

Businessmen boost Bennett Family Park

By JOHN SHERMAN

Though he is not a resident of the Minnetonka community Doug Lees is doing his share to make Bennett Family Park a reality for the west suburban community.

Lees, owner of Mr. Steak near the 7-Hj Shopping Center has teamed with Don Streeter of Streeter Andrus to co-chair a supplementary fund-raising project on behalf of Tonka Rec. Lees, Streeter and company will solicit contributions from other area businessmen in the coming weeks, as Bennett fund-raising activities intensify.

"We (the businessmen) derive our living from the community," Lees explains. "You can only take for so long before you must put something back into the community. The Bennett Family Park needs the support of area businessmen."

MOST OF THE businesses approached by this Businessmen for Bennett core group have been responsive and enthusiastic, according to Lees.

He indicates businesses should not shy away for fear their contribution might be too small. Lees says, "We are not necessar-

Burnsville Relays track results

Shot Put — Doug Deits, White Bear Lake, 52-10/4.
Class AA 2-mile relay — Rochester Mayo, 8:22.4.
Class A 2-mile relay — Cretn, 8:13.5.
Class B 2-mile relay — Slayton, 8:32.6.
High jump — Greg Jerve, Glencoe, 6.3.
Discus — Ric Lager, St. Peter, 157.4.
Long jump — Bruce Tron, Rosemount, 201.1/4.
Class AA sprint medley relay — St. Cloud Apollo, 3:43.6.
Class A sprint medley relay — (tie) Simley and Owatonna, 3:47.5.
Class B sprint medley relay — St. John's Prep, 3:44.8.
Mile — Ian Keith, Rochester Mayo, 4:19.9.
Pole vault — Dave Brandt, Eden Prairie, 13.0.
Steeplechase — Pat Miles, Cretn, 5:00.7.
100-yard dash — Bob Ryan, Rosemount, 1:01.1.
Masters mile — Hans Schink, Crystal, 5:11.1.
200-yard high hurdles — John Goedecke, Kellogg.
Mile — Tom Pringer, Burnsville, 9:45.7.
Pole vault — Steve Makie, Eden Prairie, 9:41.7.
Intermediate hurdles — Todd Krueger,

ily seeking large contributions. Some businesses will naturally be able to give more than others."

Lees is very impressed with the quality of leadership in the Bennett Family Park project. He has high praise for men like Bill Hartfiel, Bob Urban and Stu Leisz. "They put a lot of thought into this," he says. "It is not just a spontaneous let's do it campaign."

Will Bennett Park be a success? "Most definitely," Lees replies. "It cannot fail because these people are so enthusiastic."

LEES LIKES the family park concept — something for everyone. "This park is going to be so much more than a baseball and slow-pitch park," he emphasizes. "It goes way beyond that."

A Bloomington resident, Lees sees Bennett Family Park as an innovative development. He likes the coziness, the setting, the natural beauty.

IF LEES, Don Streeter, Dick DesLauriers, Howie Gans or any other businessman for Bennett should pay you a visit, note his enthusiasm. No one who is exposed to the Bennett concept can avoid thoughtful consideration. An investment in this park is an investment in the future of your community.

Blake girls routed 17-2

The Blake Schools girls' softball team failed to get untracked in a 17-2 loss to Brooklyn Center last Thursday afternoon. In other Tri-Metro Conference games Mahomed thumped Minnetonka 27-8, Golden Valley blanked Centennial 17-0 and St. Francis trimmed St. Anthony 16-9.

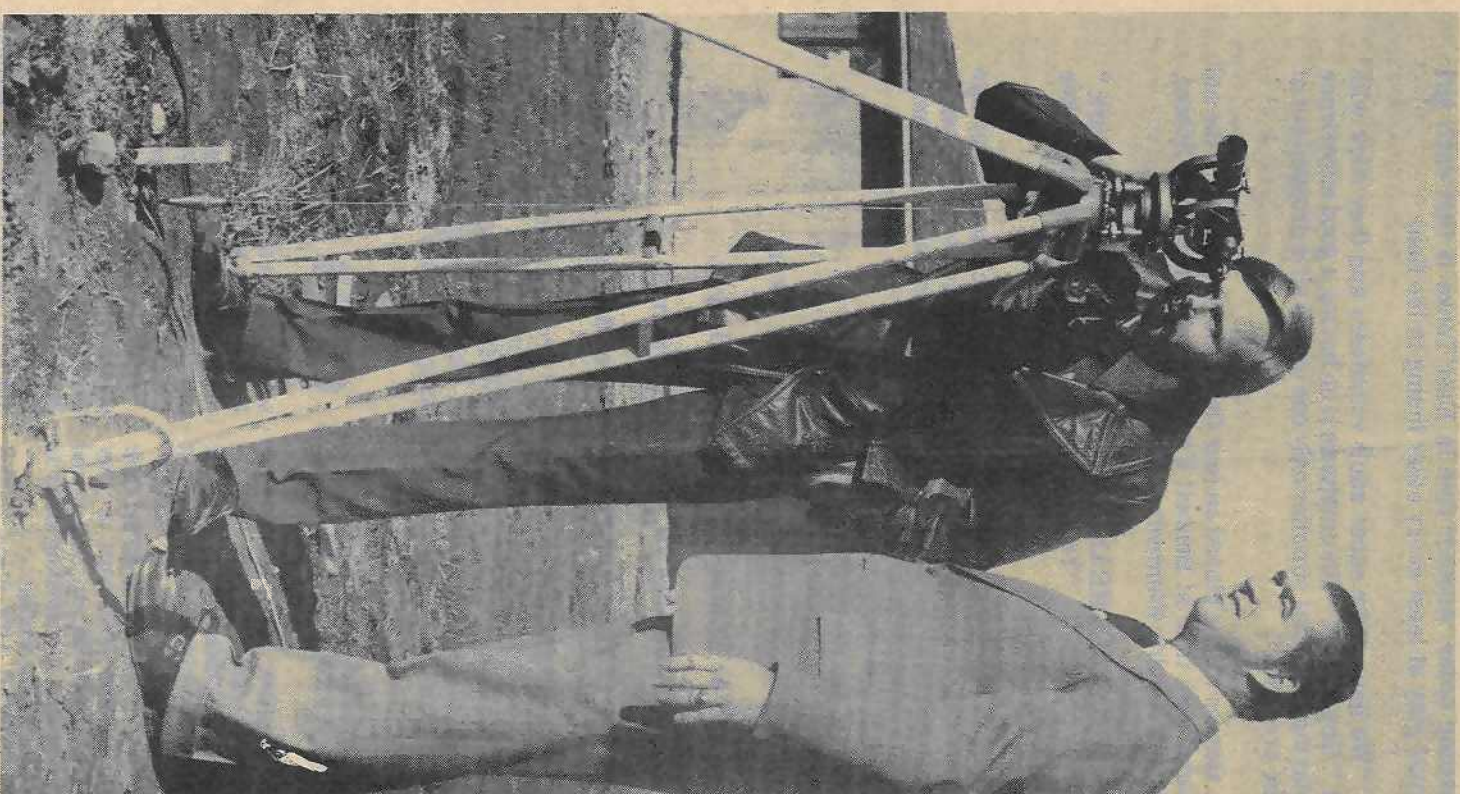
Kicking off Tonka Rec' big May 8-9 fund-raising weekend will be a banquet at Minnetonka High School Friday, May 7.

Halsey Hall, longtime voice of the Minnesota Twins, will deliver the keynote address to a crowd of 400, made up primarily of fund-raising volunteers. "We hope to make it a

Bennett kick-off dinner slated light, fun-filled evening for all," says Bill Hartfiel. "Saturday, May 8, will be the day everyone really galvanizes."

The fund-raising drive will be a door-to-door effort in the greater Minnetonka area. Businesses and

Inc., have stepped forward with contributions that go beyond cash outlays. Hartfiel indicates it is this type of involvement that will make the dream of a privately-funded community park a reality.



(SUN photo by John Sherman)

BENNETT PARK SURVEY . . . with the new concessions stand in the background Doug Lees viewed the back acreage. East Tonka Little League President Bob Urban (right) lent an experienced hand. May 7-8 volunteers will go door-to-door throughout Minnetonka, seek-



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