



**Mark
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Sports Editor

American gold looks good on Russians

With the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York, now a part of history, an editorial cartoon in the Monday edition of the Toronto Star pretty much summed them up best. Cartoonist Roschkov depicted the hockey gold medal presentations. American President Jimmy Carter is standing on the dais in the centre wearing the gold medal around his neck, flanked on the right by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev with the silver medal and King Karl Gustav of Sweden, sporting the bronze. All are decked out in hockey gear complete with sticks. Carter is seen sneering at Brezhnev "Boy - does that look good on you!"

It is such a natural observation of "The Games" that I wouldn't be surprised if it won an award somewhere or was reprinted throughout our friendly neighbour's land.

Although some are saying that the 1980 Olympics will be remembered as the Games that Eric Heiden built, with his five speed skating gold medals, somehow I think that more Americans and world watchers, and I know Canadians, will recall them with fondness as the year the Yanks beat the Ruskies, and us Canadians in our national winter game.

They will remember a young bunch of college student amateurs who got together six months before the February Games and who were probably one of the lowest of the underdogs expected to win a gold medal in shinny. After all it was 20 years since they had won a gold medal in this sport. And that was before the Europeans had developed their talents to their present level of proficiency. Even the Canadians, in their return to The Games, were expected to do better.

From the "Games Notebook" of the Toronto Sun, comes a report that "U.S. hockey coach Herb Brooks, in one of his more serious moments, hinted at the political situation with Russia when he said: 'All I can say is that the Good Lord works in very strange ways.'"

The American hockey gold victory is reminiscent of the playoff series the Gemini hockey team is, or was?, taking part in with the Burlington Cougars. Like the Russian the Cougars are the far superior team both in terms of talent and experience. Veterans of good hockey. However as the Americans and the Gems both proved on Sunday team efforts count for more than on-paper assumptions or past performances. Each time you face-off it is a whole new ball game.

The Gems I have watched are young and some experienced but, most of the season, not as a team. As the season is coming to a close for them they are starting to find themselves and would probably do quite well if they played all year like the Russians. However they don't and they still managed this weekend to come up with inspiring hockey which, too like their American counterparts, is a derivative of the spirit they receive from their fans and supporters.

The young men on both these teams demonstrate the need to allow the sports in general to stick to themselves without interference from outside concerns. Sportsmen are into "their bag" because that's what they like doing or are good at, and surely not for the glory or for the sole purpose of the glory of their country. It seems the countries jump on the sport bandwagon more than the sports jump on the country's bandwagon, other than for funds, which are directly attributable to the politics of sports.

Ian Clark, the young man who can run with the world's best youths, could achieve similar accolades for Canada if that's what the government seems to want by keeping sport and politics so closely linked. Kris Barber or Dave Watson could also be going for gold in figure skating some day if politics do not interfere with the upcoming, and they will be, Summer Olympics in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic.

Prime Minister, elect, Pierre Trudeau may be right in not committing himself to a boycott of the next Games. Although Canada is now the United States' confirmed best friend, we do not have to sacrifice our own ideals because of friendships.

President Carter is right in trying to do something to make "the enemy" see the error of our ways, and perhaps those of the world. However, I'm sure the Republicans and Democrats can come up with some other way to get their point across. They've sat on the Iranian crisis longer than the supposed Afghan situation, without acting as strongly as the urging a world-wide boycott of an event that is meant to foster world relations rather than deteriorate them by forcing the world to choose sides openly against one-and-other.

It may be better that Ian Clark be kept out of the world cross-country championships in Paris, France, for medical reasons rather than for political reasons as it may come to yet.

GDHS

Win Peel-Haltons in swimming pool . . .

BY CAYLEY GRESSWELL

"The quality of swimming in Halton County is the fastest improving in Ontario." This quote by Georgetown coach Tom Adams, was proven true on Friday when Georgetown won the Peel-Halton swim championships.

Halton teams took the top five spots as for team standings, with Erindale High School (Peel champions) finishing in seventh spot, and J.A. Turner finishing slightly ahead of them in sixth spot. Lord Elgin and Oakville-Trafalgar took fourth and fifth spots, Q.E.P. placed third, with 441 points, and Nelson High School, moving up from third place in the Haltons, placed second with 471 points. Georgetown was by far the best team there, winning the Peel-Halton title by over 200 points, with a team total of 684.5 points.

The junior girls 200 metre

medly relay placed first. The team consisted of Heather Gibbs, Karen Coleman, Erin McIntyre and Debbie Newman.

Steve Crow placed second in the 200 metre freestyle and 50 metre butterfly, as well as placing third in 100 metre individual medley.

Tiny Cheryl Thompson had a good day, placing first in 100 metre I.M., and second in 100 metre freestyle. Suzanne Abray placed third in 100 metre freestyle, (behind Thompson), and took a second place finish in the 50 metre freestyle.

Eric Elson and younger brother Don, both proved that swimming runs in the family by Eric winning three second place ribbons in the 50 metre freestyle, 100 metre I.M. and 100 metre freestyle. Brother Don, in his first year competing for GDHS won the junior boys 100 metre I.M.

Karen Coleman placed first in 50 metre breast

stroke and 100 metre I.M.

Veteran swimmer Beth Stewart won two seconds and one third, and Andy Bigg took two thirds. Heather Michie and Len Fisher each took a first. Kim McLeod and Liz Ramsey both had second place finishes. Kevin Thompson and Rick Eastwood each had a third place finish.

The star of this meet, though was, Erin McIntyre, a grade nine student, and a complete newcomer to competitive swimming. Even though she has been ill for several days, she came back to make a valiant effort and take a first, a second and third place finish.

Georgetown has qualified an unprecedented 23 swimmers for the OFSSA competition March 1st. (Saturday) at the Etobicoke Olympium.

The team is eager to compete in OFSSA but every year the same problem

comes up that of weather, it is fair for club swimmers who practice up to six hours a day, to compete with high school swimmers who train

six hours per week. On one hand as swimmer Allison MacDonald says "Casa, Canadian Amateurs Swimming Association), swimmers lighten the competition, and make it much more of a challenge". On the other hand, swimmers who do very well at the Peel-Haltons, have almost no chance at OFSSA competing against CASA swimmers.

Coach Adams feels that this problem could be solved by "Creating two OFSSA meets, one for CASA trained swimmers, and one for high school trained swimmers". But, as for now this concept is only being discussed, thus Georgetown will have to settle for another disappointing OFSSA tournament for at least another year.

. . . and in wrestling mats

BY CAYLEY GRESSWELL

Thursday's winning preformance by the GDHS wrestling team at the Peel-Haltons was what coach Bob MacKay called "The best wrestling by GDHS in about five years, in terms of Georgetown domination."

Georgetown won both Haltons and Peel-Haltons, even though their record for the year isn't as impressive as other years. Several of Georgetown's titles changed hands this year, including their title as unbeaten champions of the Georgetown Invitational.

Saturday, GDHS had no problem hanging on to the Peel-Halton title, and it should be noted that Georgetown has never lost the Halton or Peel-Halton championship.

The local squad handily won with 119 points, while second place White Oaks (Oakville) managed 73 points. Two Peel teams, Central Peel and Erindale High School, were well back

with third and fourth place team totals. This meet was completely Halton dominated.

ONTARIO FINALS

Georgetown obviously had a good day placing 11 out of 115 wrestlers in the top 3 of their weight class and qualifying nine wrestlers for Ontario finals next weekend. They captured seven firsts, and two seconds.

Mike and Bob Sweezie, both in grade nine, each won their respective weight class, as did Frank Miedzinski Joe Ibulki, Bill Davis, Kevin Brown and Rick Widmont. Dean Seallen and Mike Taylor placed second.

By placing either first or second, these wrestlers have qualified to compete in the OFSSA wrestling tournament to be held Friday and Saturday in London. Friday's match will be held at Saunders High School, while the finals on Saturday will be held at the University of Western Ontario.

Other wrestlers who

competed for GDHS in the Peel-Haltons were, Tim Dixon and Jeff Wood, who each placed third. Also wrestling were Ian McIver, Mark deHeuck, Ron Martin and Ken Ward.

Both coaches, MacKay and Smith are excited with this weeks win, and this weeks OFSSA tournament. Coach Smith feels that "we have as solid a team as I can remember". He is really optimistic about Saturday's tournament. Georgetown placed eighth last year and coach Smith feels that "if our wrestlers, wrestled the way they did for the Haltons and Peel-Haltons, I believe we'll place in the top five, however, if everyone wrestles up to his potential, we could possibly win the OFSSA championship."

300 TEAMS

OFSSA will be the final climax of the wrestling season. Georgetown will be competing with almost 300 teams from across the Province, with the most

competition anticipated to come from, Fergus, Central Tech, Bayview and Assumption.

Several Georgetown wrestlers, who have done well all year, are expected to do well at OFSSA. Mike and Bob Sweezie, Frank Miedzinski and Joe Ibulki, are expected to do well.

Coach MacKay says "all our guys are capable of winning matches at OFSSA". Before they leave on Thursday, for London, the coaches are trying to "Level them down for Saturday, so they don't get too excited." This means that the team is practicing extra hard. Coach MacKay also said, "we know they can wrestle well, but we don't want them in a position where they're too hyper to wrestle."

OFSSA won't be quite as easy for Georgetown as Haltons or Peel-Haltons, but with their talent, and a little luck, this could be Georgetown's year for an OFSSA championship.

Ski conditions good

Although this hasn't been the best winter on record for snow, some avid outdoor enthusiasts haven't let it bother them. Many, like John Peaker and his son Kevin, continue to pursue their favourite winter pastime. For this father and son combination it is cross country skiing.

Of all the various winter sports to have chosen they selected the perfect, and probably the only one worth trying in 1980.

Recently the two entered the Citizens Race at Horseshoe Valley near Barrie. The senior Peaker was second in the senior (men over 40) division while junior was sixth in his age group.

The two avid skiers are graduates of the Molson ski testing series. Son Kevin, being just under 18 couldn't qualify for a medal although he did turn in a silver performance. His father was awarded a gold medal badge in the senior age group. A neighbor, also living on Prince Charles St., Andre Guimet kicked and stroked to a silver medal in the under 40 division.



TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

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GENERAL INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

All municipal offices open for business at 8:30 a.m. and close at 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

LIBRARIES:

Georgetown and Acton - Open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturdays - 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.