

## Sports beat



By Tony Panacci

### OHA not doing much for tour

"Merry Christmas, the OHA, may I help you," said a most pleasant female voice.

"Yes, may I speak to Brent Ladds please?" said I.

"I'm sorry Mr. Ladds isn't in yet," came the reply.

"What time is he expected," said I.

"Anytime now," the secretary said.

"Okay, I'll call back later."

I proceeded to call Mr. Ladds, who is executive manager of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association, numerous times. None of those times was I successful in speaking to him. He was either on the other line, busy talking to someone who had come in to see him, eating lunch or not expected back for the rest of the day.

Finally, the secretary offered to help me out. I told her that I wanted to speak to Mr. Ladds concerning the upcoming tour of the Austrian National Team.

The secretary told me that she knew as much as Mr. Ladds did. That is, she knew the team's itinerary.

I told her, I was expecting a press kit, through the Georgetown Raiders, which was to include photograph (s) and all types of juicy material about the team.

She said she would check on that for me. She came back on the line to tell me that the press kit had "gone up in smoke." The Austrians had not sent it.

I then asked her to please tell me of anyone who could help me regarding information about the team.

She said that Bill Glover was going to be the tour director and that he might have some information. She then gave me his number.

"Hello."

"Yes, hello, is Mr. Glover in."

"You're speaking to him."

"Yes, Mr. Glover my name is Tony Panacci. I work for the Halton Hills Herald and I would like some information concerning the tour of the Austrian National Team."

"The person to talk to there would be Brent Ladds," Brent Ladds!

"I have already spoken to Mr. Ladds' secretary and she suggested phoning you."

"Well, I'm waiting to get information regarding the tour from him."

I then made a phone call to CAHA offices in Ottawa hoping to get information. The secretary there suggested that I talk to Mr. Glover.

There is no doubt that the Austrians tour will be a successful one in this international hockey crazed country.

However, teams are involved with the tour, including the Raiders, are paying the OHA and Austrians good money and one would expect some help in the advance publicity department.

Originally the CAHA was to handle the tour. They could not lineup enough teams so they asked the OHA to take it over.

The OHA, with Ladds at the helm, then proceeded to lineup a seven game tour. They however did not do anything to help the teams sell tickets.

As previously mentioned the Raiders should have little trouble selling tickets for the January 5 date with Austrians.

However, the executive has been waiting for the press kit for nearly a month. The OHA never even bothered calling to tell the executive members that the press kit had been shelved.

Last year with the Yugoslavians coming, the Raiders were not completely happy with the advance promotion they received from the CAHA. However, compared to this year's work in that regard done by the OHA, the CAHA did a great job.



Paul Beattie

### Meet the Coach

The Georgetown Al Pitutti Minor Atom's Paul Beattie is at present in his second year at the team's helm.

Beattie is a relatively newcomer to the Georgetown area moving here in 1975.

Previous to moving here he coached for seven years in Toronto, most of the time with the MTHL.

After moving here he spent two seasons with the GDMHA coaching novice teams.

Which all means, that although Beattie is still very young he already has 11 years of coaching experience.

Before turning to coaching Beattie was a rep hockey player in the Toronto area.

Beattie told The Herald that his philosophy is to give every player on his team equal ice time.

"I think at that age it is important that you make hockey an enjoyable experience for the kids," he said. "If you start benching players it may turn them off hockey. I try to make it fun for all of them."

The coach also said he be-

lieves in having his players, except the goalies of course, play all the positions.

"I do that for a couple of reasons," he said. "First of all if in a game situation the defenseman makes a rush and a forward has to cover up for him, I think it is better that he be familiar with the position."

"Another reason I do it is because later on in their hockey lives if they are trying out for a team, there may be too many kids at one position. I think it is good for a player if he can tell his coach that he can also play another position in which there may not be as many players trying out."

As for winning, Beattie said that he sees it as purely an incentive to play well. "I think the most important thing is that the players have fun."

The coach has no sons in the hockey season. He has a two and a half year old and his wife is expecting their second child. Therefore he says he did not get to see too much hockey, aside from his team, last year.

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## 16 teams are in midget tourney

Six of the 16 teams that will compete in the Georgetown Invitational Midget Hockey Tournament will be from Triple "A" Leagues.

Zeke McCandless, who is the chief organizer for this year's event which will begin on January 16, said that it should be a well-balanced tournament and the competition should be keen.

The Triple "A" clubs will be Guelph, Brampton, Bramalea, Ottawa, London and Dunnville.

Double A teams entered in the tournament are Port Colborne, Stoney Creek, Preston, Milton, Saltfleet, Bowmanville, Georgetown, Woodstock and Ancaster.

The final team participating in the tournament is Orangeville, an A squad. However, they too have a very strong team and are currently on a seven-game winning streak.

"If things go normally a Triple A team should win the tournament," McCandless said. "But in tournament play you never know."

Two years ago the unexpected happened when Stratford, a double A team took the championship. They beat Bowmanville, another Double A team, in the final that year.

Member of that Stratford team went on to form the nucleus of that town's Junior "B" team which won the Sutherland Cup last year.

Last year there were no major surprises as Peterborough, a powerhouse, beat a tough Hamilton club in the final. Those two teams will not be back this year. McCandless said they are involved in the Silver Stick tournament.

The star of last year's tournament was undoubtedly Peterborough's Larry Floyd, who was named the Most Valuable Player.

The little winger is now with the Junior A Peterborough Petes, who are one of the league's best teams, and is among their leading scorers.

McCandless said several of the players who participated in last year's tournament are now with Junior A teams.

Neil Cotton's Georgetown Sunny Acres Farms Major Midgets also had an excellent tournament last year going all the way to the semi-finals before being ousted.

The midgets of this year have not been faring too well, but as McCandless said tournament play is different than league play.

"A team's whole season can be turned around if they really come up big in a tournament," McCandless said.

McCandless also said that as far as he knows Ottawa could be the favorite heading into the tourney. The other Triple A teams of course will also be strong and as previously mentioned one of the double A teams or Orangeville could also have a big tournament.

This is the thirteenth year for the tournament. Al Adams was its chief organizer last year.

This year McCandless has been helped in organizing it by Dean Taylor and Bob Wray.

The tournament week will begin on the Tuesday with three games. There will also be three on the Wednesday and two on each Thursday and Friday. It will conclude on the Saturday with 10 games.

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