

George and Dorothy Burtch recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 25, 1949 at the Bellville home of Rev. Chas. Perkins.



John and Ruth Burton (nee Terryberry) are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. The couple was married on July 18, 1964.

Coaching is more than teaching sports skills

by SANDY TURNER

For most people, somewhere in the back of their mind is a memory about a particular coach they once had.

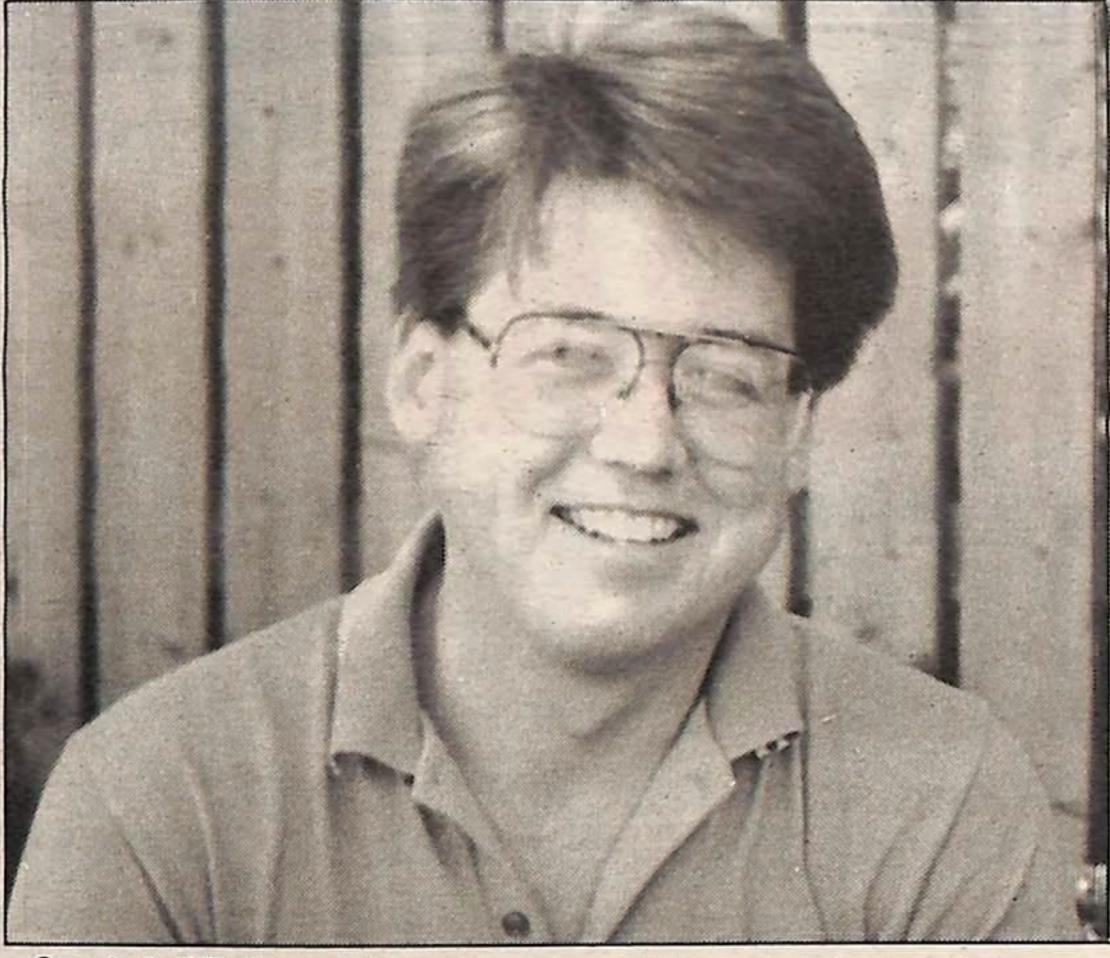
That memory could entail the time their coach made them give that little bit extra they thought they never had. Or the memory could be of the time when a coach pulled them aside and offered encouragement, or the time they were taught about the importance of fair play, or how to work with others as a team.

Whatever the memory, a coach is a person who has a strong impact on a young person's life. Jeff Tallman, coach of the Lincoln Golden Horseshoe Court Blades, 1989 Ontario Minor Hockey Association midget BB champions, knows this and so, stresses a lot more than just hockey skills to his team players.

"Coaching is not just teaching hockey," he said during an interview. "They (Blades) were a team both on and off the ice. They cared for each other and I cared for them. You can't have a better situation than that." With more than 400,000 active

."With more than 400,000 active coaches in the country, each with an average of 10 athletes under his or her tutelage, over 4-million Canadians will be touched by a coaching experience this year.

To give credit where credit is



Coach Jeff Tallman of the championship Lincoln Blades is one of the many coaches that has helped Canada's youth learn game and life skills.

due, and to recognize the role coaches play, in guiding Canada's youth, 1989 has been proclaimed 'Year of the Coach.' According to the Coaching Association of Canada, the theme for this special year is, 'Someone to look up to.'

As well as honoring and ing to contain thanking Canada's coaches at all levels from grassroots to coaching elite, some of 'The Year of the Coach' objectives are to educate the public about the important thicker."

tant role of coaches, to stress the importance of selecting qualified coaches and to draw attention to the need for more coaches to obtain National Coaching Certification.

"I like working with kids," he said, noting he started by helping to coach a softball team. "After that, a friend who was coaching hockey asked if I wanted to help and from that point it got thicker and thicker."

Spending his first four years coaching recreational hockey in Beamsville, Mr. Tallman, who is married with one child, has spent the last four years coaching all-star hockey, which means spending many hours away from his young family and working with his other family — the Lincoln Blades.

Looking at last year specifically, he said his 16-member travelling team had a busy schedule, playing 57 games and having approximately 30 practices.

However, like he tells his players, Mr. Tallman said a successful season means team effort and stressed the importance of his "excellent coaching staff." That coaching staff included assistant coach Mike Parr, manager John Riediger, trainer Drew May and goalie coach Terry Adams.

"The five of us had a really good system going for us. We covered all of the bases," he said.

To improve himself as a coach, Mr. Tallman has made a point of taking part in National Coaching Certification programs, which are run by the

Canadian Amateur Hockey Association. Moving up the ladder, he took his level IV in 1986, which involved a week of intense work. It also meant giving up part of his two week vacation from his job.

"I had to go to London (Ontario) and it was work," he said.
"Everyone there was a person dedicated to hockey and to working with young men."

Looking at coaching, Mr. Tallman said he really stresses to his players that working as a team is essential for success.

One of the worst things a coach can do to a player, he said, is to chastise a particular play or action and then not give any positive reinforcement afterwards.

Another key to coaching, he continued, is communication. Being 27-years-old, Mr. Tallman said he's young enough to be able to relate to his players (they are 16 and 17-years-old), while being old enough to have the players' respect.

"I can talk with them and we can relate with each other," he said. "We look forward to being together — it's more than just hockey."