

The Acton Free Press

Sports & Recreation

Wednesday, April 19, 1978
103rd Year - No. 42 Second Section

Acton High School host for all-comers T & F meets

Acton High School is hosting a series of all-comers' track and field mini-meets each Tuesday in an attempt to give local runners some advance preparation for the regular season.

The meets began last Tuesday and will continue until May 9, leaving three meets left to go. Each will consist of four events, two track and two field. The running events will usually include a sprint and a distance run, while the field events will include one jumping event and one

throwing. Events will be changed each week. This gives students a chance to get used to competition without the pressure of running for a team, according to co-organiser Bruce Andrews of the high school physical education depart-

ment. He and Lyn McLaren, vice-principal of the school, are the prime movers behind the concept, which they are copying from existing all-comers' meets held in various cities for club runners.

Runners are organized into seeded heats, with no age limitations. "They run according to their ability" said Andrews. Everybody throws in the same event, and the different age groups throw their usual weights in events like the shot put.



BILL FIELD, LEFT AND Floyd Hillier, right, were awarded MVP and high scoring trophies at Friday evening's Acton industrial hockey league banquet.

Results are the least important aspect of these competitions. They are designed to give students the feel of competing, and participation is the big goal.

Participants are invited from all Halton County high schools, and from feeder schools in the north. The first meet attracted runners from Fergus, Milton High School, Georgetown High School,

The meets are relatively unstructured, with all ages competing together, and begin at 4 p.m., lasting about two hours. Visiting coaches have helped with the officiating.

Andrews told the Free Press he is quite pleased with the first meets.

Ice out

Arena staff have been busy all week getting the last vestiges of ice out of the arena. When the main ice surface is gone, the excess water in the floor frosts up and this frost is what the staff have been working on.



RICK WIDMONT TAKES a poke at boxing instructor Armand Steeves during a sparring session Monday at the Y. Boxing class has attracted eight or nine regulars despite the lack of proper facilities.

Local curler takes top trophy in Canadian clergy championships

Rev. Andrew McKenzie took advantage of a clergyman's convention held in Winnipeg during the world curling championships and got in some curling of his own, walking home with the All-Canada United Church Observer Cup in the process.

The Canada Cup came as the climax to four days of curling in the clergy bonspiel, with about 85 people participating. The bonspiel, held in the Highlander Club, was won by a Calgary rink.

The challenge match for the Canada Cup went on Saturday and Rev. McKenzie, because he had won the All-Ontario championship in January, was "given the privilege of choosing the rink that represented the East" in the East vs West matchup.

"The opposing skip was the skip of the rink that won the clergy bonspiel, and he chose his own rink. I think he made a mistake," said Rev. McKenzie.

The East, skipped by Rev. McKenzie, took the match 10-4, with the West conceding after eight ends.

"It was very gratifying to win," said Rev. McKenzie. The next day he participated in the Grand Trans-Atlantic Match no. 2, a matchup between Europeans and North Americans. The first version of this bonspiel was held last year at the silver broom competition in Europe, and was designed in the interest of sociability.

Ancker and Near in Peel-Halton meet

Shirley Ancker and Lisa Near assured themselves of a spot in the Peel-Halton badminton finals with a win over Georgetown yesterday which kept them in fourth spot in the ladies' doubles event in the playoffs.

They had taken fourth place in the Halton "B" finals last week at the high school but were forced to play a special qualifying round against "A" clubs and top level players who sat out the preliminary rounds.

On their way to their original fourth place finish, Ancker and Near started by topping Burlington Central in three games, 3-15, 15-3 and 15-10. In the second round they were beaten by the same Georgetown team they beat yesterday, losing by a 19-15, 15-7 count.

In third round competition, the girls shaded Oakville Trafalgar 21-15, but lost in their final round of play to a second Burlington Central team by a 21-7 margin.

Their performance was good enough to leave them in fourth spot and send them on to the special qualifying match. A fifth team was added to the action, and took the top spot, while the Acton duo's win allowed them to slip into fourth place spot and continue to the Peel-Halton.

Two other Acton pairs were eliminated from further play during the Halton "B" finals. Peter Zions and Sharon Cook dropped out in the mixed doubles event after two losses to Lord Elgin. Gord Bruce and Mike Morris were edged twice to fall from the men's doubles.

Suggest rate of subsidization

The recreation department should subsidize arena and pool facilities to an amount of 30 per cent of their per hour operating costs, in the opinion of the Georgetown Recreation Advisory Committee.

Conditions of the recommendation are that there should be increased attendance at public events and that the subsidy level should be reduced over a five year period.

Committee chairman Clare Riepmma said it was members' job to recommend a policy aimed at a "break even" financial arrangement, not necessarily specific hourly rental rates.

Recreation coordinator Anne Pickering presented figures on present subsidization. She said the three arenas in Halton Hills are all subsidized at the rate of \$11 per hour.

Subsidization rates for the pools are \$6.29 per hour at the Acton Lions Pool, \$2.25 at the Georgetown Indoor Pool and \$19.65 per hour at the outdoor pool behind Memorial Arena, which operates for only 10 weeks a year. The Board of Education pays all maintenance costs for the two indoor pools.

Miss Pickering said the figures are based on the revised rental rates which council's finance and administration committee has recommended. It calls for a \$2 per hour across the board increase.



LOOKOUT! This one came just a bit too fast for Shirley Ancker, just leaving her time to get out of the way. Ancker and Lisa Near were dropped 21-7 by Barb Near and Denise Massey of Burlington Central to finish fourth in the Halton "B" Ladies doubles badminton finals.

Barry Gambles said he thinks rate increases should be assessed against groups using the arenas since the public is not able to use them all of the time.

"The organized groups, I hope you know, are going to scream about that," Claudette Smith interjected.

"That's too bad," replied Gambles. Colin Wilde said recreational soccer players can't get a field to play on.

"Saturdays and Sundays on the 'A' diamond are out, yet in baseball the youth of town don't use the diamonds on the weekend," he said.

"In tennis, 25 percent of the courts are for public use and the subsidization should be a lot less," Gambles suggested.

Committee Chairman Clare Riepmma's calculations showed that only four percent of the arena hours per week are for public use. He said that either public time should be increased or rental rates should be increased for non-public groups.

"Maybe I'll build another arena down the road and offer it to groups at a lower rate," suggested John Day.

"That's a very negative way of looking at it," suggested Mrs. Smith. "I

hope it would be the policy of the recreation department to encourage use of facilities so the actual costs of operation would level off. You'd have increased revenue. You'd hope to increase it by the use of special events."

Miss Pickering reported that the rate of subsidization for the arenas would be cut by more than half, to \$5 per hour, if they were open for rentals seven days a week, 24 hours per day.

Wilde, who also belongs to the Georgetown Youth Soccer Club, said it wouldn't bother his group the least to have to pay for the use of fields.

"We'd just put the registration fees up," he said.

"What sort of groups can afford to pay more than others?" he asked. "Do we need to subsidize the Raiders and the junior team or are they making a profit out of it?"

"Obviously not," said Mrs. Smith. "They reduced their rates last year."

Wilde said he thinks anybody associated with the recreation department should have to supply an audited report. "Do they give out free ice skates and extras, and if they didn't do this, could they afford to pay more for ice time. They have to get players for a strong team, but how far do they subsidize these players?"

"And yet you're telling me all minor soccer kids are subsidized 100 per cent," said Mrs. Smith.

Riepmma said it would be helpful to also have operating costs figures for ball diamonds, tennis courts and soccer fields.

Harold Townsley, Acton arena manager, said the groups pay their ice time with the gate receipts and could not operate if they shared.

Councillor Peter Marks pointed out the money from the snack bars would not be available to the town if groups did not stage events.

Councillor Pat Patterson said he was opposed to the increase for minor hockey. He claimed it will cost Acton an extra \$700. He said parents cannot afford to pay \$40 a boy, plus \$100 for equipment.

Minor lacrosse will pay \$9 an hour for all type games. Ball hockey leagues will pay \$12 an hour.

Junior lacrosse charges will go from \$10 to \$12 an hour, practice time, from \$15 to \$17 for games, and \$17 for playoffs, or 40 per cent of gross whichever is greater.

Community organized functions serving liquor will pay \$175, an increase of \$25 and without liquor will pay \$125, up \$25.

There were four draws on 23 sheets of ice, with 752 people curling. "It was a smashing success," according to McKenzie.

He was curling on a rink with two Scotmen and a man from Regina, Saskatchewan. Their opponents were a rink of women from Vancouver.

"It was all women vs. all men and they nearly beat us," confided Rev. McKenzie. He explained their skip got off to a bad start, but they caught up to earn an 8-6 tie. "I thought we were going to be clobbered."

All participants' scores were tallied to get the final results, which saw the North Americans come out on top, 607 to 576. All participants were presented with scrolls.

Rev. McKenzie is well known around town for his exploits on the golf course as well as the curling arena.

There is still room for more participants in recreation department spring courses, according to co-ordinator Karen King.

Ten people are registered in the ladies conditioning course to be held at Pineview school, Monday evenings. The same number are attending Swim and Trim at M.Z. Benne school, and Tuesday night Judo also had sufficient interest to continue the course.

Those interested in the trampoline with Keith Moore at Limehouse can still register. The program will be held with present registration however.

Wendy Hillman and Nadine Eaton will be teaching gymnastics at Speyside school. The Limehouse course was cancelled, as was adult modern dancing and jazz.

Beginner and Intermediate ballet, under the direction of Michelle Goodeve, is still planned.

Preschool classes with Lynda Bowen at St. Alban's is the only program filled to capacity.

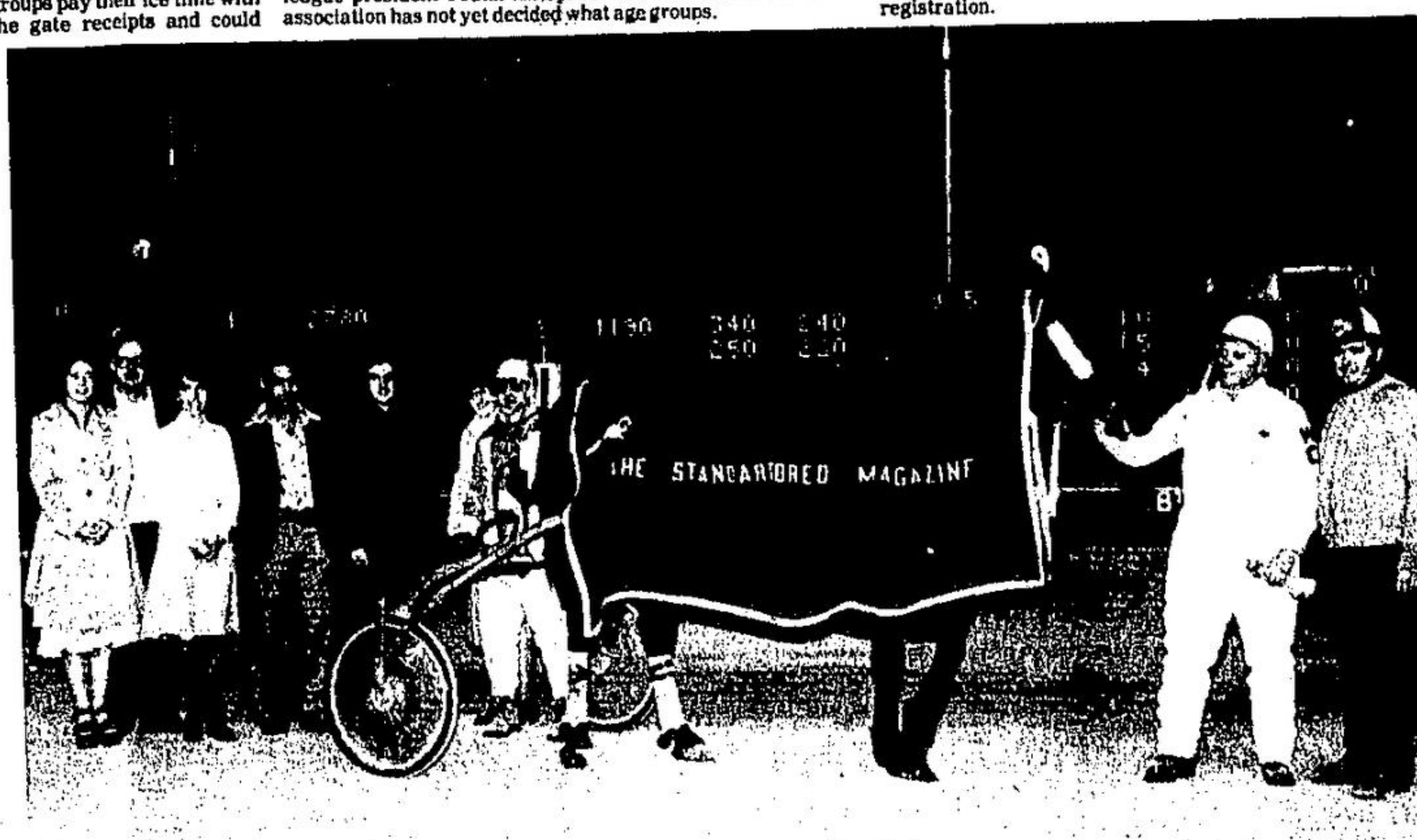
Ladies' slim down club was cancelled due to lack of registration.

Acton Minor Hockey Association will be using a Wintario grant of \$1,402 to help pay for new goalies' equipment for the upcoming season.

The association is looking to buy two sets of protective equipment for three different age groups, making a total of six complete sets.

"That stuff is getting pretty darn expensive" pointed out league president Frank Allsop. He told the Free Press the association has not yet decided what age groups.

Lynda McDonald, Clark Wallace, Richard Van Dine, Barbara Lennox, driver Charles Lawson and trainer Walter Clarke. The Standardbred Magazine is published and printed in Acton.



REPRESENTATIVES OF THE Standardbred Magazine made a trophy cooler presentation to Rev. Joe, winner of the featured trotting race at Mohawk Raceway, Friday, April 14th. From left to right are: Karen Cole, Alex Chidley,

Lynda McDonald, Clark Wallace, Richard Van Dine, Barbara Lennox, driver Charles Lawson and trainer Walter Clarke. The Standardbred Magazine is published and printed in Acton.