

Jessie Wong

Held back from Under 22 Tourney

by Jim Morrow

Baddeck's Jessie Wong, recently named Cape Breton's top athlete of the year, had to decline the opportunity to play for Team Canada's Under 22 women's hockey team at the 2012 Meco Cup in Fussen Germany, January 3rd to 8th, 2012.

Jessie, who plays defence for the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs and was instrumental in the team's winning the final game of the NCAA Division 1 Frozen Four women's hockey championship last year was advised by Minnesota-Duluth women's coach Shannon Miller, she and three of her teammates (one from Germany, one from Finland and one from Sweden) would not be competing in the Meco Cup.

The UMD Bulldogs are hosting the Frozen Four NCAA championship this year in Duluth and Coach Miller wants a strong healthy squad to defend their perfect record of winning the Frozen Four every time the school has hosted the event. And, even though UMD is hosting the Frozen Four, they have to win their into the tournament. They presently sit in second place after the University of Wisconsin.

Jessie's Father, Alex Wong said that at the 11th hour Jessie had to phone Team Canada and decline their invitation to compete at the international competition in Germany.

Alex also admitted Jessie has a slight tear in her hip labrum. The labrum forms a ring around the edge
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Starting the New Year with a splash



Over 30 revellers enjoyed the balmy New Year's Day temperatures and braved the -2°C waters of Baddeck Harbour for the 2012 edition of the Bras d'Or Yacht Club's annual Polar Bear Swim. The refreshing dip was rewarded by the mild air which was a reversal, the cogniscenti claim, from the usual warm water and cold air. Right. Happy New Year!

Wagmatcook looking to future

2011 accomplishments will yield dividends in 2012

by Jim Morrow

Chief Norman Bernard of Wagmatcook First Nation is justifiably proud of what his community accomplished in 2011 and is very excited about what they will be doing in 2012.

"2011 was very good year, very positive, with a number of initiatives which are continuing on into 2012," he said.

He pointed out the success of the Elder Council which sits with and advises the elected Band Council. The experience and knowledge of the Elders has been very instrumental in determining the needs and wishes of the community.

The Band Council has also recog-

nized a Youth Council from Wagmatcookewey school which will begin meeting with the Band Council this year.

The tenders for the construction of a new \$9 million Kindergarten to Grade 12 school close this month and Chief Bernard is confident the new school will be ready for the next academic year. The existing school cannot accommodate the present student population.

He also was instrumental in developing a partnership with the Nova Scotia Community College. This year there are two trades training courses being taught at the Cultural Centre. This term 16 students are enrolled. Negotiations are now going on to develop the NSCC partner-

ship further by converting the existing Wagmatcookewey school, once it is vacated, into a NSCC campus.

Band Manager, Brian Arbuthnot points out that the community is growing and there is a need for trades people locally.

The last phase of the \$6 million Wagmatcook septic plant was completed in 2011 and all residences are presently connected.

Operations manager for Wagmatcook's commercial fishery, Preston Bernard, explained that the Band holds licences for groundfish, lobster and snow crab, it employs 30 to 40 fishers per year
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Ski Cape Smokey Society

Waiting on Mother Nature for snow

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For the past two years, Ski Cape Smokey Society members have been noticing deterioration of the main lodge's roof surface.

During the fall of 2010, due to a number of high wind events, the roof situation became critical with numerous leaks observed within the building.

Ski Cape Smokey Society approached the Province which owns the building, requesting funding in order to complete the necessary repairs.

"We were very fortunate to have great cooperation from Department of Economic Development representative Ross Kennedy; Economic Development

Minister, Percy Paris; and Victoria-The Lakes MLA, Keith Bain," said Society Chair, Larry Dauphinee.

"After justifying the need for the Lodge in our community and the success of last years operation, which provided greatly needed recreation and social activities, it was determined that the funds would be well spent."

Ski Cape Smokey Society considered this issue as critical and without the required repairs the Society would not have considered opening this year.

The repairs are now in the process of being completed. The roof is finished, five windows are being replaced and
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By-Law effective February 1st, 2012

Civic addresses will be required

by Jim Morrow

The Municipality of the County of Victoria has adopted a by-law respecting civic addressing.

The object of the by-law is to ensure that all lots in the County with buildings on them are properly posted with a civic address.

The civic address must correspond to the number that is recorded in the E911 civic address database for the lot and building.

Among other things the by-law is to ensure that civic numbers are posted in a location which is plainly visible on the street or roadway from both directions; are in Arabic numerals; that the numer-

als consist of reflective white material that clearly contrasts with the blue background upon which the numbers are displayed; and that the height of the numerals is not less than 9 centimeters.

Violations of this by-law is an offence punishable on summary conviction by a fine of not less than \$20 and not more than \$500.

Residents who may be in need of a civic address number sign should contact their Municipal Councillor or the Civic Addressing Coordinator.

The Civic Addressing By-Law will come into effect February 1st, 2012 and may be read at the CAO's office at the Court House in Baddeck.