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Friday, October 14, 1983

BIA opposes second hand store 'infringements'

By CHRIS AAGAARD
 Herald staff writer

A section of the town's licensing bylaw designed to control the operation of second hand goods stores in Halton Hills ensnared the town's general committee for two hours Tuesday night, as critics charged it infringed on private enterprise.

Although a number of amendments were made to the section no final approval is expected until Halton Regional Police have commented on parts they apparently endorse, but committee members reject.

Speaking on behalf of the Georgetown Business Improvement Area (BIA), David Page described parts of the section as "unnecessary and unwarranted interference in the running of a business".

One of the most contentious sections, Mr. Page and second hand goods store proprietor Doug Freeman pointed out, was a regulation that no goods can be bought and resold by the store until the end of a 21-day waiting period.

That item was later removed by the committee.

Bylaw enforcement officer Jack Lusty explained that the regional

police force favors "some sort" of waiting period which might help them in cracking down on the quick movement of stolen property.

The waiting period isn't needed in Halton Hills, Coun. Mike Armstrong commented.

SINGLE OUT

There were other regulations affecting second hand good stores which prompted Mr. Page that the business was being "singled out" and forced to abide by laws which aren't applied to other businesses.

(The regulations would not affect consignment clothing stores and appliance dealers accepting old appliances as trade-ins on new ones.)

Most committee members felt that the regulation that second hand goods proprietors keep records of their sales and aquisitions was enough security for the police.

Mr. Freeman questioned why the police want tighter controls on businesses like his when they infrequently visit his store in their investigations anyway.

Coun. Sheldon, while agreeing that the 21-day waiting period was unfair to the store owner, suggested that storeowners record the identification used when a purchase is made. Her proposal was voted down.

Two regulations regarding character appraisals of second hand store owners before licenses are given were also dropped by the committee.

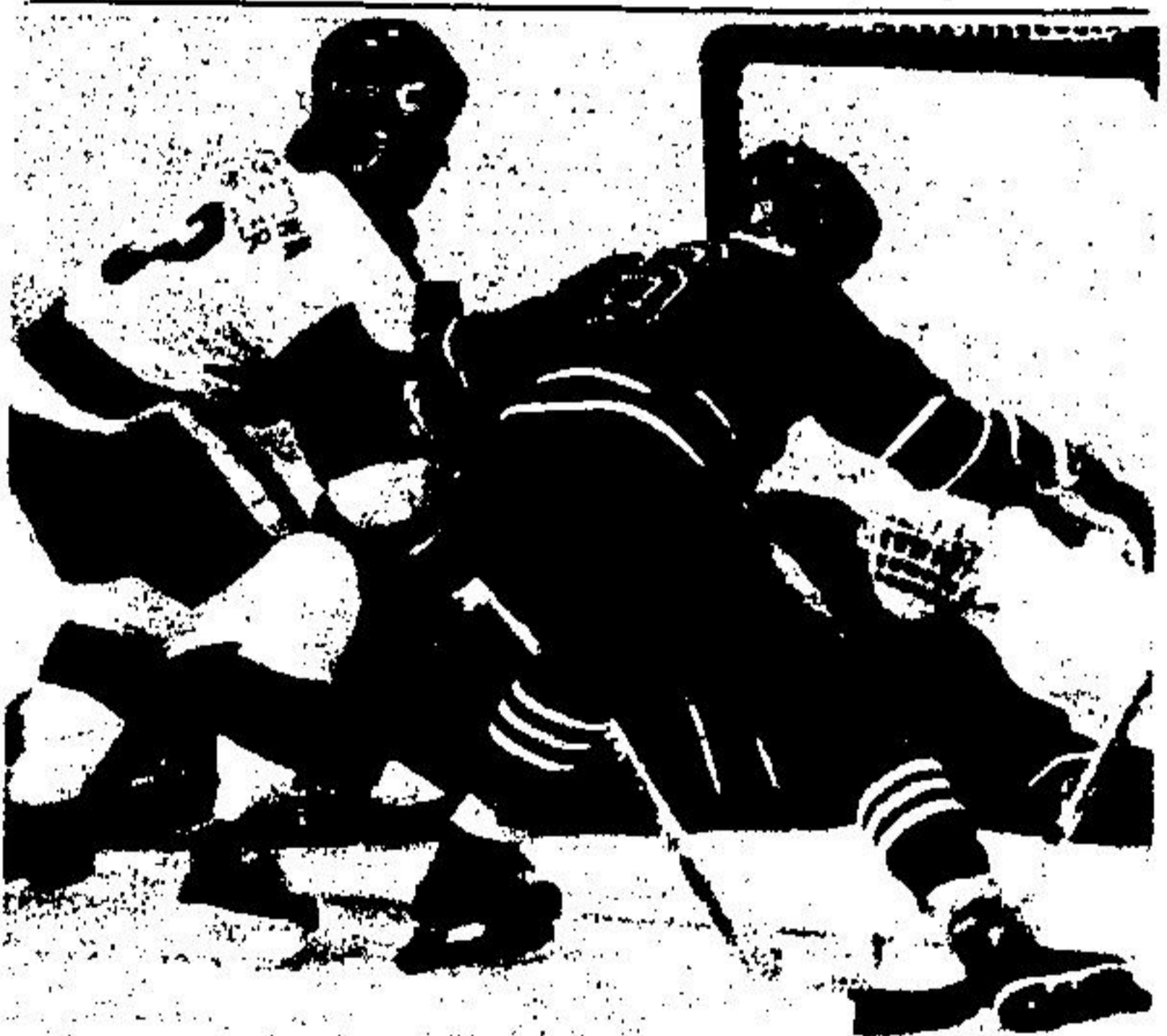
One regulation said that second hand goods stores could not display goods on the sidewalk. Mr. Freeman, owner of downtown Georgetown's Second Hand Rosie, said a number of other firms in the BIA regularly display wares outside.

The committee later amended the regulation to allow sidewalk displays as long as they didn't interfere with pedestrian traffic.

Storeowners will have to notify police before they buy goods where the serial numbers have been obliterated or worn

off.

The age limit on who can sell used goods to store owners was dropped by the committee from 18 years to 16 and a restriction against buying from anyone who appeared drunk or on



LOOSE PUCK

Georgetown Raider forward Tim Turner (3) tries to corral a loose puck in front of the Stratford goal during last Friday night's 11-3 Raider win in Senior 'A' action at Gordon Alcott Arena. Turner spent most of the night in front of the net earning a pair of goals and an assist. Tuesday night, the Raiders dropped an exhibition contest in Toronto the York University varsity squad, 2-0. (Herald photo by Gerry Timbers)

drugs was also removed.

People selling tools to the second hand stores will have to have a certificate from the police attesting to the fact that the tools aren't stolen property and belong to the seller.

Finally, while second hand goods store owners can make arrangements to pick up used goods after store hours,

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GLT's benefit night

Subscribers to Georgetown Little Theatre can trade their regular schedule "The Man Most Likely To . . ." tickets for the benefit night performance Oct. 20, simply by getting in touch with the GLT box office and adding \$7.50 per ticket.

The box office can be reached by calling 877-3700.

The benefit night is being held to raise money for GLT's own proposed headquarters — a "Green Room" where rehearsals may be held, costumes and props stored and sets constructed.

The benefit night features the first performance of "The Man . . ." — GLT's season opener — and a wine and cheese reception.

For new residents, it's an opportunity to become familiar with Georgetown's 23-year

old community theatre to which belongs a long list of tributes and awards making it one of the finest theatre groups of its kind in the province.

Moving on

Halton board of education chairman submitted his resignation Wednesday to the board, effective Nov. 1. Trustee Len Auger is moving to Ottawa to take on a position with the Ottawa Civic Hospital.

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