Sports Commentary

## The player no one wanted

You can't help wondering when watching a minor hockey tournament, or any minor sport tournament for that matter, just how many future stars are participating. You see a youngster exhibit a neat bit of stickhandling, or throw a perfect pass or lash out line drive after line drive and you think "Maybe I'll be reading about him in years to

Envy sometimes sidies into your thoughts when you think of the money, fame and adulation that gifted athletes are accorded. To many people, the best thing that could happen to them, or if not them, then their youngster, would be to become a professional athlete. "Good God, think of it. To be able to play a game and get paid for it."

There is another side to the story and because it's not exactly what you would term the happy face of sports it's been lurking in the background like an unwanted relative. It is, however, very much a part of the sports world and recently has been straining for the light of day. I'm referring to the athlete nobody wants. The

youngster who almost made the grade but not quite; the

hockey, football or baseball player whose glory days are behind him and, instead of the limelight he must now face shadows. It is a fact in sports, but no one involved in sports, least of all the athletes, wants to admit it's there. Now an organization has been set up, or is really still in the process of being set up because of lack of response, to deal with the athlete's problems once he is out of his sport. Another aspect of this organization's program is to

help educate promising young athletes in what they can expect during their chosen career and how to prepare for eventual retirement. The man in charge of this ambitious program is none other than the bad boy of both Canadian and American football, Cookie Gilchrist Gilchrist frankly admits that

the biggest problem he has encountered in setting up his organization is in getting people to believe that he is sincere and completely involved in this project. Gilchrist appeared on the sports scene at a time when athletes were brushcuts, swore that they went to church every Sunday and apologized profusely if they were overheard uttering a "dang" or an overly emphatic "gee whiz" It was also a time when the owners had complete

control of their players and tolerated no individuality. Gilchrist was an individual both on and off the field and therefore was considered a threat to the establishment. He fought for his rights, trumpeted his football abilities and lived his life to the fullest. This sort of thing is taken for granted now by athletes and by people who follow athletics, but in Gilchrist's time it was frowned upon, to say the least.

When his career was over he found himself completely alone and unwanted and, for the first time in his

# by Colin Gibson



life, had no one to look out for him. This, he says, is the most frightening realization that comes to ex-athletes. From an early age, they have been pampered and fawned upon and taken care of and have never really had to act on their own, Parents, fans, agents, sportswriters, coaches and owners have catered to every whim and for the most part, athletes have gone along for the ride never thinking that someday it might end.

It was almost too much for Gilchrist and at one point he even contemplated suicide. He began drinking heavily and lived in a dream world of screaming fans and adulation. When he finally realized that no one cared about Cookie Gilchrist the ex-athlete he decided to pull himself together and thus the idea for his organization was born. He knew there were many more ex-athletes who needed help because they couldn't cope on their own. You see them everywhere, at a corner table in a pub, wandering forlornly down a street asking people, "Remember me, I used to play for..."

With his reputation against him, Glichrist received no support at first. Then, strangely enough, ex-athlete's families would get in touch with him asking him to help their husbands or fathers or brothers. The organization Mwas finally getting on solid footing. The NFL and the CFL as well as other professional leagues have granted recognition but one aspect which bothers Gilchrist is the active players' attitude. Their response has been almost

Perhaps they don't want to admit that one day their careers will end and can't face the prospect. Perhaps they feel it's not manly to reach out and sak for help before they actually need it. Whatever the reason, Glichrist knows that for his ideas and organization to succeed, he must have their support. That is why it is better to say that the organization is still in the process of being formed.

Gilchrist's team includes lawyers, tax consultants, doctors, and ex-athletes who have been helped to lead conormal lives because of the organization. They attempt to prepare the athlete, in all sports for the eventuality of retirement. Gilchrist's people also lecture in high schools and universities and urge young men and women who are thinking of becoming professional athletes to plan ahead look to the future to ensure a solld have both for themselves and their families, outside of athletics,

What Guchrist is doing has been needed for a long itime. He is taking the glitter and the tinsel from sports and

exhibiting the reality. The proliferation of professional sports teams is allowing more and more young people to make money playing sports. Unfortunately few of them realize how leeting this moment in the sun can be. Only the top athletes last 15 or more years in sports and what's 15 years out of 75, or even 60? Similarly, there's a lot more to life than sports. Sports after all is basically entertainment. and should be regarded as such, not the be all and end all that some people regard it to be.

I feel that high schools and especially universities should offer counselling services to the young athlete. They do for every other profession. The field of sports must surely now be regarded as a profession and the young people who choose this profession have a right to be made aware of its disadvantages and pitfalls.

Finally, parents, who are sometimes blinded by the side benefits of an athletic career, should make a point of seeing that their children are fully aware of what they are letting themselves in for.

Broken down, stumbling ex-athletes have often been made to bear the brunt of many a joke. The unfortunate part about this is that there was no one around when they were young to offer them advice. This is not the case anymore. Help and advice are there for the asking and anyone involved in athletics should make sure that it is egiven out. No other profession can raise a person to the heights or depths that athletics can. I think it's about time that the middle ground was looked at a bit more closely.

### Centennial wrestlers can't shake Toronto

When you are a loser, no one When you are a loser, no one This past Saturday, the third lbs., Rick Balasko 123 lbs., Pete pays much attention. On the annual Centennial Wrestling Milne 115 lbs., Ian McKenzie other hand, when you are a Tournament was no exception.

winner, there can be no doubt. place. finished second. The team is Tecumseh. the toast of the Halton area

So far this year, the team has The teams finished as Scott Haines 115 lbs., Jim Allen competed in three dual meets follows; Robert Service "A", 69 lbs., Glenn Sparling, 83 lbs. (and won them all) and three Centennial "A", Tonkin Road, and Bob Dean, 106 lbs. tournaments, where they Robert Service "B" and Saturday's Tournament was

winner, there always seems one Perhaps the numbers system
team in particular which has had something to do with it, but chided, Danny Reynolds, 83
you in its sights and comes in Centennial's third annual flue, David Othen, 76 lbs., Dean
gunning for you.

That the Centennial Public finished first while Centennial John Colter, 63 lbs. Picking up School's wrestling team is a had to be satisfied with second fourths were, Dave Taggart, 150 lbs., Jim Carmichael, open

the last event for the boys locally although coach Jim Hall public school wrestling teams Individual winners for has lined up two more dual but their run for the roses in Centennial included; Brian meets and an appearance for tournaments has been folled by MacCormick in the 90 lb. class the team in an exhibition meet Robert Service Public School of and Steve Cropper in the 115 lb. in Buffalo, New York. As yet, Toronto whenever the twain class. Second place honors no definite dates have been set meet.

went to Frank Miedzinski, 69 for these encounters.



THE CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL'S wrestling team-finished second to Robert Service Public School in the third annual Centennial Wreatling Tournament held this past Saturday. Sitting left to right, Matthew Phillips, Mike Taylor, David Allen and Brian Davis. First row, left to right, Jim Allen, Frank Miedzinki, David Othen, Keith Ledger, Danny Reynolds, Herb Kewley, Guy Lancaster

and Dean Scalen. Second row, left to right, Jeff Skingley, Dave Taggart, Ron Held, Ian MacKenzie, Rick Balasko, Kevin Brown and coach Jim Hall. Back row, left to right, Brian McCormick, Steve Cropper, Joe Ibuki, Scott Haines, Peter Milne and Todd Bradley. (Absent, Phil Milne, John Colter, Dave Smarda, Bob Dean, Glenn Sparling and Jim

#### Who was to blame?

## Kaiders finished but questions remain

By Colin Gibson

Herald Sports Editor Another chapter in the continuing story of the Georgetown Raiderr, versus the OHA was added this past Wednesday in Toronto, when the OHA suspended Indefinitely a member of the Raiders executive pending his request for a hearing. According to the OHA, this man's name was linked to some papers concerning the Gerry Pearson incident and the OHA had no was false. An executive of the recourse but to suspend him. The OHA also stated that no other action was planned letter and the case was put against the Raiders team or any other member of the before the OHA. That in a mutshell, is the root of the Raider executive and that, unless new evidence con-Raiders troubles. cerning the matter was brought

were concerned, was finished. although no light matter, is just unanswered and the cloud which has surrounded the Raiders as a result of the team suspension still shows no sign of breaking up. Similarly, the actions taken by the OHA against the Raiders are unprecedented in league history and only serve to further cloud up the already disturbed waters

of Intermediate hockey. Gerry Pearson joined the Raiders' hockey club this past season and was duly registered as an import. The Raiders then claimed that Pearson had been transferred to Georgetown because of his job and that, according to established rules, could therefore be called a local player. They backed up this claim with letters from the two companies involved which in effect showed that Pearson had indeed been transferred. The Port Colborne team,

interest as the changing of an unprecedented step. import card and could use it to executive and suspended him. suggested is that they wanted a strengthen their team. Their Three penalties, all dealing winning hockey club and would investigation showed that not with the same matter. only had Pearson not been transferred, but the letter given up by the Raiders as proof that Pearson had been transferred. company involved stated that he had never heard of the man who purportedly signed the

The OHA then came into the tolight, the issue, as far as they picture and, has been their wont in years past, further confused things by their decisions. They first decided part of the issue here. Too that Pearson's card would just

previous year's play, became and the OHA then suspended termediate group have lost looking out for their own club's league play. This in itself was ingredient. Pearson's status meant that the Finally the OHA came down such extreme measures? The Raiders now had an extra on one man in the Raiders only answer that can be

> That the Raiders broke the rules, there is no question. acted decisively and promptly questions must be asked.
> on the issue instead of How can they single out procrastinating and dragging man as the culprit when the quite a few individuals.

formation is a serious matter fact, implicated by the and the OHA should have been Georgetown representatives investigating on their own at the tribunal hearing. The rather than relying on in OHA didn't produce his name formation supplied by a rival and, according to Port successfully must have his name either. decisions, which are supposed tually falsifled the documents many questions have been left have to be changed. Port to be final in the first place, the that were forwarded to the

Thanks Georgetown

suspicious. They were also the Ruiders from further much of this important Why did the Raiders resort to

> go to any lengths to obtain such an end. The OHA hasn't answered any questions by their However, the OHA should have recent decision and these

> How can they single out one out a matter which involved people who are running the club have been together for years? The falsification of in The man suspended, was, in

> team. Any league to operate Colborne, they didn't produce credibility and, by changing It is still not known who ac-

familiar with Pearson from the Colborne appealed this decision OHA and especially the In- OHA, or for that matter, who singled out and by his own approved of the falsification? It people. Is this the solidarity is an accepted fact that the that has been shown in the really resolved. The only Raiders executive are a tight- past? knit group and to put forward the premise that one man acted on his own is questionable. The Raiders have the OHA fold unsullied. With so questions won't be answered

previously stated that "the

Executive" had made a

one of their group is being

mistake. Yet now it seems that for Georgetown for bockey? This incident has damaged

hockey circles and is still not solution appears to be that The OHA decision in effect those people involved remove allows the remainder of the themselves from the bockey Raiders executive to return to scene in Georgetown. All the many questions still hovering in but with a clean slate perhaps limbo is this good for the OHA? the damage done will eventually be rectified.

## Ban snowmobiles council considers

A hot subject for town council this summer may be, of all things, snowmobiles. The town's new snowmobile bylaw governing how when and where snowmobiles may be used in Halton Hills, is almost ready for its first presentation to council. However already arguments are building over whether or not to allow snowmobiles on streets within the town.

"I have received many calls from people," reported Councillor Harry Levy, who, like myself, are concerned with allowing anowmobiles on public streets. "We don't object to snowmobiles but just

feel that there is a place for them and that place is not on the streets of Halton Hills." Councillor Levy called for the prohibiting of snowmobiles on all Halton Hills urban streets which is contrary to the recommendation in the yet to be approved bylaw.

The bylaw, it's reported, would allow snowmobilers to drive their machines on town streets at a reduced speeds, but only to and from their homes.

Totally prohibiting snowmobiles on all

not work in the rural area commented Councillor Dick Howitt, "Keeping them off the roads in the rural areas would only put them on private property. "At least if they're on the roads then the

used by snowmobiles.

Limiting the hours that snowmobiles can be used might be the answer. Councillor Coxe, concluded, but the problem with that would be entorcing it, be said. Councillor Joe Burst noted, "By reducing

the speed limit and reducing the hours that snowmobiles can be used in town we're going about as far as we can without achially banning them. But if council wishes to consider that, you can."

The bylaw is still being amended prior to

#### By Shirt Richmond

Playoffs are in full swing and all teams have been eliminated down to the semi-finalists. This Thursday and Friday nights, these semi-finals will take place, times and teams as scheduled. Saturday will be the big Chempionship Day for our house league, the Novices kicking off the games at 2:00 p.m. then on to the Atom, Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget and Juvenila finals at 9:00 p.m. The annual general meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, May 4 at Cedarvale at 1:30 p.m. Please note the date and plan to attend.

NOVICE LEAGUE Quarter-Finals - Second Game, Total Goals Georgefown Lions Club 3 Smith and Stone 2

Wilkes potted two goals, both unassisted, for the Lions club for the win on the series. Alan Pennylegion earned the shutout. MVP: Lions . Robby Wilkes. S & S: Kelth

Rexway BP 1 Armbro Transport 2 Armbro had a 2-1 lead after the first game then Brian Stone scored two for the BP crew for the win. Bruce Sheppard, Tim Panabaker and Jim McNamara assisted on the goals. Mike Mowat was in the nets for the shutout. MVP: BP: Tim Panabaker. Armbro: Mark

> Williams Electric 4 Armstrong Insurance 0

The electric crew went into the game with a 1.0 lead then added three more markers on the shooting of Doug Staddon with two, Derek Roy a single goal and assists to Andrew Mustard. Danny Halt and Stanley Smith. Stephen Roy earned the shutout. MVP: Williams: Derek Roy. Armstrong: Andy Fisher.

Dog 'N Suds 2 Team No. 3 0

A scoreless deedlock after the first game was finally broken by the Suds crew on the strength of two goals by Ken Ruff and Andrew Hughes with Wayne Deveraux and Doug Reld drawing assists. MVP: Suds: James Poirier. Team No. 3: Mike McCarthy.

ATOMLEAGUE Quarter-Finals - Sudden Death Quik-Pik Variety 1 Chris's IGA 1

Tim Harlow.

Both-teams scored twice in the game and the QP boys woh-after the scoreless overtime period on shots on goal by outshooting the food crew 1-0. Gary Cuthbertson and Gary Fobert were the goal getters with Martin Fisher and Fobert assisting. IGA shooters were Gien Barefoot and Bruce Kentner, each one assisting the other's MVP: Quik-Pik: Gary Cuthbertson. IGA:

Depco Metal Products 1 Erik Rance and Rick Walterson potted a pair of goals each to pace the motors attack with Tom McMenmy (2), and Rance assisting. Shayne Hillock set up Greg Lawr for the lone Depco goal. MVP: North Halton: James Sheaff, Depco: Shayne Hillock.

A.V. Tennant Construction 2 Fendley Florists

A pair of goals by Steve Williams gave the construction gang the whitewash win. Dave Whitehead and Mike Banks assisted on one of the goals and Pat Rouse posted the shutgut.

Copy of a letter sent to Harry

Just a brief note to thank you

and your committee for their

outstanding efforts in making

our players and their parents

feel welcome at your

Georgetown Bantam Tour-

nament. Everyone had a great

time and although we could

Levy, chairman of the

Georgetown International

Bantam Tournament.)

MVP: Tennant: Steve Williams. Fendley: CAC Finance 4 Varian Associates 1

have done better on the ice, the

All of the boys enjoyed their

billets. Again our thanks to a

wonderful group of people.

Georgetown has much to be

proud of in the professional

manner in which it's Tour-

nament is conducted and run.

trip was a great success.

Paul Clark notched two goals to pace the finance crew with John DeHaas and Mark Hills edding singles. Clark and Scott Hunter earned assists on Hills marker. Scott Reed from Barry Stone replied for Varian. MVP: CAC: Mark Hilts. Verlan: Barry

Sincerely yours.

Dan Distel, Manager

Lincoln Metal Hawks

Southfield Michigan.

Rodgers Speed & Custom 3 A. V. Tennant Construction 2

Grent Nairn sunk the winner late in this close game for the custom win. Dick Greenwood and Ray Wallace scored the other goals with assists to Wallace, Don Henderson, Kevin Griffiths and Nairn. Tennant shooters were Mike Banks and John Sellar with Alan Monaghan, Dave Whitehead and Les Johnson assisting.

Quik-Pik Variety 2 Mark Waters shot the hat trick, Pete McKinnon added two more and Tom Chlovitti and Shawn Zuber shot singles for the big A&W win. Assists went to Bob Gimpel (2), Stave Tancoo, Waters, Zuber and Dave Corris. Ron Wright from Paul Smith scored the ione variety

PEE WEE LEAGUE Quarter-Finals - Sudden-death "A" Division

Barrager's Cleaners 2 Mac's Milk 6 Two goals late in the game by Dave Veltch

#### GDMHA weekly schedule

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Foberts Real Estate vs MacPherson's Esso 8:00 p.m. Fong's Restaurant vs Stevenson's Men's 8:50 p.m. Wear 9:50 p.m. Knights of Columbus vs Neilson's

FRIDAY, APRIL 11 Rodger's Speed & Custom vs CAC Finance North Halton Motors vs A&W Drive-In 8:30 p.m.

Ontario Electrical League vs Dockeray 7:30 p.m. Plumbing & Heating Standard Products vs Neil's Music Centre 8:20 p.m. Lane's Transport vs Scotiabank 9:20 p.m. Jim's Steering Service vs Exchange House 10:20 p.m.

**BATURDAY, APRIL 12** Novice Championship Final 2:00 p.m. Atom Championship Final Winner 5:40 p.m. Friday ve Winner 8:30 p.m. Friday 4:00 p.m. Pee Wee Consolation Final

Murray Motors vs Winner 7:30 p.m. Friday 5:15 p.m. Pee Wee Championship Final Barrager's Cleaners vs Winner 8:20 p.m. Friday

6:30 p.m. Bentam Championship Final Winner 8:00 p.m. Thursday vs Winner 8:50 p.m. Thursday 7:45 p.m. Midget Championship Final

Montego Construction vs Winner 9:20 p.m. Friday 9:00 p.m. Juvenile Championship Final Winner 9:50 p.m. Thursday vs Winner 10:20 p.m. Friday

and Doug Ivany gave the cleaners crew the win over the stubborn 4-towners. Russ Hammer, Mike Basumier, Velich and Ernie Haller essisted on the goals, Ron Tribble earned the shutout.

> Standard Products 5 Kinsmen Club 0

Gord Tribble and Robin Rivers scored two goals each in the products romp with Andrew Shenton adding a single. Assists went to Bill Wheeler (2), Jim Ripley, Paul Lesley, Shenton, Carmen Lorusso and Tribble. Jim McIntyre sarned the shutout.

Nell's Music Centre 3 G. R. Muckart 1

The game was fied 1-1 after the first period on Mark Hamiltons music goal and Scott Sanvido from Dave Bruton for the plumbers. Then Gary Yates and Lindsay McQueen hammered home two more for the win with Chris Lysholm, Kevin Hughes and Alex Sakulovich assisting.

> "B" DIVISION Murray Motors 4 Chicken Villa 2

A strong team effort and goals by Craig McLaughlin, Brad Tyndall, Ian Boyer and Richard Moore gave the motors crew the win. Assists were earned by Todd Cronkwright, Chip Jones, Dave Civiero and Ian Boyer. Villa goals were scored by Doug Smith with Scott Brush assisting on one.

Ontario Blectrical League 4 Bas Motors 2

The game was fled 2 all at the end of regulation time and was decided on shots on goal in the overtime. Electrical shooters were Mark Taylor and Danny Knight with Tim Peck and Jim Kemper assisting. Chris Haines and Dave Robinson were Baz shooters, Cameron Monk assisting on one.

Dockersy Plumbing and Heating 2 Robert Gougeon Furnishings 1 With seven seconds left in the overtime period, Alex Paterson sat up Ron Coffey for the winner. Eartler Peter Farkas from Larry Gray had combined on the first Docksray score. Paul. Kirby from Brian Kalwies scored for Gougeon.

BANTAM LEAGUE QUARTER-Finals - Sudden-deuth Fong's Restaurant 3

Armbre Construction 0 A pair of goals by Ron Sguigna with the winner and insurance markers gave Fongs the win. Paul McCormick added a third goal into the empty net and Terry Haines had an assist; Don Farkas was in the nets for the shutout.

> Foberts Real Estate 4 Fred's Auto Body 1

The real estate crew built a 3-0 lead in the first period on goals by Mark Faiby, Dave Dickenson and Craig McGilly with Steve Bastedo (2), and Mike Henderson assisting. The teams traded goals in the final period, Henderson from McGilly for Foberts and Jim Lesley, unassisted, for Fred's.

Georgetown Chrysler 3 Elks Lodge 0

The 4-towners dumped the lodge crew behind the two goals shooting of Keyln Thompson and a single by Terry Cull with Dale Love, Scott Osborne, Rob Ripley and Cull assisting. Rob Sommerville earned the shutout. Johnson Carney Reat Estate &

Depos Metal Products 4

A high scoring game and the J & C gang, led

only people they are going to hurt in a crash will be themselves." But Councillor Len Coxe felt that residents of rural areas should be just as well protected against snowmobiles as those in urban areas of the town. "It's not just a safety

factor we've got to consider but also a nuisance factor...People who live close to the road don't enjoy having their thoroughfares

its formal presentation to council.

by a five goal outburst by ian Rannachan, worked hard for the win. Frank Lenski, Don Poirier, and Stave Keslick shot singles with essists going to Kelsick (3), Chris Szczepeniak, Brian McLood and Glan Matchin (3). Depco shooters were Scott Wilson (a pair), Tim MacLeod and Joe Domingos with Gien Mercer, MacLeod, Ricky Fisher and Dean Spittal essisting.

MacPherson's Esso 7 Johnson & Carney Real Estate 1 Dan Martin with two goals paced the esso attack, Ed Thatcher, Pete Clarke, Mark Kirley, Rick Donaldson and Dan Johnson shot singles. Assists were earned by Rick Flindall, Gord Holloway, Clarke, Larry Davis, Martin (2),

Kirley, Marc Pelletler, and Eldon Eckroth.

Steve Brandt from Tom Wylle and Steve Keslick replied for J & C. Stevenson's Mens 'weer 4 Georgetown Chryster &

The mens wear gang bounced the 4-towners on the shooting of Alex Virag, Dave Monroe, Jamie Hansen and Mike Burns with Herb Johnson, John Warnock and Dave Lemming (2) assisting. Brian Gunding was in the nets for the shutout.

MIDGET LEAGUE

Quarter-Finals - Sodden-death Lane's Transport 3 Cable TV 1 Scott Dwyer scored the winning and in-

surance goals for the transport gang and assisted on the first goal scored by Sam Watt. Assists also went to Paul Sargent, Gerry Mac-Donald, Al Reed, Tony Graham-Smith and Armend Chaisson. Brock Rush, unassisted, scored the lone Cable goal.

Scotia Bunk S Masson Motors 5

A good team effort by the money boys over the short-staffed motors gang provided the win. Ken Garbutt, Tom Diamond and Scott McLaughlin were the goal getters with Mike Spiteri and Dave Paterson assisting. Mark Harria earned the shutout. Montego Construction 8

Burns Transport 5 Another high scoring game with the bantam

4-fowners emerging winners. Curt Brownies potted two, Scott Turner, Gord Miller, Jeff Richardson, Brent Butterworth, Dave Bew and Joe Spitzer added one each with assists to Craig Wilson, Soltzer, Butterworth, Tony Kraus, Bew and Bill Kent (2). Burns marksmen were Todd Beckett a pair, Mike Ackroyd, Paul Krowchuck and Steve McNamera with assists to Ted Phillips, Krowchuck (2), Pete Stapleton and Jeff -Lockwood (2).

JUVENILE LEAGUE Final League Games Kalents of Columbus 5

Exchange Heuse 1 Gree Bodner, Doug Thompson, Terry Richmond, Doug Timpson and Grant Bodnar scored a goal each for the knights win with Terry Moffat, Ray Hayes, Marc Lacoursierre, Thompson and Bob Lockwood assisting. The only exchange goal was scored by Brian Eves from Dave Blight.

Jim's Steering Service 3 Naislen Crispy Crunchers 0

Gary Miller got two insurance goals, Vince Lefebyre potted the winner with Rob Mossop and Dan Doer assisting, for the steering win over the midget 4-towners.