

NHL referee Bruce Hood roasted

Everybody likes to give the referee what-for, right? Everybody did. Friday night, when the Milton Optimists sponsored a Celebrity Roast which featured two solid hours of all hockey fans' favorite sport — referee-baiting.

Subject of all the abuse was Milton's own Bruce Hood, the number one referee in the NHL system. And though he was soundly and thoroughly roasted by a group of experts in the field, he accepted the jibes in the spirit in which they were delivered, then turned the tables and proceeded to roast all the roasters.

The whole night was in fun, and a crowd of over 450 enjoyed the fund-raising stag at Roma Hall. Optimists set up the night to help raise funds toward the \$700,000 Youth Centre planned in Brian Best Park and the night accomplished its purpose.

Undoubtedly the star of the night was the venerable King Clancy, who admits to being 75 but proved the spark isn't gone. He spent half an hour on the platform, roasting Hood and Hood's boss, NHL referee-in-chief Scotty Morrison, and took the opportunity to level a few good natured blasts at other officials in the crowd.

Clancy won a standing ovation for his performance which, alone, was worth the \$20 admission.

After a lifetime of playing, coaching, refereeing and managing hockey, Clancy reminisced about his own early days in hockey, admitted he might have made the occasional mistake as a referee, but then grinned: "Thank God we didn't have the video replay in those days."

He said he refereed for \$35 a game, but today the refs "work for a couple of years, and they're on easy street."

Looking at a table full of gag gifts purportedly sent by Hood's "friends" in the NHL, Clancy spied a half a toilet seat that was supposed to have come from Boston, and

summed up "they should have sent the whole damn thing."

"Hood's a nice guy, but he's been giving our team (Toronto) the biggest G. D. hosing we have ever had. The other night we were leading Boston (which was a fluke) and I said to Harold Ballard it looked like it was in the bag. Harold says 'Oh no, you see the look on Hood?' Later

calls Hood a brand new name, every game," said The King. He closed with a plea to Hood: "If you referee any of the playoff games—give us a chance, will you?"

Dave Hodge and Bob Goldham of Hockey Night in Canada were among the roasters. Hodge noted Dave "Tiger" Williams and Brian Glennie of the Leafs were scheduled to be on the

of Hood smuggling Geritol into his hotel rooms, and officials at training camp timing him with a calendar instead of a stop watch followed. Then, in seriousness, Morrison said he is "delighted to have a guy of his calibre on the staff."

"Every time I pick up The Champion, I see a picture of Bruce and a story he put in about himself," claimed

Geritol, and a T-shirt emblazoned with "Loose Bruce".

Hood's brother Murray of Milton, known as Milton's best referee-baiter, proved why he has earned the title. Murray revealed that while Bruce was a member of the Lions Club, he refused to work on any Canadian National Institute for the Blind campaigns, claiming it would be a "conflict of interest."

Dooney Evans, who coached Bruce in his early days in hockey, and Doug Vaughan, who played hockey with Bruce in the 1950s, joined in the roast with tales of those early days.

Fellow NHL ref Ron Wicks, a friend for over 15 years, had a good closing line: "Bruce always says when he dies, everybody in town will show up at the funeral. I have always said, give the people what they want and they'll show up."

Hood said he hoped the club would establish a Milton Sports Hall of Fame at the Centre, and offered to serve on the committee.

Optimist Gord Hull organized the evening, with help from the entire club. Draws were held for a \$500 cash prize and five at \$100 — Ron Wicks won one of the \$100 prizes and promptly donated it to the Youth Centre Fund.

Germans in Milton

Members and players of the West German National Hockey team made a stop in Milton Friday.

The West Germans were here as guests of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and CIHA and are on tour playing exhibition

games in Ontario and Quebec.

Their last stop before returning home was at the Steeles Ave. restaurant and Bruce Hood, who was roasted Friday night at the Optimist Club's Fund raising event, was on hand to make a short visit to meet the Germans.



VARIED EXPRESSIONS were captured on guest of honor Bruce Hood, Milton's NHL referee, at the celebrity roast in his honor at Roma Hall Friday night. His reaction to roasts from fellow hockey officials ranged from bemused grins to outright hilarity.

Hood gave Tiger Williams a penalty, the game was tied, and the Boston guys came over and shook Hood's hand," he shouted, accompanied by great guffaws of laughter.

"I told Ballard I was coming up here tonight, and he said I should mention the 'Ticats,'" he teased in — followed by the longest and loudest boo's of the night.

Turning to Morrison, he gave him a public lesson in face-offs. Claiming the linesmen (especially Leon Stickle of Milton) are too slow in handling faceoffs, Clancy said Morrison should tell them to just drop the puck.

"The game will start," he added.

Leafs manager Jim Gregory arrived during Clancy's eulogy. "Gregory

program, but Harold Ballard took the Leafs to Florida for a holiday and they couldn't come. "I'd like to thank Ballard for taking the Leafs to Florida, so we could hear King," he said.

Former commanding officer of the Lorne Scots Regiment, Col. Art Kemp of Brampton was on the program to tell of Hood's exploits with the Lorne Scots Pipe Band, where Hood was once the bass drummer. The stories centred around the band's trip to Scotland to play in the Edinburgh Tattoo in 1970.

Morrison said it was untrue that Hood is the number one ref. "He is the second best — everybody else is tied for number one," he joked. Tales

of fellow NHLer Leon Stickle of Milton. He rapped Hood solidly for five minutes, ending with the admonition that "if you keep using Grecian Formula and you have two good linesmen out there with you, you could last another half a year."

There were jokes about referees trying to earn free green fees at the golf course, when former New York Ranger Vic Hadfield, once a 50 goals a year man and now a golf course owner, rose to speak.

Doug Jarrett New York represented the players at the roast.

Goldham brought gifts from compatriots in the hockey wars — half a toilet seat, some mouthwash,

Atoms hit snag on run to zone title

Acton major atoms, one win away from bringing home a zone OMHA championship, found out Saturday their opponents from Milton are not going to be as easy to beat as they might have thought, as the southern neighbors took a 2-0 decision in Milton to bring the series count to 2-1 in favor of Acton. Milton's goals went to Glen Houston and Tim Pollen, one

coming in the first and the other in the third.

"We were outstuffed" said manager Bob Raine. "But for the goaltending it would have been a higher score."

"Milton dominated the game. They came out and checked. They forechecked and backchecked" he added.

Paul Rowan spent the whole game shadowing Mike

Hudson, as he did in the two teams' second matchup, but was more effective this time, holding the speedy winger to only two or three breakaways in the game.

Nearly 200 Acton fans made the trip down to Milton to watch the game, and the stands could be packed tonight for the fourth game, being played at 7 p.m. in the arena.



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DEB JAMES put up a good fight before bowing 21-17 to the eventual winner of the Ladies' Doubles event yesterday.

Acton represented in Halton "B" finals

Three Acton pairs will be representing the Acton High School in Halton "B" Badminton finals next Thursday at the High School because of their performances in the East Halton meet yesterday at the school.

Peter Zlons and Sharon Cook will be competing in the mixed doubles event on the strength of their fourth place finish. They lost to Georgetown in three games but topped the Acton pair of Colleen Crimless and Barry McKerracher to earn the right to move on.

500 Club winners

Winners of the Acton Minor Hockey 500 club draw week of March 25 are as follows: no. 258 H. Cook, no. 230 E. Steckley, no. G. McPhall, no. 163 J. McDonald, no. 104 D. Warwick and no. 29 J. Shadbol.

Winners of the Acton Minor Hockey 500 club draw week of April 1, 1978 are as follows: no. 479 J. Connor, no. 240 G. Debruyen, no. 456 W. Shellingon, no. 163 J. McDonald, no. 10 D. Black and no. 332 J. Higgins.

Shirley Ancker and Lisa Near took a second place in the ladies' doubles category, losing to the eventual winners Georgetown in three games.

The only loss Gord Bruce and Mike Morris suffered was to the top men's doubles team in the tourney, from White Oaks. They beat out Oakville Trafalgar to finish third.

Deb James was one place away from making it in the ladies' singles event as she lost a close 21-17 decision to the eventual winner, from Oakville-Trafalgar.

Coach Joan Morris was thrilled with the way they all played, especially the ones who tried singles events, which are less popular among the local players than the doubles.

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(In conjunction with the National Coaching Development Program)

Coach Level One Theory:
A general course designed for the person coaching any sport at a minor level.
WHERE: Acton Library
DATE: April 16th, 23rd, 30th, May 7th/78
TIME: 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.
FEE: \$10.00

Coach Level One Technical — Softball
This Level 1 Technical Program is designed to present new ideas and techniques to the novice coach in softball.
WHERE: Holy Cross School (Georgetown)
DATE: Saturday, April 8th
TIME: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. (with a break for lunch)
FEE: \$15.00

Coach Level One Technical — Soccer
WHERE: Holy Cross School (Georgetown)
DATE: Saturday, April 16th and Sunday, April 16th/78
TIME: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (with a break for lunch)
FEE: \$10.00

Ontario Athletic Therapists Clinic
WHERE: Gordon Alcott Memorial Recreation Complex — HALL
DATE: Saturday, April 29th and Sunday, April 30th, 1978
TIME: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (with a break for lunch)
FEE: \$30.00 (includes exam)