



**Mark
Clairmont**
Sports Editor

The beauty of fitness and sport

One bright light in this week's defeat of the government, for Canadian sportsmen anyway, is the prospect that Iona Campagnola may once again return to the post of Fitness Sport and Recreation minister, if her party can grill their teeth enough to win. The former Liberal cabinet minister would certainly be, if nothing else, a more literally attractive alternative to her defeated successor in the Clark government, Stephen Eugene Paproski.

Although she and her party's policies were defeated six months ago, her presence in the sporting world has not faded away quickly. If she is re-elected Feb. 18 she may not be missed at all. Her replacement, like many of his fellow colleagues, has yet to get around to his designated duties before getting slammed into the boards and thrown out of the game.

UNSCATHED

She, on the other hand, did get into the game, shooting, scoring and mixing it up with anyone who came under her wing. Her responsibilities as minister of sport brought her into contact with all levels of sport from minor hockey tykes to the owners of the big league franchises. And she ruled with a big stick. She could knock out Harold Ballard with one punch or handle the most sensitive matters with kid gloves. All this and she still emerged as unscathed as former heavyweight boxing champ Muhammad Ali would after a title bout.

Her luck with the sports lotteries may have been another nail in her party's coffin but, like the balancing trade policy in hockey here in Georgetown, it was good in theory and on paper. Once again poor management. This too can be repaired or restructured for the betterment of those it was meant to benefit.

Sports involve millions of people which subsequently means millions of dollars. Normally it is the participant who pays the lion's share of the cost. As the endeavor becomes more involved, and thus the number of people grows, the monetary necessity increases. To the rescue come sponsorships, either through the corporate or government end.

WINTARIO

When business sources run dry and private subscription no longer proves fruitful the public coffers are invaded, through the backdoors of government. A tug at the purse strings usually becomes a grab. Fortunately we in Ontario have the Wintario funds to help encourage amateur sport and fitness in the province.

Those in the eastern and western provinces do not have a similar government sponsored program to aid their search for a pot of gold. Here is where Ms. Campagnola's scheme was to have come in handy. What could have been more handy than sports lotteries? Betting on games in a legalized gambling arena would have been the ideal way to raise sufficient funds to properly train our financially beleaguered world class and amateur athletes.

This is not to say that the Canadian government should get into the practice, developed by other countries around the world, of glorifying their country through their competitors. We shouldn't be solely devoted to seeing our flag raised and our national anthem played because we diverted our tax dollars towards a person who can leap tall buildings in one bound. What I am saying is that perhaps the lady minister was on the right track but running too fast. Legalized gambling of sorts is expected to be adopted in the not too distant future for the masses. Government runs them now. Look at the money our leaders pick up to spend on us through cigarettes, booze and other entertainment taxes. Maybe if we spent the money Americans do, betting on football and other sports, the government might take up the option.

In a country with our size and diversity we should be a pace setter rather than an in-the-pack follower. And, with a woman in charge of a predominantly male oriented diversion what could be better for our sportsmen and women?

Men's squash teams win 4-1

As another year fades away and the fall squash season comes to an end, racquet players at the Georgetown club are preparing for a Christmas and New Years tournament in aid of the Heart Fund of Canada. The nationwide tournament will last three weeks ending in early January. The entry fee of \$5 will be donated to the local fund and prizes and trophies will come through other donations.

The winner of the Georgetown club will compete in their district's west end competitions, with the winner going on to the regionals from where if they win they will advance to the provincials.

Local players could fair well in advanced play if they keep up playing the way the mens' competitive team players played this week. All three teams won their competitions 4-1.

The B team were at home to the Supreme Racquet Club of Mississauga when they won. Boyd Hoddinott was the only loser of the day in the first game. He lost 3-1. Terry

Madill came on to even the series with a 3-0 win in games. Al Kogon put the team ahead in sets with a 3-2 winning set. Rod Eastwood and Norm Hertz wrapped the match up with 3-0 wins.

The D team, playing away at the Oakville club Thursday, went through the same pattern losing the first game, then coming on to take the remaining four. Jim Morwick was the only one to lose. His score was 1-3. Paul Duval then won 3-2 followed by Andrew Deruchie with a 3-1 score and Christine Kogon with a 3-0 shutout. Doug Fairigan won 3-2.

At the Hamilton Thistle Club the C team came away winners led by Alex Furness with a 3-1 win. Dave Rivers had some trouble with his opponent losing 1-3. Terry Gain reversed that with a 3-0 win. Barry Griffiths and Dave McEwen handled their competition fairly easily with 3-1 wins.

The men play their final games this week, resuming in early January.

Jills compete at Ontario meet

Jenny Gallagher led five other members of the Halton Hills Jills gymnastics club into the first central Ontario qualifying meet of the season, for the provincial stream on the weekend in Oakville. Her second place finish in the vault was the best result for the team. She also placed sixth on the beam in the Argo C (under 12 category). Alissa King also competed in that age group.

Competing in the Argo B (14 and under) section were Gail Eastwood and Larissa Hretchka. In Junior B were Kim Kirk and Jennifer Pepper. Pepper placed sixth on the beam, bars and floor routine.

The girls will compete at two more meets, at the end of January in Burlington and in Milton and Guelph at the end

of March, at which time the top six in each discipline will go on to the provincial regional championships.

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NOISE MAKERS
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Athletes (and students)

in Action at GDHS

Tomorrow afternoon at GDHS students will get their chance to test their athletic abilities against professional football and hockey players. Zenon Andrusyshyn, Peter Mueller, Stu Lang and Bubby Stapleton will be competing against selected students in two separate sessions of sports events. The three CFL stars and hockey playing Stapleton will try to outdo their young rivals in sit ups, basketball and a couple other skills.

Between the contests the four men will also be speaking about their lives in their sports as well as their involvement in Athletes in Action. In the evening they will address the monthly meeting of the North Halton Christian Men's Fellowship dinner meeting at the North Halton Golf and Country Club. The meeting is open to fathers and sons who wish to hear them.

This is the second time Athletes in Action has brought professional players to speak to students at the high school.

Wishing everyone on our Christmas list an old-fashioned wish for health, wealth and happiness!

G/S TELEVISION
GUEPHVIEW SQUARE GEORGETOWN
877-9541