

# Decrease in parent involvement threatens Acton Skating Club

by Babe Mitchell  
The Acton Figure Skating club is in danger of folding.

Results of this year's two major money raising ventures for the club suggests that parents are less willing to contribute to the club's welfare than in previous years. These contributions including time and effort, are a vital part in keeping the

club financially solvent. The increasing reductions in parents' involvement was best shown at the last annual dance, March 4, when only 62 people attended as compared with 110 last year and 150 in 1977. Similar results were obtained from a candy sale and unless parents can be encouraged to increase their participation, the club may be forced to

close down. Already, the board of directors has decided it could not afford the financial investment of running a full scale carnival this year, and opted for a "Pop Concert" to end the skating season. The Acton Figure Skating club is run as a parent co-operative and is a non-profit organization. The major expenses, pro-fees, ice

time and CFGA fees are no longer fully covered by skating fees, which have not increased proportionately. Ice rates, set by Halton Hills, have more than doubled since 1975 and may triple by next year. Before regional government the town of Acton helped finance the pro's salaries and since 1975 the club has also had to

make up this difference. The Figure Skating club depends on serious support from parents in activities such as fund raising, increasing the membership, playing music during lessons, publicity and most importantly attending the annual meetings. It is at these meetings that present progress, problems, and future directions are

discussed and a new board of directors is elected. One such meeting has already been announced for March 27. In the past, attendance to the annual meeting has been poor and there have been few volunteers to serve on the decision making board of directors. It is hoped that this

year's meeting will be well attended, since many parents have expressed concerns regarding the cancelled carnival and the possibility of having fees raised again next year. Unless the parent membership commits a greater involvement to the club, the alternative may well be no figure skating in Acton.

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### Bantams advance with O/T win

Acton's last hope for an Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship is anxiously waiting to start semi-final play. The Acton Bantam Firefighters topped Glanbrook 5-4 in a thrilling overtime contest at the community centre last Friday to wrap up their Ontario quarter-

final series seven points to one. The game was a chippy one, "the kind" suspended coach Steve Marshall said "that allowed Glanbrook to pick up their only point of the series" a 4-4 tie in game two. Glanbrook got on the board early but Rob

Vermeulen's slap shot from outside the blue line evened the score a short time later with an assist going to Mark Duval. An unassisted effort by Gord McArthur with less than two minutes remaining in the first period gave the Firefighters their first lead of the day.

Tim Ferguson extended the Acton lead at the 6:44 mark of the second stanza with an unassisted marker to give Acton a two goal lead. Glanbrook would not give up the fight at that point. As three straight goals over the next ten minutes gave them a narrow lead, forcing

Acton to come back with a goal by Tim Ferguson to even the count with almost 12 minutes remaining in regulation time. Both teams had good scoring opportunities over the remaining time but neither could find the handle setting up the overtime. Acton needed only to play even in the ten minute overtime period. The overtime tie would give the Firefighters the magic six points they needed to advance them to the Ontario semi-finals.

Rick Greenley made sure of the Firefighters hopes of the semi-final berth with a goal from Gord McArthur and Andy Valvods at the mid-point of the frame. Steve Marshall, who was sitting out the second game of a two game sus-

pension, felt his team had not played as well as they had in their 4-1 win in Glanbrook. Marshall praised goaltender Tim Baker, Tim Ferguson and Rick Greenley for their fine play in the contest. Acton took 34 minutes in penalties in the match to 28 minutes for Glanbrook. Acton, who will now represent Southern Ontario, will meet the Western Ontario Champions from Petrolia

for the right to advance to the Ontario finals. The series win over Glanbrook brings to an end any hopes that the Firefighters could capture the Georgetown International Bantam Tournament divisional championship. Any team in OMHA play-offs at the time of the tourney are ineligible to compete. The tournament is scheduled for March 17 to 24 with 44 teams competing at Georgetown's Memorial Arena.



Glanbrook defenders seem to realize their fate as Acton Bantam Firefighters captain Tim Ferguson signifies to teammates and fans that the locals have taken the lead during the overtime period at the Community Centre Friday night. The goal gave the Firefighters a 5-4 lead that they held on to until the final buzzer giving them a series win and the right to advance in play-off action.



McKenzie-Smith eager Judi Vetricek concentrates on her lay-up during the North Halton Public School Basketball Championships at Acton High School last week. McKenzie-Smith girls topped Stewarttown in semi-final action but dropped a 18-15 heartbreaker to Centennial in the final. The boys from McKenzie-Smith upset Centennial in first round play but found E. C. Drury of Milton too tough in the final, falling 40-28.

### McKenzie-Smith falter in area finals

Acton High School gym was a busy place last week as the North Halton public schools took over the floor to hold their basketball championships. Both McKenzie-Smith teams, boys and girls, reached the finals but neither one could come away with the North Halton banner and the right to advance to the Halton Championships this week, also at Acton High. The McKenzie-Smith girls were favored in their division after a first-placed finish over the regular season but fell inches short in their bid for the title as Centennial of Georgetown captured the title with a 16-15 upset. McKenzie-Smith reached the finals with a 21-10 win over Stewarttown. Centennial edged W.I. Dick of Milton 21-18. The McKenzie-Smith boys reached the final with what could probably be considered the upset of the play-off. Finishing fourth in league play the Phantoms topped the

first placed Centennial team 20-16 and advanced to the title fight with E.C. Drury where they dropped a 40-28 contest. Drury reached the final with a 39-19 win over Stewarttown. The McKenzie-Smith girls had little trouble topping Stewarttown in their opening game after a slow first quarter in which they scored only four points. The Phantoms shut-out Stewarttown in the second period to hold an 11-2 lead at the half. Stewarttown fought back, picking up three points over the third period, but McKenzie-Smith replied with ten points in the final frame for the 21-10 win. Teresa Dunn led the Acton scoring attack with seven points. Judi Vetricek added six while Shirley Van Rijk contributed four. Mandy Monro paced Stewarttown with four. In the girls' final McKenzie-Smith looked as if they would walk away with the crown as they held Centennial off the scoresheet for the

first period, scoring eight points themselves. In the second period the Centennial team pulled up their socks, outscoring McKenzie-Smith 6-2 and putting themselves back in contention. In the third stanza Rosemary Gayle went to work for Centennial, netting eight points as her team took a narrow 14-13 lead. The teams exchanged a pair of points over the final quarter. Shelley Wong led the McKenzie-Smith charges with six points. Teresa Dunn counted four while Nancy Rhomas added three and Judi Vetricek two. In the North Halton boys semi-final match-up it was a strong second quarter by McKenzie-Smith that led to the upset of Centennial. The two squads played even over the first quarter but an explosive second period in which McKenzie-Smith netted nine points to only two for Centennial, was the margin of victory. Centennial got two points back in the third period and another in the last period but it was not enough to top the fired-up fourth place McKenzie-Smith as they recorded the upset win. Mark Walker led the Phantom scorers with eight points while John Kwiatkowski counted six and Scott Allonby five. In the final McKenzie-Smith stayed with E. C. Drury of Milton over the two quarters but ran out of legs over the final half of the contest. Drury moved in front of the McKenzie-Smith squad early in the match and held a narrow 8-6 lead at the end of the first period. McKenzie-Smith picked up one point in the second quarter and trailed by only 15-14 at halftime. Drury came on to outscore the Acton team 10-6 in the third frame and then 15-8 over the final six minutes to record the 40-28 win and take the North Halton banner. John Kwiatkowski led the McKenzie-Smith scoring parade with 12 points. Scott Allonby added eight and Mark Walker seven. Ken Kavanagh added the other Phantom point. Centennial girls and Drury boys will now represent the North Halton division at the Halton championships being held yesterday (Tuesday), today, and Friday at Acton High School.

### Beardmore's top 'burg advance to league final

After falling in the first round of Ontario Minor Hockey Association play-offs the Acton Beardmore Union Minor Pee-wees have picked up and are on their way to the Waterloo-Wellington league final. The Locals topped New Hamburg over the past week in straight games, 5-2 and 4-1, to advance to the final where they will tangle with Ferguson. Beardmore fell behind

early in the first game of the best of three series and trailed 2-0 heading into the final period. Mike Hudson exploded for four goals and set up another in the final frame as the pee-wees capped the comeback win. Jamie Lawson fired the other Acton goal while Les Berry added an assist on the first Hudson marker. In the second contest Hudson led from the start. Hudson was again the

dominating force for Acton scoring once and assisting on two others bringing his two game total to eight points in nine team goals. Bruce Raine, Les Berry and Jamie Lawson fired the other Acton markers. New Hamburg's lone goal was the topic of much discussion, according to Acton coach Bob Raine. "As far as I am concerned the score was 4-0," said Raine, "New Hamburg's goal was scored while the final buzzer was sounding."

### Pressmen advance to final Hillier paces Cleaners to win

Blow Press advanced to the Acton Industrial League final on Sunday night by virtue of a 6-3 win over Acton Terminal Warehouse in the second game of their best of three semi-finals but they will have to wait two weeks before resuming play. Family Cleaners, the team that walked over the league losing only one game, staved off elimination and humility as they came back from a 2-

0 first period deficit to record a 6-3 victory over Van's Welding, forcing a third and deciding game next week. Blow Press started off slow in their match with Acton Terminal Warehouse as the Warehouse got on the board first with a goal by Gary Pickles at the 13:03 mark. Harold Andrews and Randy Weldon assisted on the play. That was all the scoring for the first period. In the second

frame the torch ignited Blow Press. Four second period markers gave the Pressmen a comfortable lead that they would maintain over the remainder of the match. Russ Van Fleet scored the first Blow Press marker from Evan Hayter at 18:33 of the second frame. George McPhail gave the Pressmen their first lead of the day with an unassisted goal 1:23 seconds later. Van Fleet's second goal

from Ron Schmidt extended the lead and then Schmidt tallied one of his own to give Blow Press a 4-1 lead after two frames. Schmidt made it 5-1 with his second of the contest from Evan Hayter before the Warehouse got back on the board. Randy Weldon scored the Terminal's second goal with an unassisted effort. Schmidt notched the hat trick for Blow Press

from Van Fleet and Ken Slaney before they allowed Acton Terminal Warehouse their final goal of what would be their last game. Jim McNabb made the connection with Bill Fabian and Lorne Gordon earning assists. The second game on the industrial slate Sunday night was a wild and woolly affair as Family Cleaners had to come back from a 2-0 first period disadvantage to record a 6-3 win, and force a third and deciding game. Van's Welding scored the first goal of the game after only 28 seconds of play. Ted Jowett was credited with the marker with Dave Thompson drawing an assist. The Welders extended their lead at the period's mid-point and it looked as if Family Cleaners may be ousted in straight games. Jowett counted the second Van's goal with Thompson again assisting. Family Cleaners fought back over the second stanza and evened the count with a pair of goals off the stick of Ed Hillier. The first Hillier marker came at 15:40

with Rick Henderson drawing an assist. The second goal came with only 53 seconds remaining in the period, an unassisted effort. In the final stanza Gary Marsh put the Cleaners in front and then John Snow added to the lead with Ed Hillier grabbing an assist. With 3:30 remaining in the contest the Cleaners extended the lead as Dan Hillier found the range behind Rick Bonnette in the Van's goal with Bart Jacobs and Ed Hillier earning assists. Van's didn't throw in the towel at that point and with 1:11 remaining Dave Thompson scored unassisted to produce his third point of the game. Ed Hillier rounded off an excellent night scoring his third goal from Wayne Allan with 28 seconds remaining. Hillier counted two assists to accompany his three goals, producing a five point evening. Van's Welding and Family Cleaners will take to the ice again this Sunday at 7 p.m. in the third and deciding game of their series to decide who will go on to the league final and face Blow Press.



Acton Bantam Firefighter forward Gord McArthur attempts to make his move around a Glanbrook defender during game four of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association play-offs at the Community Centre Friday night. The Firefighters took the game 5-4 in overtime to eliminate Glanbrook from further play giving them the right to tangle with Petrolia in semi-final action.

### Ice rental rate increases could harm local sports

by Gord Murray  
Groups using Halton Hills' three arenas are facing stiff rate increases come September. The rate hikes could severely harm local ice sports already heavily financially burdened. Halton Hills council this month approved ice rental rate increases which will effect house league and rep hockey, figure skating, shinny hockey, Georgetown Chrysler Raiders, Georgetown Gemini and Acton Sabres. Rates for minor hockey and figure skating at Georgetown Memorial Arena, Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena and Acton Community Centre will go up \$8 an hour September 1. Other local groups using the rinks, such as the

Intermediate and Junior "B" clubs, will pay \$10 an hour more come the fall. The fee for non-residents wishing to rent ice time has also increased \$10. Another rate change which is sure to hurt Raiders, Gems and Sabres is a new charge of 10 per cent of the net gate revenue when admission is charged. This won't apply to figure skating and minor hockey. It hasn't been approved yet, but council is also looking at raising rental of the arena halls up to as much as \$100. Council turned down a recreation department request for a superintendent of arenas. It is estimated Halton Hills rinks lost in the vicinity of \$165,000 last year.