

Olympic Officials Say There Will Be Plenty Of Housing

LAKE PLACID—Housing officials for the Lake Placid Olympic Organizing Committee state that accommodations for over 100,000 spectators will be available, within a two-and-one-half hour commute, during the 1980 Olympic Winter Games.

The announcement came after the LPOOC's Guest Services Committee conducted a survey of the areas surrounding Lake Placid—including the Albany area; Watertown; Burlington, Vt.; and Montreal. The announcement also puts to rest fears that housing for the Games would be inadequate.

"The number of people who will be able to find housing each day is actually about 100,000," said Mark Adler, the LPOOC's Director of Official Housing. "In some cases this will mean about a two-and-a-half hour drive, which we don't think is unreasonable."

Week's Unemployment Up

ALBANY—Industrial Commissioner Philip Ross, head of the State Department of Labor, reports that there were 363,991 persons claiming unemployment benefits under three separate programs in New York State in the week ending July 14, as compared with the 346,430 the previous week. This increase reflected local government education filings.

Claims filed under all programs in the current week (July 14, 1978) were 104,115 below the comparable week one year ago.

Millard Smith, the director of Guest Services, echoed Adler's thoughts: "It wasn't unusual in Innsbruck and Sapporo (the sites of the previous two Winter Games) for spectators to travel long distances to get to the events. And we've been saying all along that people will have to commute in and out of Lake Placid."

The decision to house spectators away from Lake Placid is in keeping with the LPOOC's commitment to hold an Olympic Games which are primarily for the athletes. Only one hotel is being built in Lake Placid, and it is replacing one that was torn down.

"The Olympics were becoming a spending event," LPOOC President Ron MacKenzie said. "It was just getting too expensive to hold an Olympic games in a big city. Our feeling was it should revert to what it once was—a contest among athletes—and we felt a small village like ours could provide a better setting than any city."

The four counties surrounding Lake Placid—the Olympic Region—have about 12,000 beds available. Otherwise, the area with the greatest potential for housing spectators are Albany (almost 10,000 beds), Burlington-Rutland (10,000-plus), Saratoga and Watertown (about 3,000 each), and Montreal (about 60,000).

Smith noted that there will be parking lots at various points on the roads into Lake Placid, and that 400 buses would transport spectators into the village. The LPOOC has been limited by the

Economic Development Agency to selling 47,000 tickets, plus 10 percent, per day, based on a determination of impact on transportation, utilities, and air and water quality, among other criteria.

The Olympic Accommodations Control Corporation has determined that 6,000 beds within the nine townships surrounding Lake Placid will be utilized by the Olympic Family. The Control Corporation is an entity separate from the LPOOC, formed by the New York State Legislature. It is chaired by Roger Tubby.

The corporation has developed a plan for rates for the 6,000 rooms it controls. According to Tubby, the maximum daily rent for rooms in commercial lodging

facilities during the Olympic period in the Olympic region shall be the daily rate for double occupancy actually charged from the period beginning on the first day of July, 1978, and ending on the first day of September, 1978, plus 20 percent plus \$15. Rooms located in the nine townships surrounding Lake Placid shall add \$5 to that total.

"High prices during that period might be obtainable by some lodging facilities," Tubby said, "if we did not reach what seems to be a reasonable compromise. Those with accommodations in or close to Lake Placid should pay something more for easy access to the Games than those further away who will have to spend time and money to get to the event."

Traffic On Thruway Like 403 Trips To Sun

ALBANY—Vehicles have traveled a mind-boggling 75 billion miles on the 558-mile New York State Thruway since the initial toll segment was opened to traffic on June 24, 1954.

The 75 billionth mile was recorded about noon last Wednesday, but statisticians were not able to pinpoint the location where the mile was chalked up on the vehicle.

According to Thruway Authority Chairman Gerald Cummins, the overall distance may be compared to approximately 403 round trips between the earth and the sun, or about 173,275 round trips between the earth and the moon, or 3 million trips around the earth at the

equator. In addition to the 75 billion mile mark, Thruway statistics also show that patrons have made approximately 2,593,570,831 individual trips on the superhighway, and the restaurants have served about 417,048,110 travelers.

Although it was not possible to determine who drove the 75 billionth mile, it is known that the first toll trip on the Thruway was driven by Omero C. Catan of New Jersey, a man who made a hobby of being "Mr. First" on toll facilities. The first toll segment of the Thruway, a 115-mile stretch, was opened between Rochester and Lowell, a community near Utica.



INTO THE CREEK—This car, driven by Dorothy Golden, 42, Parishville, ended up in the Parker Creek last Friday afternoon when she apparently drove through a "u" intersection at the Ashton Road 72, the Parishville Road. The car broke through a steel barrier and came to rest in the creek. She complained of head injuries after the accident. Deputies said that no tickets were issued in the incident. (Hal Stokes photo).

In The Service

OUTSTANDING TRAINEE

Pvt. Brenda L. Devine, whose husband, Patrick, lives at 1309 Baldwin, Lawton, Okla., recently was chosen an outstanding trainee at the end of her basic training cycle at Fort McClellan, Ala.

She was named by her instructors for her ability and initiative in classroom and field instruction throughout the training.

Devine attended the State University of New York in Cortland. Her mother, Mrs. Loretta Babich, lives at 5 Cherry St., Potsdam.

WILSON IN TRAINING

Cadet Kevin J. Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy O. Wilson of 15 Willow St., Potsdam, is participating in a U.S. Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps field training encampment at Tyndall AFB Fla.

During the encampment, cadets receive survival and small arms

training and aircraft and aircrew indoctrination.

Cadet Wilson, a student at Norwich University, Northfield, Vt., is a 1976 graduate of Potsdam Central High School.

PELKEY RECEIVES AWARD

Senior Master Sergeant Vernon A. Pelkey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick C. Pelkey of Raymondville, is now wearing a distinctive service ribbon as a member of an organization which recently received the U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Sgt. Pelkey is a ground radio communications superintendent at Aviano AB, Italy with the 40th Tactical group that earned the award for meritorious service.

The sergeant is a 1963 graduate of Norwood-Norfolk Central High School, Norwood, N.Y. His wife, Ann, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Raymo, of Rt. 1, Norfolk, N.Y.

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