

**Emergency Services
Centre - 3333**

University

First skirmish in annual snow battle

Survival chief concern of groundsmen

It was calm and peaceful Tuesday morning with the campus sporting its first snow coat of the season.

But for the men who manned the snow plows through Monday night, it was a matter of survival rather than aesthetics as they fought high winds and blinding snow in an attempt to clear the roads and walkways.

Many of them worked double or triple shifts to open the eight miles of road and 13 miles of walkways on the campus, with visibility at times near zero.

Ray Mathews, driving the garbage packer outfitted with a plow, said Tuesday: "You couldn't see your hand in front of you for a couple of hours". He hadn't been home for more than two hours since Monday morning.

In one incident, Jim Metherall, driving a small four-wheel-drive Bobcat loader, went over a four-foot drop near Stong College because he didn't know it was there and couldn't see it. He was unhurt but the machine landed on its side.

In all, things went smoothly as the grounds crew began their annual competition with winter — despite the fact eight of them had to take time to paint lines on the ice surface of the hockey arena in preparation for Tuesday's game with the University of Toronto.

Staff, equipment boost

There are 26 men on the grounds crew, working with two large plows, two loaders and four tractors. More equipment is on order and the staff has increased since last year when the high snowfall taxed resources to the limit.

In summer they are responsible for cutting the grass and looking after ornamental trees and shrubs along with the bus service linking the York and Glendon campuses and transportation of material between various buildings on the York campus.

In winter, their chief responsibility is snow removal.

Grounds Supervisor C.G. Dobbin said Tuesday: "Although we have the parking lots contracted (to an outside firm) we figure that in a storm such as the one last night we will move one quarter of a million cubic yards of snow."

"And while one of our plows is the garbage truck that weighs 30 tons when loaded and can move snow with no problem, if it hits anything there could be a problem."

Curb parking prohibited

The things they are most likely to

hit are cars either stalled or parked on roads or by curbs in parking lots.

"Curb parking in lots is not allowed this year," Dobbin said, "because we rely on curb areas to get rid of the snow — otherwise we have to push it for hundreds of yards. Snow doesn't go away just because you plow it and when cars are parked at the curb there is no place to put it." (Ed. Note: See Odds and Sodds below on location of snow route signs).

He added he felt the men were under "tremendous responsibility" when plowing, since a 30-ton truck moving in a storm with little visibility could demolish a car easily.

"We've broken off fire hydrants on occasion when they've been covered up with snow — it's no fun and not good for the equipment either."

Malfunctions in the hydraulic systems of the plows are easy to cause, he said and there is usually one breakdown of some kind with each major snowfall. One broke down Monday night.

**Salt pollution
averted**

After the roads are cleared, Dobbin said a mixture of sand and salt is put down, with 10 parts sand to one part salt.

"(That) mixture is far superior to straight salt because it provides traction on top of the packed snow. To get down to bare pavement we would have had to use maybe 20 tons of salt.

"Metro comes up with bare roads, but North York alone uses 25,000 tons of salt in one winter. That doesn't do any good to plant specimens near the roads and all the runoff goes eventually to the Lake."

Criticisms are inevitably levelled at the crew for failing to clear a particular path or intersection, especially if the morning is sunny and bright. But as Dobbin said: "They weren't there at 2:30 in the morning; they don't know what these fellows go through."

"We had a grader operator here once working one night near the arena. He could do anything with a grader but he came back really frightened. He said it was like 'going into nowhere'. He couldn't see where he was going but knew the road had to be open by morning."

He said that if it has to snow, he would prefer it to be on a Sunday afternoon — at least then there are few people and cars around and if it stops in the early evening, there's enough time to do a thorough job.



Ray Mathews, one of the groundsmen who worked all night Monday trying to keep York's roads open, is shown above widening the road

behind Atkinson College. Final clearance of the effects of the storm wasn't accomplished until late Tuesday.

Odds & Sodds

Jest Society

Calumet College is sponsoring performances by The Jest Society (an improvisational, satirical revue) on Thursday, December 9 and Friday, December 10 at 8:30 p.m. in Room I, Curtis Lecture Halls. General admission in advance for students, staff and faculty is \$1.50 (tickets are available from Calumet College, Room 116, Atkinson College); admission at the door is \$2.50 (\$2.00 for members of staff, students and faculty). For further information call 635-3409.

Osterle Sculpture

The Stong College Art Gallery is presenting an exhibition of sculpture by Leonard Osterle which will be held until Sunday, December 12. The Gallery hours are 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Pool hours note

Due to Swim Meets being held in the Tait McKenzie Pool, Recreational Swimming will be restricted to the following hours:

Wednesday, December 1	9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Friday, December 3	12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 4	closed
Sunday, December 5	closed

Snow routes designated

To facilitate snow removal during the winter months, the Department of Safety and Security advises that curb parking will not be permitted in peripheral lots during or immediately following all heavy falls of snow. In these conditions parking will also be restricted to one side of the road adjacent to the Temporary Office Building and in certain other Service and Receiving areas which will be clearly marked with appropriate "Snow Route" signs.

The co-operation of all members of the community is requested in order to ensure that roads, service and receiving areas, and parking lots are cleared as expeditiously as possible.

Exhibit of da Vinci drawings

The Winters College Art Gallery will present an exhibition of models built from Leonardo da Vinci's scientific and technical drawings. The collection, on loan from IBM Canada Ltd. includes such models as a triple-tiered machine gun, designs of two-level highways for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, a device for determining the tensile strength of wire and a prototype of the modern-day parachute. The Gallery hours are 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The exhibition will be on display through Friday, December 17th.

Rhodes scholarship, others awarded to York students

Alan Morinis, a fourth year anthropology student at York, has won the second Rhodes Scholarship awarded to a York student to study at Oxford University in England.

An A-plus student last year, Morinis is a graduate of Bathurst Heights Collegiate Institute in North York. He said this week he plans to use the two-year award to pursue studies of East Africa and Asia at the Institute of Social Anthropology at Oxford.

year of an MBA program.

Michael J. White, a graduate of the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Commerce degree, received the Seagram Business Fellowship Award to pursue his studies at York in Business Administration.

The Rhodes Scholarships, among the most prestigious awarded to Canadian students, were established by Cecil Rhodes, British explorer and founder of Rhodesia for use by promising students throughout the Commonwealth.

The other Toronto resident to receive this award was Geza Tetrallyay, son of a Toronto lawyer who took a year off to be a guide at the Ontario Pavilion at Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan.

He graduated with the first Bachelor of Arts degree in human ecology awarded by Harvard University in Boston.

While at York, Morinis was active as a counsellor with the Student Clinic and played goal for a North York hockey team.

Other awards announced this week went to two first year students enrolled in York's Masters of Business Administration program. They received the awards at a special presentation and luncheon Tuesday.

Fernando DeLutis, an economics graduate from the University, was the recipient of a new award presented by Proctor and Gamble Company to a student in his first

Quote of the week

I think you are the damndest — I was going to say the damndest fool I have ever known, but I can't say that because I have known two or three others who completed their record by dying in their foolishness, while your record is still incomplete and there is a faint chance that you may yet make a turn and end under suspicion of, having had some sense.

— Sir W. Van Horne, letter to W.F. Luxton, founder of the Man. Free Press, 1895, q.v., Vaughan, Van Horne, 1920, 245



This Volkswagen was one of several cars that didn't make it off campus Monday night. Many motorists left their cars in parking lots, not wanting to try the snow-packed streets and traffic jams.