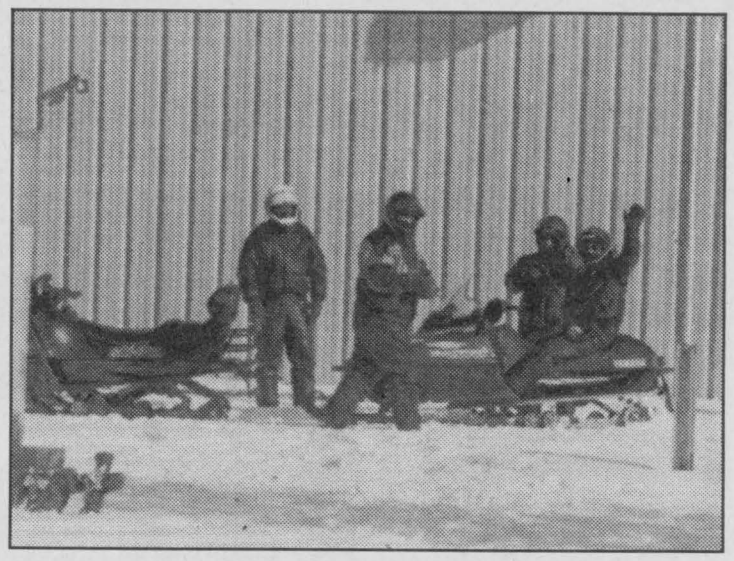
Princess Karma will use a Children's Fantasy Castle for her shows...well worth seeing.

The hall will be a hub of activity as the Mackie (that snowman type who is the mascot of the Carnival) colouring contest will be on-going as youngsters can take crayons in hand and let their imagination and talent go wild. There will be FREE face painting as well, so cheeks can be decorated with snowflakes and snowmen or whatever your fancy might be. For a mere 50 cents, you can try your hand at the fish pond...every line is guaranteed a catch! Rumour has it that "Mackie" and his woodland friends may well be in attendance at the hall as well!!

In the afternoon, the action switches to Dundela, where the first item on the agenda is to rededicate McIntosh Park. Once this has been accomplished, the family can don their skates and show their prowess on the ice, weather permitting. There will be toboggan rides and sliding as well and the "Woodsman Competition" that will draw the brawn and brave at heart. Skills that were once a way of life will be tested under winter conditions...sawing a log with cross-cut saws, chain saws and pounding nails sure and true will see who has the method down pat. Come out and join the fun, or watch those who will take part. Dress warmly and come prepared for laughter and excitement in the great Matilda outdoors.

The Committee wants everyone to appreciate the effort that has gone into the revitalization of the Park, and the refurbishing of the area.

A Mackie Look-A-Like contest is in progress with cash prizes of $25.00, $10.00 and $5.00 going to the snowman builders who make their creation resemble the Matilda Township mascot, that friendly apple fellow. Dress your snowman to look like Mackie and call Brenda at 652-2908 to have your creation judged.



Snowmobilers ready for Rally

No Citizen of the Year Award this time around for Matilda Winter Carnival

While the community has any number of deserving folk...there are many in our midst who should be honoured as Citizen of the Year award winners, there will be no one this year.

Always a highlight of the Pageant night, the awarding of this was an event not to be missed. Unfortunately, it will not happen this year.

Those who have been awarded this honour in the past are some pretty special people. Their contributions to life in Matilda are many and without them, this would not be the place it is.

It all began way back in 1982 when the Council of the municipality at the time decided to bestow such an honour on a person chosen each year for those things that they do, asking no recognition, no reward for, but because it needs to be done and they are able to accomplish the task.

The person chosen each year should be someone who could represent Matilda in a manner which typifies the population, the feeling that is "Matilda".

Over the years there have been occasions when the honour was put on hold and no recipient was awarded the honour, namely 1991, 92, 96 and this year again, 1998. Hopefully things will work out and an honouree will be found for 1999.

Honoured by this award have been, Ruth Coons (1982), Joan Zandbergen (1983), Gerald Munroe (1984), Helen Gilmer (1985), Allan Tysick (1986), Grace Strader (1987), Gwen Shaver (1988), Lorne Strader (1989), Frank Sisty (1990), Robert Thompson (1993), Jerry Bureau (1994), Ken Kirkby (1995), and Sandra Lee Johnston (1997).

Nominations have in the past been received from residents who feel they know someone who deserves the recognition. Whatever they have done to deserve the award, it is usually items accumulated over the years. There is never any question of these folks doing one more job, they will find the time desired somewhere. They are all busy and yet make time for one more task. They ask nothing in return and are ever ready to lend a hand.

An honour to be recognized by their peers, their fellow community residents; those who have been awarded this accepted it in the vein it has been given.

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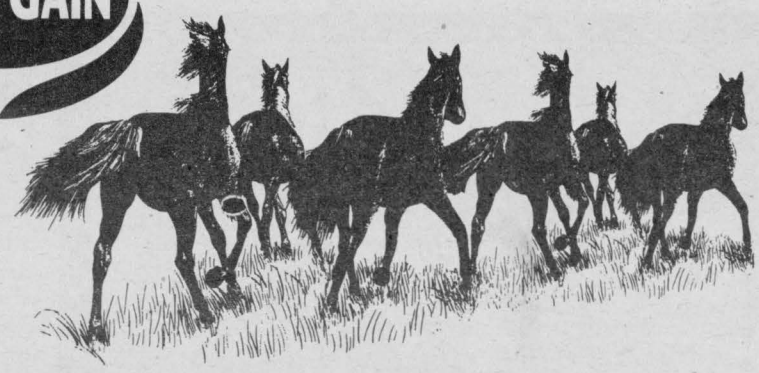
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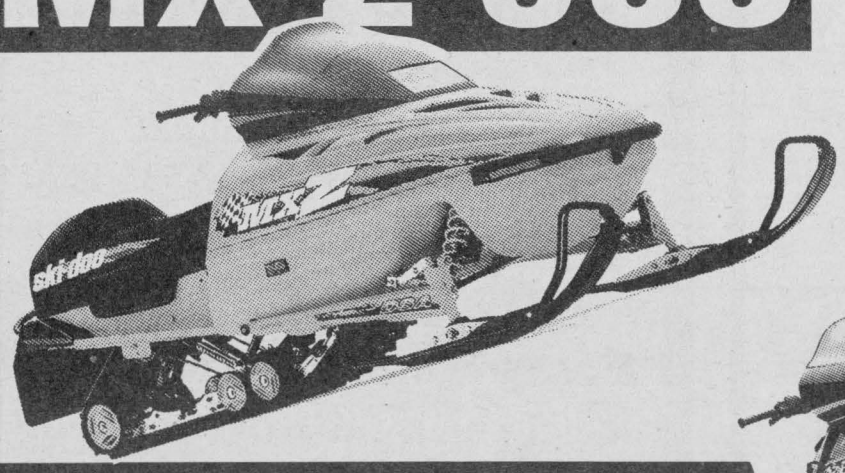
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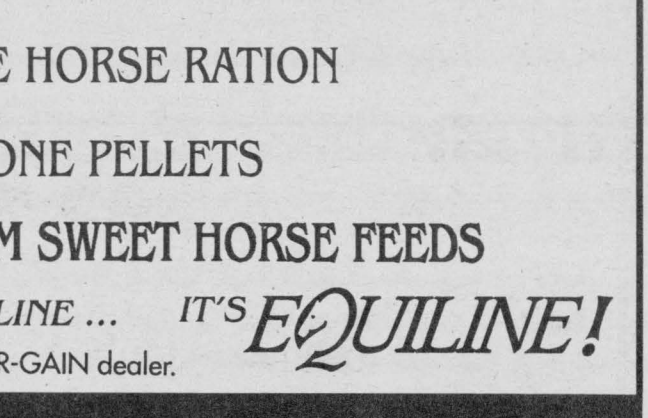
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