



# Soccer

## Unwanted absentees

By ALEX TOUGH  
Herald Special

It can be very frustrating writing a voluntary column each week. There are times when continuity is lost and never regained. This is one of those times.

The last few weeks has seen a concentration on the user fee problem, rightly so in my estimation. Regrettably, not all has been printed or, sometimes in one paper and not in another, leaving this columnist frustrated to say the least.

Youth and senior soccer has lost the equivalent of three to four weeks preparation due to activity surrounding user fees. We now have to go hard at it to catch up. Youth registrations are down on last year's record year.

There are three basic reasons for the drop. Firstly, the future of user pay and the threat of no soccer. Secondly, the state of the economy in affecting local lay offs. Thirdly, the number of absentee players in 1981, particularly at boys pee-wee.

Absentee players are not wanted. They are a curse on the organization. They are detested by their team mates. Usually they are among the first to complain about anything. The youth have an equal time policy at house league level and I do not believe this policy should be extended to absentees without just cause.

The club is looking at a proposal to take note of absences and allow some clout to coaches. The rule proposed will allow a coach to bench a player who is absent for three consecutive appearances, game or practice, without a good excuse. Sickness and injury obviously are just reason. Shopping is not. Hopefully the reduction in the absentee area (I fear not, however).

There is little to say concerning the state of the economy. It is affecting us all and some more than others. We must recognize that there is a hardship and a cut in expenses has to be made somewhere. This situation is allied to user fees. Not only are we faced with the depression and the resultant cost to our pockets, we are faced with increasing charges for fields.

Use of lights will cost \$6 and use of dressing rooms will cost \$1.50 per game for youth and senior. Youth will pay \$3 per team per season (same as 1981) and senior will pay \$20 per team per season (double 1981). Therefore there is an increase in our costs and council let it be known in no uncertain manner that we are likely to be hammered next season.

There will be no let up on the part of the soccer group to expose the manner in which the 1982 decision was made. Mayor Pete Pomeroy was disposed to ignore the facts presented by the user groups stating, "the facts we have are sufficient", even though we proved the recreation director's presentation was incorrect in several places.

The confusion towards the end of our meeting with the committee is evident in the recommendation which was actually voted upon. Councillors did not put the amended proposal together - Town Clerk and Recreation Director did that, and perhaps that action is correct, perhaps it is not.

The youth minor atoms are the first tournament accepted team this year. They go to Clarkson-Sheridan over the Victoria holiday weekend. This is the basic team which won the 1981 Peel Halton recreational cup. We are on the waiting list for Guelph, and did not make the Robbie.

Our applications are in for the Vanguard, and others, and the Ontario cup draw is due on April 24. Once again the Ontario Cup is under the chairmanship of Haddy Smedema, a former youth president and currently president of the Inter County league.

Inter County news is that there are five new teams this year. Brackens and Falcons reserves from Georgetown, Acton Villa "B" team and a team each from Milton and Brampton. Pineview have some player problems and may not be competing this year. The league will have either a 7 or 8 team first division and an 8 team second division.

The Falcons are again in the second division of the Toronto and District league and appear to have a better schedule than last season. George Baines, Sam Inglis, Joe Cairns and Gary Richardson are among the 1982 committee members. The lads hope to develop young players in the reserve team and do not intend to use first team players in the second team. As in the past Monday night will be Falcon night at 8:45 p.m. at Cedarvale.

The Inter County Meteor teams will share the 8:45 kick off on Wednesdays with the Ancient Mariners at 7 p.m. also at Cedarvale. Varian and Brackens fields will be settled this week coming ..... and see you later, folks.

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### GDHS sports

## Championship eludes gymnasts

By HARALD BRANSCH  
Herald Correspondent  
The girls' gymnastics team ended their season last Wednesday when the five Halton-Peel qualifiers failed to advance to OFSAA championships.

Although none of the team members qualify for the provincial finals there were several personal best performances. The best overall finish of the night came from Susan Kirby in the junior division.

Her placings of 6th, 13th, 15th, and 18th on beam, vault, floor and bars respectively earned her a sixth placing in the all-round competition. Also in junior, Debbie Dougal earned a personal best 7.9 on bars which turned in a 12th place finish.

Carmen Lamotte placed seventh on intermediate floor. A disappointing evening for Roberta Burke, in comparison to an excellent performance at the Haltons, resulted with a ninth on both

floor and vault, a 14th on beam and a 17th on bars. In senior all-round Burke was ninth.

## High school sports

In the elite category, open to club competition, Gail Cook placed sixth on bars, seventh on beam and floor, and a ninth on vault. The level of competition can be seen by the fact the above performances only work out to an eighth place in the all-round calculations.

Team standings showed that the Rebel juniors placed seventh, the seniors tenth,

and the school was 14th of 29 schools.

Coach White stated that many of the girls turned in their personal best scores, but the level of competition was extremely good so placings did not reflect the quality. All of this year's gymnasts are eligible to compete next year, and with the addition of more girls the team should be stronger next year.

This year was a building year for the team of next year.

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### GEORGETOWN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

## PARENTS' NIGHT

In order to provide a convenient opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and discuss student progress, a Parents' Night will be held at the school on Monday, April 19th, 1982 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Some parents have been invited for interviews, as noted on the Interim Report, but all parents are welcome to meet the teachers.

Parents who have not been scheduled but wish an interview with a teacher or teachers may phone the school office (877-8966) during the day for an appointment time. Appointments may also be made on Parents' Night.

### ONTARIO FARM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EXPANDED

## You may now be eligible.



### We've broadened the eligibility for the 1982 Farm Adjustment Assistance Program so we can help more farmers.

For farmers facing financial difficulties, the program offers financial assistance and financial management counselling.

**BROADENED ELIGIBILITY**  
The farmer must have equity in the farm business of between 10% and a new upper limit of not more than 60%. Present interest and principal payments must exceed 20% of operating costs.

The total value of food or tobacco products produced on the farm in 1981 has been reduced to \$12,000.

**ASSISTANCE**  
Farmers can take advantage of one, or more, of the following options:

1. Deferral of interest by the lender on loan(s) for a period of six months backed by a Provincial guarantee. During this time, the lender will not compound the interest.

2. An interest reduction grant on floating-rate loans and short term,

fixed-rate loans for operating purposes only for up to 12 months. The maximum grant will be 5 percentage points. Loans may be reduced to a level as low as 12%.

3. An additional line of credit for operating purposes only, guaranteed by the Province of Ontario. This new credit would be provided by the lender at the prime rate for up to 12 months.

**APPLICATIONS**  
For further information on this program and application instructions see your lender; or visit an OMAF county office; or write 1982 Farm Assistance Program, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B7.

Ministry of Agriculture and Food  
**Ontario**  
Dennis Timbreil, Minister  
Duncan Allan, Deputy Minister

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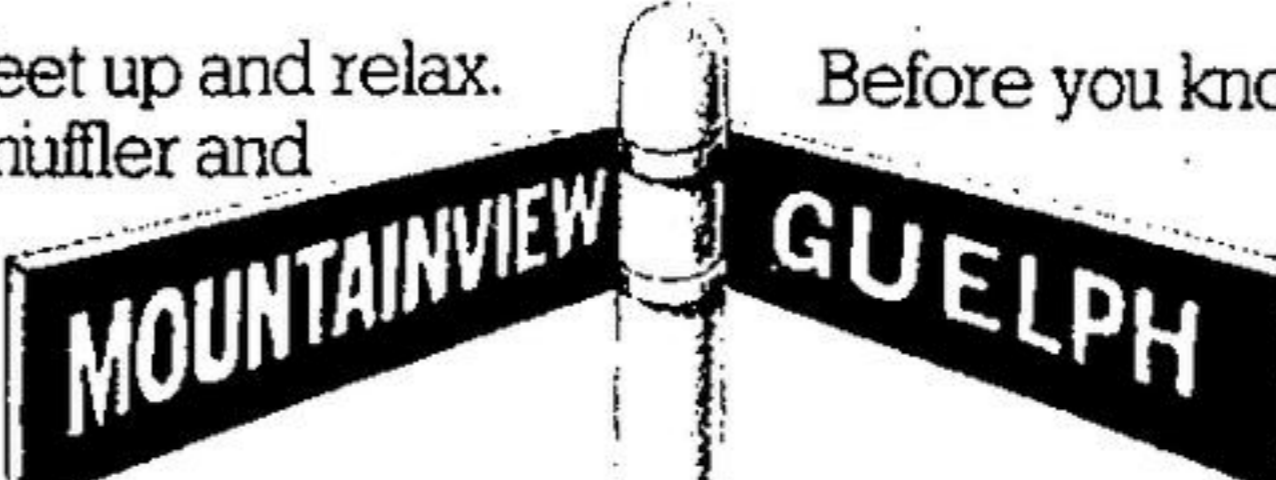
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