

## Tataryn gives youngsters chance

# Goalies count at this camp

By DAN RALPH  
Herald Sports Editor

When a hockey team enters the playoffs, a coach will say the goaltender is the most important player on his team. A hot goalie can be the difference between a championship season or an early exit.

However, for the most part goaltenders receive little formal training at hockey camps, and are left in the corner to do what they want while the players receive the instruction. For that reason three years ago Dave Tataryn started up a school specifically geared to goaltenders.

"I worked at some hockey camps and told them that I wanted to work with the goaltenders, but I was told I couldn't because there wasn't enough time or money. I'd be told to spend five minutes or so with the goalies, but when you break it down I would average about 30 seconds with each one. What could I do or say in that length of time?"

"After bellyaching with the major camps I talked it over with my wife and we decided to open up a school," Tataryn said, adding he operated day schools for goalies prior for nine years.

The first year the camp had 21 participants. That number increased to 34 last year, and this summer Tataryn plans to have 50 goalies take part. Included in that number will be a pair of youngsters from Holland. One played goal in the "B" Division for Holland in the recent world championships while the other is reputed to be the best under-18 goalie in Europe in the past two years. Both are gearing up for Major Jr. A camps this summer.

The camp is located just outside of Hillsburgh, and Tataryn has 43 acres out in the country where the goalies can concentrate on hockey and how to improve their trade.

The on-ice sessions are conducted in a barn where Tataryn has laid down plastic sheets sprayed with silicone. The goalies are peppered with a puck-shooting machine that can fire the rubber spheres up to 100 m.p.h. Also, Tataryn tapes all the sessions for further study between himself and the youngsters.

Also present is a centre where incoming players can test both their strength and flexibility. Usually this is done early in the camp so the players can have programs set up to their individual needs.

When not on the ice, the participants take part in a land-training session that includes running and reflex work. A typical day begins at 7:45 a.m. with a short jog. After breakfast the goalies split up into two groups, with one on the ice and the other doing dry-land. After eating lunch, the two switch for the afternoon session.

At 5 p.m. the troops sit down for supper, and then have time to relax till around 6:15 p.m. Tataryn then takes the videos and reviews the strengths and weaknesses of the goalies. The rest of the evening can be spent on recreation, or watching movies. Lights out is at 10:30 p.m.

The goalies stay at Tataryn's residence, and have their meals provided. A fulltime cook is employed, as well as an instructor for the dry-land sessions. The participants have a lot to do for recreation too. A six-hole golf course is available, as well as riding horses. If a goalie just wants to relax, he can do so in the sauna or in the rec room provided downstairs. Ping-pong and billiards are two more popular pastimes available.

"The guys don't feel threatened here," Tataryn said. "If things go wrong they know they won't get chewed out without help."

The camp is a summer-long venture for Tataryn. After working all week with the boys, he must get them ready to leave on Saturday. On Sunday, he must either pick up the next week's participants, or get everything prepared for them. Sometimes it ends up being both.

"But this is his life, and he wouldn't be happy if he didn't have it," said Tataryn's wife Linda.

Asked whether or not the week-long sessions are enough for the young goalies, Linda feels they are.

"With the number of shots they face with the machine and the time Dave spends with them, they get more than enough. They (goalies) can purchase the videos too and review them once they leave."

As well as his professional experience, Tataryn has been on two Senior "A" Allan Cup championship teams with Cambridge Hornets. This past year he played with Georgetown Chrysler Raiders.

Tataryn limits the number of goalies in camp each week to a maximum of six to keep the personal contact element present. The camp officially started last week, with the first four boys coming in.

Tataryn learned the finer points of goaltending with a combination of experience and study. He played professional hockey in the World Hockey Association (Toronto-Birmingham Toros) as well as the National Hockey League (New York Rangers). As well he was the Toronto Maple Leafs' practice goalie, where he said he learned firsthand the use of video equipment.

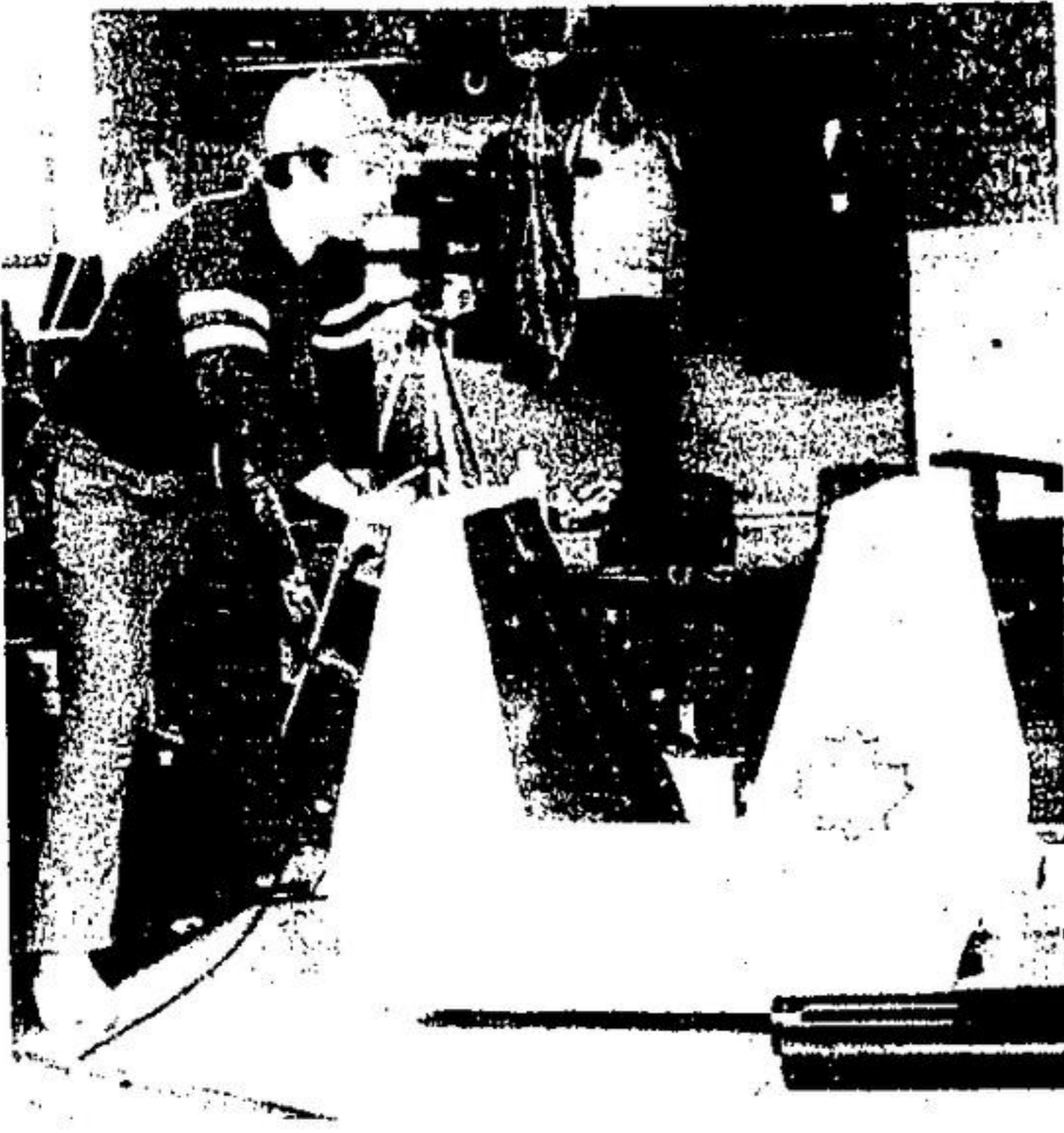
"Roger Nelson had the biggest impact on me. He was nicknamed Captain Video for his use of video equipment," Tataryn said.

"When I was at Laurentian University I used to watch Ed Giacomin when he was at the Al Arbour Hockey School. Also I read books and studied pictures."

When young goalies come in, Tataryn said he must convince them not to fall for the penchant of the spectacular.

"They all want to fall backwards and make saves look dramatic, and it's not all their fault. People make a big fuss over the spectacular."

"Being spectacular is where all the bucks might be, but being consistent means longevity," Tataryn said.



Dave Tataryn takes careful aim with his puck shooting machine. The machine fires pucks up to 100 miles an hour. Tataryn uses the device as part of his training apparatus at his goaltenders' camp.

## Camp improved Kemp for pros

When John Kemp was a boy, he dreamed of playing pro hockey for Philadelphia Flyers. As a goaltender, his idol was none other than Bernie (The Puck Stops Here) Parent.

This summer Kemp will have a chance of realizing that dream when he attends the Flyers' training camp. It will mark the second time he has tried out for the National Hockey League team, having gone to last year's camp. It is difficult for a free agent to catch on with an NHL team, but last year Kemp had the added pressure of trying to prove he was not just a token player. Last year Mike Keenan was in his first year as Flyer coach after leaving the University of Toronto varsity

Blues. Kemp played goal for the Blues when Keenan was coach.

In preparation for the camp, Kemp attended Dave Tataryn's Hockey School for goalies. He said he turned a few heads at the camp as a result.

"I made quite an impression," said the 21-year-old Burlington native. "Parent (a goalie coach with the Flyers) felt I was the mirror-image of himself, which is quite a compliment when you think about it."

"When you feel you're a token player, you feel unstable. When you're unstable, I feel it's hard to play because hockey is 99 per cent mental," Kemp said.

Although he felt he played as well as Flyer backup Bob Froese,

Kemp did not make the Flyers' roster. He returned to U of T, and proceeded to have an all-Canadian season. This year Kemp is confident he can make the grade.

If for some reason or other Kemp doesn't catch on with the Flyers, he still has many options left. He could play for the Flyers' American Hockey League affiliate in Hershey, Pennsylvania; play for the Olympic team; or return back to school and get his degree in Physical Education.

Kemp said attending Tataryn's camp has sharpened his skills more than any other activity. He said Tataryn is a demanding teacher who calls for the most in his pupils.

"He's the only type of goalie coach he can be," Kemp said. "He's tough, stringent and has no room for crybabes. The shots I get here are quality shots. Each one is going over 80 miles an hour at one particular spot - time after time. That drills things into your head."

"I came back this year because I felt I learned so much the year before," Kemp added. "This is the definition of mental toughness."

All sessions are videotaped, thus allowing the goalie a chance of seeing how he made out in the earlier sessions.

"Working with videos has been known to increase one's knowledge of the fundamentals. You get that mental feedback," he said. "I know I can improve on last year. All I need is the chance."

relaxing. So far I've learned to play the puck, and not have it play me."

Tataryn has an artificial ice surface made of plastic with silicone sprayed on it. Safran said the surface is difficult to move on.

"But when I go to the real ice, I'll be that much faster," he said. Safran, a native of Canton, Mich., said he would like to have a pro hockey career, but added getting a scholarship would be a more likely goal.

"It would be nice to move further, but I'm not setting my goals higher because few guys go up," he said. Getting an athletic scholarship too is the goal of Shawn Sarkisian, who left Sunday for the under-16 American Olympic team tryouts in Colorado Springs.

"If I had the opportunity to play, I would but I wouldn't be disappointed if I could get an education with hockey. That way hockey would be an extra," said the Detroit native.

Attending the camp for the first time, Sarkisian said it is not what he

expected it would be. "I didn't think it would be this tough," he said. "I really thought it would be easier."

"Dave knows how to talk to you and explains things well. When you don't understand what he's saying, Dave shows you the technique well too."

Sarkisian said he came to the camp to perfect his technique, and toughen up mentally.

"When my game went down it was due to the mental breakdowns," he said. "I wanted to toughen up (mentally) and also get in condition."



Even two-year-old Joshua Tataryn helps out. Here he generously offers a drink of water to John Kemp in between workouts. Kemp was at the camp getting ready for the Philadelphia Flyers training camp later this summer.



Dave Tataryn the goaltender turns into Dave Tataryn the shooter on this occasion. Tataryn was working on breakaway technique with student Jeff Safran, and tucked the puck nicely under Safran's glove for the goal.

## Angels nip Mets in T-ball action

CASSELMAN FUELS ANGELS 29  
HALTON CREDIT UNION METS 27  
A close game between the Angels and Mets. The Angels were led by Robert Larose and Stuart Scottford. Kevin Shapcott and Garnett Norman got some home runs.

Mets while Michael Waltinga got two home runs. Michelle Wilkinson, Scott Day and Ryan Gillard scored on every at-bat.  
CHOICE AIR CUBS 35  
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION TIGERS 23  
The Cubs, although short on players, still won.  
Nicole and Michelle

Brooks scored their share of runs for the Cubs with Andrew Terrill and Michael Armstrong getting several RBIs.  
The Tigers were trying with Lisa McDonald and Kyle Springer scoring three runs each. Karen Hannah and Jeffery Pringle made noteworthy contributions too.

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