

# Mav, Lou leading the Bulls again

By Paul Svoboda

The Intelligencer

His voice is described as gravelly and his demeanor as gruff.

But his players will tell you beyond the bark and the bite, he's got a heart of gold.

He's Larry Mavety, general manager and head coach of the Belleville Bulls for 13 of their 15 OHL seasons.

Mavety enters the 1996-97 OHL

stanza No. 3 on the all-time list of OHL coaches in terms of service and success. Counting a two-year term with the arch-rival Kingston Frontenacs (then known as Raiders), Mavety has coached for 15 consecutive OHL seasons, the last six with Belleville.

He has 480 wins under his belt, trailing only Ottawa's Brian Kilrea and Barrie's Bert Templeton, as one of the three living legends of the

OHL coaching fraternity.

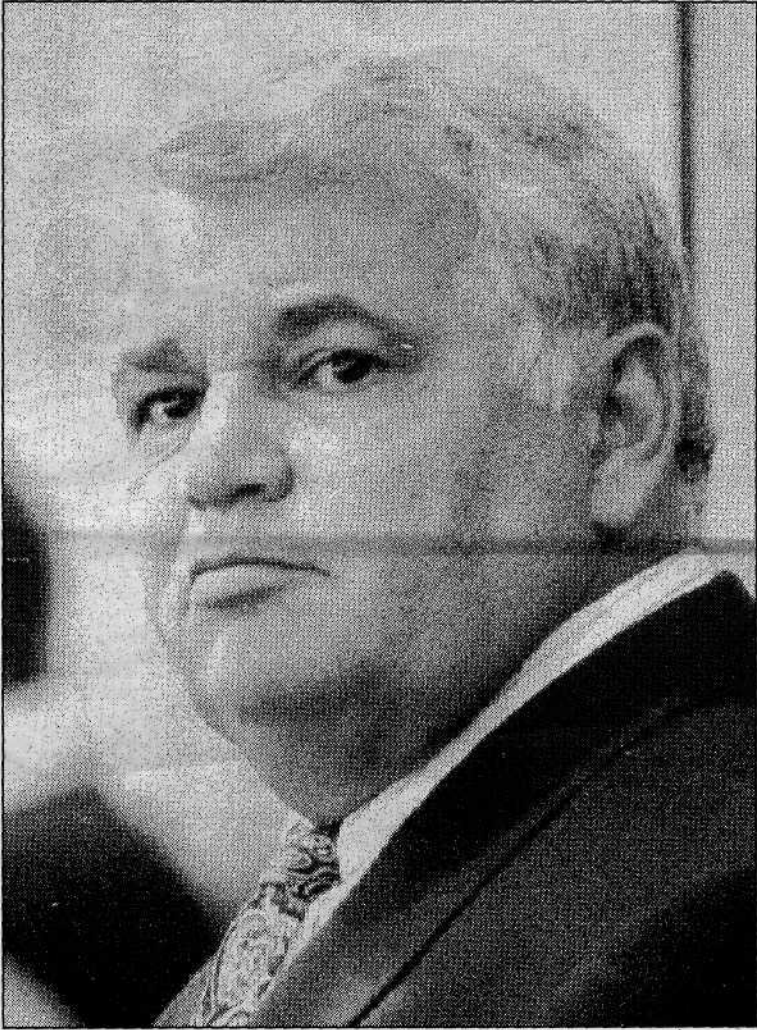
A native of Woodstock raised in Belleville, Mavety was a standout hockey defenceman and a stalwart fastball catcher in his younger days.

He played professional hockey for several seasons in several leagues including the old World Hockey Association where he was a Second Team All-Star with the Chicago Cougars in the 1970s.

On the fastball diamond, Mavety backstopped some strong local entries and also travelled to the World Championships with Oshawa.

At 54, he is a member of the Belleville Sports Hall of Fame.

Players, current and former, agree Mavety is a demanding taskmaster who combines a burning desire to win with a genuine concern for the development and future of his young players.



Head coach Larry Mavety.

## Hard work and desire

Lou Crawford played a handful of games in the National Hockey League and it's fitting that he spent every one of them wearing a Boston Bruin uniform.

The Bruins of old have often been described as the NHL's Lunchpail Brigade — a collection of hard workers who, if they held regular daytime jobs, might've been construction workers, truck drivers or manual laborers.

Crawford, the third-year assistant coach of the Belleville Bulls, fit right in when he spent parts of NHL seasons in the early 1990s with the Bruins. He'd already made his mark in the OHL as a Memorial Cup winner with Kitchener and in the American League as a Calder Cup winner with Adirondack.

Crawford knows how to win. The hard way.

A bruising OHLer with Kitchener, he racked up 243 penalty minutes with the Rangers in his final season of junior hockey in 1981-82. While skating with the AHL's Rochester Americans, he piled up 234 PMs in the '83-84 session.

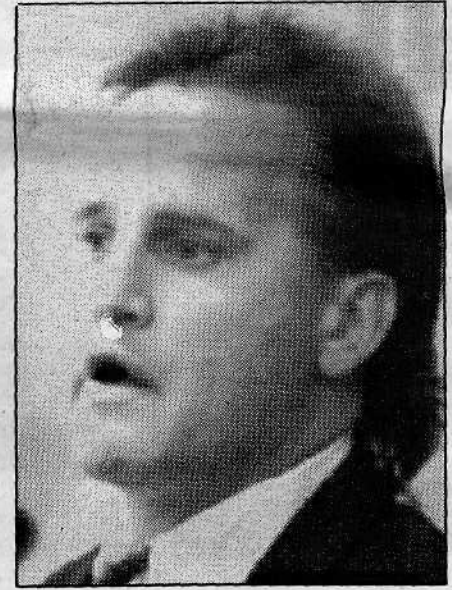
When he was with Maine in the AHL, Crawford was described by his former coach E.J. Maguire as "one of my rock solid guys."

Crawford brings that same 'rock solid' approach to his OHL assistant

coaching duties with Belleville. Hard work and desire. Those are the principals he preaches to the Bulls.

"He made a big difference when he came here," says ex-Bull captain Craig Mills.

Crawford is the younger brother of Marc Crawford, coach of the defending Stanley Cup champion Colorado Avalanche. Their father, Floyd, captained the Belleville McFarlands to a World Championship in 1959 and is now a Bulls scout.



Assistant coach Lou Crawford.

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