



TROPHIES GALORE were handed out Saturday afternoon at the Acton Minor Hockey Association banquet held at the Community Centre. Receiving awards were Mike Field, Steven McIntyre, Chris Tennant, Barry Elliott, Ken Owen, Steve Goy, Jim Barden, Don Ford, Pete Marzo, Allan McKenzie and Dave Hunter.

Former Red Wings Goalie Blocks Barrage of Queries

Denis Riggins, former goalie with Detroit Red Wings, stole the limelight Saturday afternoon at the Community Centre when over 80 young players, coaches and managers enjoyed the first annual Acton Minor Hockey Association banquet.

Mr. Riggins demonstrated two goalie masks which he used and gave many interesting anecdotes about his goaltending chores. In showing the masks he pointed out two cracks in one mask and stated Eddie Shack of the Toronto Maple Leafs had accidentally caught him with an elbow to cause one break and a hard shot from Boom Boom Geoffrion had caused the other.

Mistake

On the second mask, the ex-goalie pointed out ruefully where he had removed a bar across the opening for the mouth during an exhibition game in Quebec and as a result lost his front teeth when a puck struck him.

He told the young hockey players the masks cost from \$200 to \$500 to buy and by accident he

had learned the person who makes them invested roughly \$5 for materials.

The guest speaker said he was in N.H.L. hockey 14 years and is one of the greatest games, in his estimation.

Three Points

There are three things in life to remember, he said — education, Christianity and recreation. In stressing the importance of an education, Mr. Riggins said "Education is the hardest to get and the easiest to carry."

Everyone wants to be an N.H.L. player, but out of a population of around 21,000,000, only 120 players make the N.H.L.

In emphasizing the religious aspect of life, Mr. Riggins told the interested youngsters the Detroit Red Wings arrive at a city to play a Sunday game, everyone goes to church. He stressed the importance of Christianity throughout life. In dealing with recreation, he stated hockey was a great game and taught a person life. "Good, clean recreation is life and the heroes in each

community are the youngsters who play hockey. To be a hero is tough and it gets tougher as you go."

In conclusion he urged the boys to set a good example at home and combine education, Christianity and recreation to be successful throughout life.

During a question and answer period, Mr. Riggins answered queries including who had the hardest shot, fastest skater, quickest breaker, and how many shutouts he had.

Autographed Sticks, School

The guest asked all parents to rise with him as he proposed a toast to the youngsters for their welfare, prosperity and guidance in the future. He autographed two hockey sticks which were presented to Kenny Withers and Carl Reed.

Dave Manes, owner of Ledger's I.G.A. store, donated a week at hockey school during a lucky draw which was won by Jim Barden. Mr. Manes also presented trophies he donated to players of one team.

Eddie Owens was master of ceremonies for the program and Rev. A. H. McKenzie said grace prior to the dinner. The buffet luncheon of turkey with all the trimmings was served by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Hockey Association.

Tri-County Considers Vast Expansion Plan

A vast expansion program which could eventually swell the ranks of the Tri-County Hockey Association to cover 22 towns and cities, was discussed at length when the Association held its annual meeting in Milton on Sunday afternoon.

Tri-County — now with 11 member towns, is considering an expansion program that could result in the addition of 11 more towns in time for the start of next season. With this in mind, invitations were sent to 11 towns to have representation at the Association's annual meeting — delegations from four of the towns showed up and indicated a willingness to join the Association.

Four Attend

Representatives from Chingacousy, Elora, Streetsville and Erin attended, while the other seven invited towns — Arthur, Dundas, Galt, Kitchener, Waterloo, Shelburne and Elmira were not represented. Chingacousy which could enter the association as an "A" minor town, would likely be represented by Midget, Bantam, Pee Wee and Novice entries. Streetsville would likely be a "B" entry and would have teams in the Juvenile, Midget and Bantam leagues. Elora would be a "C" entry and would start with entries in all five divisions. Erin indicated it would start with Midget and Pee Wee entries.

The general impression at the meeting was that expansion was favored. The expansion committee of Bill Rowney, Arn McDuffie, Hank Watt, Les MacCork and Lloyd Maybee was asked to contact the other communities that had been invited to attend the meeting. After that, they were to have a recommendation ready by the end of August.

If a large number of towns was accepted, then it would probably be necessary to have the "A" and "A" minor teams play in one league and the "B", "C" and "D" towns play in a second division — possibly with an interlocking schedule.



TROPHY WINNERS at the Acton Legion Minor Sports banquet Saturday afternoon are shown above with their wares. Included in the picture are Jeff Townsley, Robin Inscow, Steven Brunelle, Brendan Irwin, John Ashley, Steve Papillon, Mike Pope, Steven Marshall, Ron Death, Dale Fisher, Tim McIntyre, Brian Carrier, Clarence Snow, Garry Kelly, Dave Ryder and Wayne Deforest.

Award Trophies

250 Youngsters Whoop it Up At Legion Minor Hockey Banquet

Acton Legion auditorium echoed with cheers Saturday afternoon when over 250 young hockey players, coaches, managers and head-table guests cheered when trophies were handed out at the annual Legion Minor Hockey banquet.

Acton Legion Ladies' Auxiliary members, assisted by hockey boys' mothers provided a hearty roast beef dinner with all the trimmings and were kept busy as plate after plate of roast beef was devoured.

Head Table

Gordon McCutcheon was master of ceremonies for the award presentations and introduced the head table guests. Representing the referees' association were Murray Harrison and Richard Gannon; Mayor Les Duby from town council; Gordon James, first vice president of Branch 197; Bob Loutett, Bill Buchanan, Ted Pope and Charlie Thomson representing the Legion Minor Sports Committee.

Mayor Duby congratulated the Legion for its interest shown in providing hockey for the youngsters and said "Council appreciates what the Legion is doing for the boys and without the help of the coaches and managers and everyone who assisted this could not be possible."

Gordon James thanked everyone who assisted in hockey this year and said without coaches and managers hockey couldn't have been possible.

Following are the awards presented following the dinner.

Atom League

The John "Dang" Kentner trophy awarded by grandson of the late hockey player was received by coach and manager Barry Inscow and George Ware and captain John Ashley. The high scorer award donated by the Legion was shared by Jeff Townsley and Steve Papillon who were tied. The most improved player award donated by Alec Johnson was presented to Steve Brunelle.

Novice League

The Tom Watson trophy was presented to the Hamilton team with coach Bob Armstrong and captain Tim McIntyre receiving the award. High scorer trophy went to Tim McIntyre and most improved player award donated by Claude Pipher was presented to Ron Death.

Pee Wee League

The Cleveland team represented by coach Harold Deforest and Captain Brendan Irwin received the Acton Creamery trophy. High scorer award went to Dale Fisher and the Canadian Legion Sports trophy for the most improved player was received by Michael Pope.

Bantam League

The George Molozzi trophy awarded to the top team in the Ban-

tam league was received by coach Clarence Hill and captain Kenny Marshall from the Hershey team. High scorer went to Wayne Deforest and most improved player award donated by Gord. James went to Clarence Snow.

Midget League

The Acton Legion Minor Sports championship trophy in the Midget league was received by Dave Ryder, captain of the Montreal team, with high scorer award going to Garry Kelly. Most improved player award, the John Kentner Jr. trophy, presented by (continued on page five)



DENIS RIGGIN, former Detroit Red Wings goalie, was guest speaker at the Minor Hockey Association banquet Saturday at the Community Centre. He is shown above autographing hockey sticks for Ken Withers and Carl Reed.

Merchant Veterans Miss First Spring Practises

"It never rains, but it pours," — may be a trite old expression, but on the Campbellville baseball front it applies perfectly this season.

After years of dominating play in the Halton County Intermediate league, the mighty Campbellville Merchants are running into trouble this year. Monday night the Free Press chatted with veteran Village first baseman Earl Cairns and he indicated,

"we'll probably end up with enough bodies, but it looks as though we're going to lose some valuable players."

Practice sessions were held on Saturday and Monday but not many of last year's performers turned-out. Earl, who was in charge of the Monday night practice, said Al Wingrove; Bill Elliot, Elmer Dredge, Ken Moore and Jack Roberts were the only regulars besides himself, who turned out for at least one of the first sessions. Other members of last year's team who showed up were John Nicholson, Ray Griswold and Art Brooks.

Trout Season

Tall fish stories should start to circulate this weekend as the trout season opens in Halton county on Saturday. Fishermen who have been waiting anxiously for the start of the season are expected to flock to Halton streams in efforts to catch at least a few of the more than four thousand Speckled Trout stocked in Halton waters within the past few weeks.

Halton game warden Jim Milford reports Speckled Trout have been stocked at Carlisle Pond, the ponds in the Terra Cotta Conservation Area, the Black Creek, flowing into the Credit River from Acton, Linehouse and further upstream, as well as in the Twelve Mile Creek along No. 10 Sideroad east of Campbellville, and at Kelso.

The Free Press will not be sponsoring a fishing contest this year but anglers who are lucky enough to land "big ones" should contact The Free Press, so their names can be included in a story for next week's issue on "the ones that didn't get away".

Name Hammond Tri-County Prexy

A former president of the Tri-County Minor Hockey Association was returned to power on Sunday afternoon. Fred Hammond of Oakville, one of the founding members of the Association, was elected president of the Association for the 1966 term, at its annual meeting in Milton.

Mr. Hammond replaces Arn McDuffie of Milton as president.

The Acton Free Press, Thursday, April 28, 1966



IT'S CUSTOMARY to write paeans of praise extolling the passing of professional hockey season at this particular time of the year. The preservation of Canada's favorite sport is a matter of concern to most sports minded Canucks and they like to feel the moguls who grope pro hockey's destiny think along similar lines.

Hockey is a Canadian game, spawned and developed on the frozen ponds and creeks the length and breadth of the country. In the last decade hockey's appeal has spread from this country and a few northern United States climes to Europe. It is on the threshold of such countries as Japan, China (Red) and Mexico.

Naturally you're delighted at the game's spreading popularity. It shows races and peoples of all shades of opinion are really alike when it comes down to appreciation of a fast, stimulating sport requiring specialized skills. You like to feel hockey reflects our national image, how we really feel about ourselves.

It's no wonder then there were murmurs of discontent and disbelief when the National Hockey League announced expansion plans did not include one Canadian City. The entire expansion will take place in the United States.

Indignation in letters to the editor, newspaper cartoons and editorials but most Canadians probably felt it was just another sell-out to the Yankee dollar and kept the hurt to themselves. They were disappointed in the Canadian hockey men; they felt first consideration for the game should have been for Canadians, who after all, will be supplying the personnel for N.H.L. teams for some time to come.

Defenders of the hockey hierarchy told their compatriots hockey was no longer a contest between a few small towns. "It's a business," they said, "and naturally the businessman goes where the most money is." One expatriate Canuck explained he would be supplying N.H.L. hockey to the half-million former Canadians in California.

The protests fell on deaf ears. When Stanley Cup time rolled around Canadians had an opportunity to show their disapproval of the tactics of the N.H.L. heads by staying away from the rinks. There could have been an economic blockade, a matter of dollars and cents, businessmen would have understood. Instead the rinks were filled to the rafters.

So when it comes down to it, the people who pay the freight for the N.H.L. don't give a darn where the best hockey is played so long as they have their amusement every Saturday night. Same for those who watch it on TV screens. We'll squawk and aim shafts at those responsible for selling our national game down the river but we're not really prepared to go out and do something about it if it involves much fuss or bother. We're too comfortable.

BEAT BITS ... Teams are making plans for the approaching softball season. It's likely both the town league and Intercounty will operate again this year. Intercounty head Scotty Patterson said there's an excellent chance Rockwood will join the league this season. ... Georgetown Giants open the Halton County intermediate baseball season on Wednesday, May 18 entertaining Campbellville Merchants. Several of the Giants will hail from Acton again this season. They held their first work-out this week. ... Congratulations to both the Legion town league and the Acton Minor Hockey Association for staging a fancy wind-up to the hockey season with banquets Saturday. ... The quality of ice at the community centre this season has drawn praise from all who used it, reflecting the hard work arena manager Herb Ritchie, Frank Thompson, Jim Rolston and Jim Inglis put in. Comments were also widespread at the improvement in the centre's cleanliness. ... Trout fishing season opens Saturday and anglers in this district are oiling reels, tying flies and digging worms in preparation. Where to fish? Try the Erasmus River, Mann's Creek, Blue Spring Creek, Twelve and Sixteen Mile headwaters for brooks, speckled and browns. ... Many from Acton are enjoying the Allan Cup semi-finals between Guelph Regals and Sherbrooke Beavers. Looks like Regals will wrap it up ...

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