



# Jock Tock

By John Bottomley

I watched a lot of basketball over the weekend, and perhaps the best, although not the most exciting, game I saw was the upset win by the Harrow Hawks over Chesley.

The Hawks proved that, while short people may not get no reason to live, they sure got a reason to play basketball. The tallest player on the Hawks starting lineup was a mere strapping 6'2". This may sound tall, but the shortest player on the Chesley starting five was 6'11".

The difference in height on the two teams was staggering. The Hawks starting guards were both short (the shorter of the two measuring 5'4" and the taller not much more) but they were the backbone of the team.

Even more amazing is the age of the Harrow team. The school has only one team, and their players range from grade nine through grade 13. There were two players from the lowest grade and only one who will be graduating out of the team. As their coach said after the Redmen eliminated his team "We'll be back next year."

A few more words about their guards, especially Jeff Chase. He is one of the two ninth graders on the team, and has to be ranked one of the two best guards at the tourney. His play was so exceptional that more than one fan asked the coach if he was an American. It turns out he is Canadian, but he learned his basketball the American way, by playing one-on-one in the schoolyards every day. The difference in the style of play between this type of player and the standard Canadian player is phenomenal. A good one-on-one man can break a game open all by himself, and Chase did just that more than once in the tourney. He is going to be a fine basketball player when he grows up, and probably the only player I saw who could even think of making it in the big leagues.

The most exciting games I saw at the tourney were of course the Acton contests. Their Friday night game brought a standing room only crowd, who took up the current Queen hit "We will Rock You/We are the champions" and made it the Redmen's theme song for the tourney. The crowd support for the team was great, and probably helped the Redmen keep going when they were in trouble.

Congratulations should go to everybody who was involved in the OFSAA tourney held this weekend. It was quite an event for a town this size, and it went smoothly from beginning to end, although I suspect director Rick McArthur is glad that this week is school break, so he can catch up on some rest.

Other people who helped with the tourney were Rick Boychuk, assistant director; Bruce Andrews, advertising; John Bartolac, artist; Dave Boycott, public school liaison; Bill Coats, souvenirs; Dean Flink, administrative advisor; Jim Goring, art co-ordinator; Anne Lepik, hostess co-ordinator; Harold Mahatoo, financial advisor; Marlon Matthews, cafeteria services; Lyn McLaren, public relations; Roy McMillan, business co-ordinator; Boris Shean, publicity; Bill Taylor, social activities; Sheila Cook, decorations; Joan Williamson, souvenirs and Sheila Wilson, head secretary.

This list comes from the back of the program and doesn't include the dozens of people who acted as hostesses, guides, billetes, announcers and short-order cooks for the weekend. They all deserve a thank you for their excellent work.

The next job for McArthur is to put together a book for the next year's hosts to tell them how to do it.

It always seems strange to me when some teams will only send in results to the paper when they win, and try to hide things when they lose, as though by not having the results in the paper, the loss might never have happened.

These coaches are obviously embarrassed when they lose, and by not sending score sheets in to the paper they are teaching their players the same attitude. Part of a coach's job, and many would say the most important part, is to teach his or her players to be humble in victory and proud in defeat. Hiding losses doesn't help much in that department.

What is worse anyway, the loss or the reporting of it? The loss is the thing that counts, and if you are ashamed to admit to a loss, then you are just losing again. Everybody loses sometime, and everybody has to face up to this. Keeping loss reports out of the paper does not change the facts. All it can do is make a team look bad to people who already know about the loss. So please, give me the results whether you win or lose.

## Erin bans 10 youths

Ten youths have been banned from Erin's community centre here because of their involvement in acts of vandalism. The boys, members of a minor hockey team, are not to go on the centre grounds or enter the building for two months.

The centre's board discovered the boys were responsible for breaking bottles in locker rooms and also for throwing fire crackers in the building.

Community centre officials are to contact police automatically in cases of vandalism.



WADE WALKER PERFORMS THE ancient ritual of cutting down the net after a big tournament win. Walker's Central Elgin Titans did it all this year to win the OFSAA championships.

## OHA finals open tonight in Dundas

Raiders will open their eight points OHA Intermediate "A" championship series against the Dundas Merchants in Dundas, tonight (Wednesday).

Second game is scheduled for Alcott Arena, Good Friday evening, at 8:30 p.m. Raiders are applying for a special permit to allow the booster club to operate as usual, Friday. By mutual agreement the teams decided not to play on Easter Sunday.

Raiders' largest crowd last season, 1550, showed up on Good Friday evening to see Georgetown trounce the Timmins North Stars in the CAHA playoffs.

While the Raiders staged their fantastic comeback to eliminate Thorold, the Merchants disposed of the Fort Erie Mavericks in six games, eight points to four.

Mavericks squared the series at four points each with a convincing 9-2 win, but Dundas breezed to victory, 11-3 and 10-3 in the next two

games after Danny Blair and Gary Hill, Mavericks' two best players suffered injuries.

Dundas beat the Raiders in six out of eight regular season games to win the league pennant. The teams split 2-2 on Georgetown ice, but Dundas won all four meetings in their buildings.

The Dundas lineup includes league scoring champion Kevin Cornforth and runner-up Joe McKenna. Merchants scored 204 goals in 32 regular season games, 40 more than any other team in the league, but also allowed 151, third highest total in the league.

## Novices up by two games with 9-1 win over Fergus

Acton novices continued to dominate in the Wellington-Waterloo consolation series as they made mincemeat out of Fergus for the second straight game by taking a 9-1 win Saturday at the arena. The first game between the two teams resulted in a 10-1 decision for the locals. Big gun for the novices this

game was Pete Cargill, who found the range for three goals and added an assist. Two of his goals came in the first period when Acton built up a 4-0 lead. Paul Campbell and Mike Baker were the other sharpshooters in the period. Baker and Cargill, Wayne Paul and Chris Rogers contributed assists, with Rogers picking up a pair. Kirk McNabb made it 5-0 from Doug McKnight before

Fergus spoiled netminder Troy Nolan's shutout bid in the second period. Goals from McKnight and John Van Dam increased the lead to 7-1 before the period ended. Sean Fitzgerald picked up an assist in the period.

Cargill and McNabb tallied in the final frame to account for the rest of the Acton scoring. Baker picked up his second assist of the game on Cargill's goal.

## Bants nearing finals

Acton's minor bantams are one point away from a berth in the league finals as they topped Hespeler 3-1 Friday to take the lead in their best of three series.

Because the first game ended in a tie, the bants face the unusual prospect of a best of three series which could go to four games if Hespeler takes tonight's third game.

Acton was first on the scoreboard in the St. Patrick's day game as Jeff Gill potted one from Rob Vermeulen in the opening frame. Hespeler tied the game before the period was out.

Mark Duval netted the winner after two minutes of play in the second frame as Mike McRae fed him for the goal.

Vermeulen added an insurance marker from Duval and Gord McArthur with 1:44 left in the middle frame. Neither team found the range in the final period.

If the bants take the series they will face New Hamburg or Etimira in the finals.

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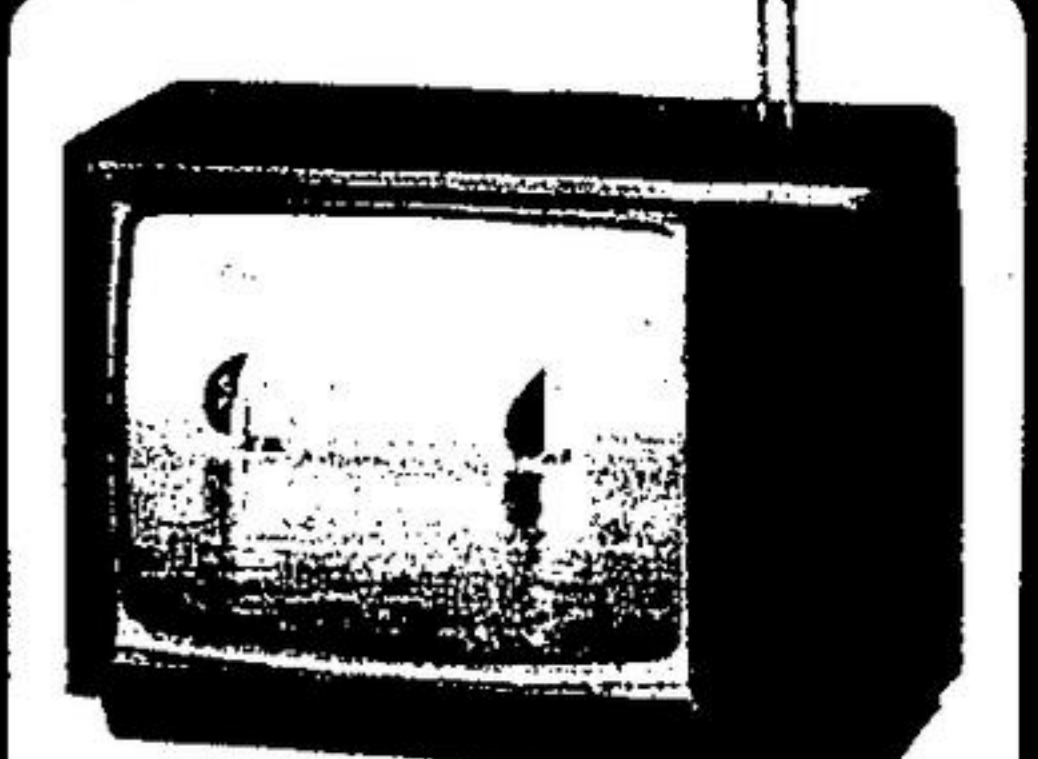
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