

GREENFIELD



STAFF PHOTO/MAX MARCUS

Ice hockey players at the Winter Carnival on Sunday played in sneakers because the ice wasn't hard enough.

Winter Carnival works around warmth

Some activities not possible without snow

By MAX MARCUS
Staff Writer

GREENFIELD — Some of the more wintry aspects of this year's Winter Carnival had to be tamped down due to unseasonably warm weather this weekend.

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Most of Beacon Field on Sunday was without snow, making some of the Winter Carnival's classic activities impossible. No one was building snowmen, no one was sledding, the snow sculpture contest had been called off completely.

At about 1 p.m., Greenfield Recreation Director Christy Moore was weighing whether to cancel the cardboard sled race. The hill at the back of the field had a bit of snow on it, and earlier in the morning it had been slippery, she said; but he was unsure if it would



STAFF PHOTO/MAX MARCUS

Hockey players shake hands at the Winter Carnival on Sunday.

be slippery enough for the race's scheduled start at 2:30.

"But I'd rather not dwell on what we can't do," she said.

Other, less winter-dependent events were still popular, like the horse-drawn wagon rides around the field, the K-9 Keg Pull and marshmallow roasting around a big campfire.

An ice hockey match between the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and the Green-

The Sheriff's Office's hockey team typically plays about four or five games a year, mostly charity games and local tournaments, Collins said. The team has played at the Winter Carnival for about five years now. Usually it has been against the Greenfield Fire Department, but this year the Police Department organized a team instead.

Due to the conditions, neither team was at the top of its game. Connor Merrigan, of the Sheriff's Office's team, ended up wearing Crocs to play.

"It's very slippery. Mild traction," he said.

About halfway through the game, the score was 6-3, with the Police Department ahead.

"Personally, I think it'd be a whole different story if we had skates on," Collins added, before substituting back into the game.

By the end, no one was quite sure what the score was, but all said that the Police Department had won. They agreed to call it 8-5.

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field Police Department was not called off, but the rules of the game had to be modified somewhat. When players arrived that morning, they found that the ice wasn't solid enough to skate on, said Barney Collins, who works for the Sheriff's Office and organizes the hockey team.

"We opted for sneakers today," he said. "I don't know how it looks, but it doesn't feel great, and it's a little sloppy."

WINTER CARNIVAL PARADE



STAFF PHOTO/DAN LITTLE

An ice sculpture of Baby Yoda made by Nathan Patterson, of Leverett, is displayed Friday night on Main Street as part of Greenfield's 98th annual Winter Carnival.



STAFF PHOTO/DAN LITTLE

A torch on the Greenfield Common marks the beginning of the 98th annual Winter Carnival on Friday night in Greenfield.



STAFF PHOTO/DAN LITTLE

Illuminated vehicles and humans make their way down Main Street to kick off Greenfield's Winter Carnival.