

Snuffer's performance Convinces firefighters

The Sperling Fire Department is sold on the idea of using equipment called a snuffer as a faster way of putting out most fires.

The Department was given a snuffer to try out and now they don't want to be without it, said Fire Chief Bob Wroblewsky. In fact they are so serious about purchasing this equipment they are working on raising the approximate \$16,000 it will take to buy the snuffer and have it installed on the fire truck.

The snuffer is manufactured by The Snuffer Corporation which is based in Starbuck, Manitoba. Scott Rigney, Director of Manufacturing, said the machine basically uses air solution. The air makes water work better. It cools the burning substance and creates an oxygen barrier.

He said when using water on a house fire, for example, 85 to 95 per cent of the water runs off and goes into the basement. With the snuffer 85 to 95 per cent works for you.

Chief Wroblewsky said, "I think of we'd had the snuffer we wouldn't have sat there for 12

hours," referring to a bridge fire they were at last year.

To generate funds the Fire Department will be raffling off a 1999 Polaris snowmobile.

The Sperling Fire Department has not had many calls this year but they have had some major fires in the past. The UGG elevator on September 7, 1995 and the Sperling Grocery Store, November 5, 1995. Last year they were called to fight a bridge fire which was on the border of Morris and Macdonald municipalities. Damage estimate was \$150,000.

Sperling is a small community where many of the residents work in other locations. To combat the lack of personnel during the day the Fire Department has recruited some men who don't live in Sperling but work there. In this way the community has firefighters available at all times.