

OUR READERS WRITE:

Limehouse

Cubs survival hike, W.M.S. meeting in news

By Mrs. A. Benton

Winners in the Limehouse minor ball club draw were William Lighthart, Brampton, Mrs. Betty Footitt, Acton, and Tom Nolan, Limehouse.

Learn survival

Elaine Hannah sent us additional cub activities. On Jan. 13 the Limehouse Cubs had a very successful survival hike. Seven boys and three leaders started out at 9 a.m. and hiked through the country from the 5th to the 3rd line and back. Each had a pack of survival rations (raisins,

chocolate and hard candies) to last the day. A break around a warm fire at noon was very welcome. The boys received instruction on building a shelter in the woods, how to build a fire and how to cross a stream with a rope, as well as various survival techniques to use when lost in the woods.

Wolf's head

Cub committee member, Mrs. Moulden reports some of the winter activities. In December 17 enjoyed Aladdin by the Georgetown Little Theatre group. Sixteen attended a tobogganing party last Wednesday. On Jan. 20 five eight-year-olds will attend a cub craft day.

Recently they received a wolf's head, the symbol of the cubs. The group committee ladies held an informal eggnog party in December, and for Jan. 19 they are planning a euchre party. They are looking for additional committee members.

W.M.S. meeting

The W.M.S. met at the home of Mrs. A. W. Benton on Wednesday evening, with vice-pres. Mrs. Roughley in the chair.

No December meetings having been held due to weather conditions, the election of officers was not held, all former ones being reinstated:

President, Mrs. W. Mitchell; vice-president, Mrs. Roughley; secretary and press reporter, Mrs. Benton; treasurer, Mrs. Patterson; Glad Tidings secretary, Mrs. Kirkpatrick; Home-Helpers secretary, Mrs. Mitchell; supply treasurer, Mrs. Patterson.

Meetings are held the second Wednesday each month and all interested are invited.

Same allocation

Roll call was answered by a verse of scripture. Mrs. Roughley read Scripture and Mrs. Patterson led in prayer. The treasurer reported our allocation

for 1973 would remain at \$233 and supply fund asks for \$19. Mesdames Patterson, Kirkwood and Benton were named to look after registration for the annual meeting at Knox, Georgetown on February 7. All present paid fees. For the study period Mrs. A. W. Benton reviewed part of Commandos for Christ.

Visitors

Mr. Lorne Noble of Naughton and Miss K. Noble of Hamilton were with the Fred Fleh's during the holidays.

The E. Karn's and Mr. Charles Meredith of Green Bay, Manitowlin Island, visited among the Nobles, Karn's and Smith's here.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick is home after an extended visit with the Calvin McDonald's at Elmwood. She also attended the Foster-Powell wedding at Cobocok, and visited the John Foster's at Head Lake.

Congratulations to Mr. Gordon Foster and his bride who are making their home at Hartley.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holtman and Eddie spent six weeks in Europe over the holidays, enjoying lovely weather all the

time. They visited near Venlo in Holland, and near Stuttgart in Germany and other places.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Roughley spent several weeks at Los Angeles, California, with his sister and her husband, and also visited her brother and his family, the Brigham's at San Diego.

Your correspondent would be pleased to receive your news items at 877-5459.

Suffers attack at Beardmore

A doctor and ambulance rushed to Beardmore Monday morning when employee Ernest Marshall suddenly collapsed. He was taken to Guelph where he is in the cardiac unit of the General.

Dr. Wilson attended him at work.

Mr. Marshall's wife died suddenly three weeks ago, right at Christmas. They lived in London where she operated a store but he had been staying here during the week since working at Beardmore.

Agrees hockey was poor exhibition

Editor, The Acton Free Press

It is indeed a sad reflection upon our town whenever a person cannot express his views about a sporting matter without drawing a barrage of criticism from the persons concerned. An example of this can be seen in the letters from the Acton Sabres, concerning their game with the Fergus Green Machine last New Year's Eve. I attended that game, and I do agree with Denis Gibbons that this was very poor hockey, a disgrace to Acton.

Personally, I thought that this criticism was fair; after all, any team should expect it once in a while. However, it was quite surprising to read the letters that came from the Sabres' executive and players.

Let us first review Mr. McPhail's letter. He begins by hinting at Mr. Gibbons' columns about the Canada-USSR series. If I remember correctly, Denis deplored Team Canada's behavior on the ice during those games. He was not the only person of that opinion. One should not label him as anti-Canadian, just because he chose not to ignore the antics of Team Canada.

He then proceeds, saying that

the Sabres were a home-brewed team (does this not apply to almost every amateur team?), and that the Sabres' penalty rating is in fifth place, with only 58 minutes. His statistics must be out of date, because, elsewhere in the same newspaper, it is shown that the Sabres' penalties so far total 386 minutes (almost 6 1/2 hours), but there is no indication as to its penalty position in the league.

Next come the statements that constructive criticism is welcome, and that they pay for advertising because they believe in hockey for Acton. This is all well and good, but why does it sound like a veiled threat? Mr. Gibbons has a right to his own opinion as much as anyone else, and he should not be coerced into retreating from it, just because he puts it on the record for all to read. After all, that is his privilege.

The players' letter shows much more reaction. Briefly, they say that, when they play well, they are cheered, but when they are off their standard, they are jeered. They also say that they are trying to improve, but this jeering is discouraging them. Why? It should never drive them to the point of playing as poor a game as the one of 31 December.

Mr. McPhail says that these boys are not professionals, but that should be no excuse for their behavior. If anything, they should be better disciplined than those of the NHL and the WHA. The Sabres say that they welcome constructive criticism. Might I make the following suggestions?

—If a player starts a fight, he should receive a penalty immediately. If the referee somehow decides not to give it, the player should be benched.

—A player who was provoked into fighting should be benched as well. He should shrug off such provocation, as only a child would wish to start a fight on trivial grounds.

—Preferably, the other team should follow the same guidelines.

This may seem ruthless, but it certainly would be effective. We need strong discipline on the part of both the coach and the players, before they may be called a good team. Let us make the Sabres a winning and honorable team. After all, what good is victory, without honor?

Yours faithfully,
Robert Ellerby,
Carleton University,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Eden Mills Tree burning

By Mrs. R. Wright

Eden Mills District and Community Club held their annual Christmas tree burning in Community Park Saturday evening, with a good turnout. The evening was ideal for skating, sleigh riding and skidoos aplenty to take those who wished for rides. Hot chocolate and doughnuts were provided by members of the Community Club bringing a pleasant evening to a close.

Recent visitors

Recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Bell were Mr. and Mrs. Brian Scott, Harrow.

After three weeks visit with Mr. and Mrs. Ed Woodhouse, Mrs. Jean Hazelwood and Mr. Raymond Bubb returned to Hereford, England by air Friday evening.

Ospringle

Discuss projects for Ladies' Aid

by Doris Fines

It was a cold windy night but eight ladies gathered at the home of Mrs. Vernon Stewart for the January meeting of the Ospringle Ladies' Aid.

The devotional was taken by Mrs. Elmer Fisher. She read an article from the Presbyterian Record "Not enough change" and played two records. Time out for Jesus, and Tell it on the Mountain.

The roll call was A New Year's Resolution, and pay your dues. Business discussion was on what project to support in the new year.

The program was in charge of Mrs. Barrie Clarke. Questions on current events was won by Mrs. Gordon Howes.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer, and lunch was served by the hostess.

In city

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ferguson and family, and Mrs. Enoch Wood visited last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Tranah at Toronto. Mrs. Wood remained

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Writers must identify themselves

Dear Eramosa Taxpayer,

I received your letter this week concerning the state of affairs in Eramosa township. We would be happy to publish it providing you reply, enclosing a signature revealing your identity.

The Free Press has a policy that no unsigned letters may be used although the writer may use another signature in the paper if he or she chooses. It is imperative we know who you are to protect ourselves, ensure it is a genuine letter and not just someone with an axe to grind.

If you do not wish to use your name on the

published letter that is your prerogative, but in many cases the writer loses the full impact of his letter by not having it published.

We always welcome letters at the Free Press, providing they do not offend public taste, contain no libel or slander, We publish all we can handle although it must be realized they in no way reflect the opinions of this newspaper, which appear only on the editorial page.

Hoping to hear from you, I am,
Yours truly,
Hartley Coles, Editor.

Defends Free Press sports columnist

Dear Sir:

I would like to make comment regarding the letter from the Sabre players in the Jan. 10 issue. I might add that it may be of some interest to the Sabre executive as well.

It amazed me to read the statement "We do not appreciate the destructive criticism..." However we would accept constructive criticism... How gallant of them!

I read Denis Gibbon's column along with, I am sure, many other sports fans, and I think he does a great job. He may have errors of judgment as far as some are concerned but he is expressing his opinion and why not! It's his job and for him to do any less, especially to pat these boys on the head, which they seem to expect, for sloppy hockey would defeat the purpose of being a

sports writer.

As far as the Sabres go, and the way they've been playing lately, probably not too far, why shouldn't they be criticized. If they're playing like a bunch of barbarians, they should be called on it. Whatever happened to sportsmanship and clean play? What shining examples for all the younger players coming up. Why shouldn't they think, well it's good enough for those players so why not us?

Nobody should criticize them for losing hockey games as long as they give it their best, but when they lose because the players are off the ice for penalties caused by rough and rotten plays, they deserve everything they get—including Denis Gibbon's column.

"Sports Fan"

Snowmobiles subject to Highway Act

January 15, 1973.

Dear Sir:

With regards to last week's Free Press article on snowmobile controls in Erin township and also the letter to the Editor requesting support for such controls, I must write and put a few facts straight.

It must be pointed out that snowmobiles, as stated, do in fact come under the King's Highway Act and are subject to the same laws and regulations as an automobile. Operators must have a driver's license, pay ten dollars per year for registration which is about the same equivalent as an eight cylinder car, considering snowmobiles are used three to four months per year. It is also required by law that insurance be carried.

While driving a snowmobile the demerit point system on our driver's license is still in effect.

In view of this, how can it be stated that there are no controls on snowmobiles and that it is a free ticket to irresponsibility?

It has been stated that the high pitched whine of five snowmobiles traveling at 50 miles per hour is bad for people and much worse for horses and livestock. Two years ago this could have been true if snowmobiles did in fact and were capable of attaining 50 miles per hour.

Currently, all snowmobiles are manufactured to regulations as set down by the Federal Motor Vehicle Standards which has a sound level specification of 83DBS at 50 feet. With regards to the 50 miles per hour speed most snowmobilers do in fact realize that this is somewhat fast and never attain these speeds.

Visibility on most snowmobiles is as good as driving a car. Stopping distance on snow or ice is much shorter on a snowmobile.

A horse on the road, not quite true, there were three horses and a donkey on the travelled portion of the road on a foggy night. Yes, unfortunately, one was hit by a snowmobile traveling at about 30 miles per hour.

I know as I was on that snowmobile.

Fortunately, I was in the lead otherwise it may have been my snowmobile companion and his wife on their machine who hit this horse. I was fortunate getting only minor injuries. Would both of them have been so lucky? What would have happened if a car had hit this horse, or perhaps it would have been horses? Would the driver and passengers have gotten off so lucky?

The question arises here, what are horses doing running loose on the road at night? Readers, how many horses do you know of being hit or causing accidents in the last six months? Why is it almost always horses and very seldom cattle?

Are cattle more intelligent than horses and get off the road when vehicles are coming or are they more suitably fenced by owners?

If it was a car that had hit this horse would Erin township council be requested to put a 30 mile per hour speed limit on cars with an 11 p.m. curfew? I doubt it very much.

G. E. Jackson,
R.R. 3,
Acton, Ontario.

'Crying blues' not helping team

Acton, Ontario,
January 11, 1973.

Dear Editor,

As a hockey enthusiast and former player, I am writing concerning the recent comments made by D. Gibbons about our Junior D "Sabres" team. Anyone who was unfortunate enough to pay one dollar to see such a low, brand of hockey could not help but agree with Mr. Gibbons.

I will add my personal comment "The players looked like a team hung over from a Saturday night party." I do not feel the executive is helping its team by "crying the blues" and feeling sorry for them.

This was only one spectator's opinion of

the game, but I am certain he was speaking for many more.

It is possible for a team to have a bad game due to illness etc., but this team has an apathetic approach and as a result, I have yet to see a good or mediocre game. Please accept the "qualified criticism" as a match to light a fire under these nonchalant, apathetic individuals.

I enjoy the sports column and wish Mr. Gibbons continued success in his work.
Yours truly,
J. Findley.

P.S. Pull up your socks Sabres or your cheering fans will be saying "Gone-Sabres-Gone."

CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP APPLICATIONS
Commencing Monday, January 8, 1973, and in order to provide better service, applications for Canadian citizenship will be accepted every
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from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
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