

**BRONCO'S CLIMBING WORKSHOP:**  
**"... Successfully completed without a hitch..."**

*Submitted by Bronco Skorupan*

Actually there were many hitches used at the three-day intermediate tree climbing-aerial rescue workshops held in Saskatoon on July 24-26, 2003.

The sessions were held at an old TB Sanitarium site in Saskatoon that overlooks the South Saskatchewan River. It is a quiet park-like area with lots of trees and is accessible to pedestrian traffic only. This site was made available thanks to the help from Colin Barber at the Saskatchewan Property Management Corp.

Robert Romeril of Arborist Supply Co. Inc. from Calgary was the instructor and put on a great workshop for the 12 students (plus one) in the class. As the course coordinator and assistant instructor, I also participated in the class.

The two-day intermediate tree-climbing workshop con-



The weather was great and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. All who attended were glad they had come. They learned a lot and felt their time and money was well spent.

At 7:30 am on the Friday morning while getting ready for the day, we saw a white-tailed buck bounding through the workshop area so I knew it was going to be a great day. That or Elmer Fudd would be close behind the buck in earnest pursuit which would have been ok too.

**"...it was a great learning experience as well as a lot of fun and hard work (with some sore muscles thrown in)."**

Rob, with his 25 years experience in the tree care industry brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the 3 day of workshop. He was even moving around the trees and ropes pretty well for an old-timer (just kidding Rob).

From watching him climb, you would never know he was the oldest guy on the site. Some of the students are already talking about having Rob come back next year for more training workshops.

On behalf of myself and all the students I would like to thank Rob for coming out to Saskatoon and putting on a great workshop.



*Photos above by Bronco Skorupan* consisted of new and review for the advanced climbers and lots of new for the beginners in the class. The one-day aerial rescue workshop was very informative with lots of valuable hands-on training.

This was my first experience as course coordinator so it was a great learning experience as well as a lot of fun and hard work (with some sore muscles thrown in).