

River skater Beaumont wins heritage honors

A river skater, who grew up playing hockey on the Glen Williams dam pond and coached the Georgetown Junior B Beavers has been named the 10th Hockey Heritage recipient.

Del Beaumont of Shelly Street will be honored at a dinner March 2 by the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council.

The heritage award winner is packed each year for his contribution to hockey in Georgetown over the years. Former winners include Jack Harrison, Roy Norton Sr., Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120, Bud James, Gerry Inglis, Bob Lane, Ron Dixon, Bob Goldham and Walter Bianchi.

Beaumont paid his dues for hockey at all levels. He returned to Georgetown after the Second World War and helped three local teams to OHA Championships at either the Intermediate A or B levels as a right winger.

As a coach he led a midget team to a championship in 1962. He was the first coach and founder of the Georgetown Junior B Beavers which played in the tough Metro Junior B League.

The father of two was a member of the Georgetown minor hockey executive for 15 years and he served as president for a time.

Beaumont, 62, also has fond memories of his time spent as a 13-year-old on the Little NHL which was started in 1936 by Gordon Alcott. The Little NHL originated in Georgetown and spread to other towns, where boys played on teams named after the six original NHL franchises.

"I was quite honored when Murray (Ezeard) came around about the award. He said at the time there was none better. He made me feel good and I was honored to accept," Beaumont said.

An employee for Twin-Cee Limited and Domtar before that, Mr. Beaumont is married to Ethel (nee Lane) and this year is their 40th anniversary.

They have two children, Brian and Vickie and two grandchildren, Brianna and Brent.

Heritage selection committee member Bob Hooper uses a pocketful of phrases to describe Beaumont: "a forceful leader, a real achiever, a good coach, super competitive and very strong-willed."

Heritage selection committee president Bill Anderson called Beaumont strict, but fair as a coach who was good to his players.

As a player himself, Beaumont said he "liked to get the puck and move it up the ice." Before the cen-

tre red line was introduced in the '40s, players couldn't just shoot the puck out of their end. "You had to be able to stickhandle or the other team would be on you," he said.

As a coach, Beaumont said he probably expected too much out of the kids who weren't used to his style of pond hockey.

The choice of Del Beaumont also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the start of Little NHL in Georgetown. One year King Clancy was the referee-in-chief for the "Stanley Cup" among minor leaguers in Georgetown, said Hockey Heritage president Dave Kentner.

Beaumont was scouted by the Toronto Marlboros and he joined their team and was on the negotiation list with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Like many young adults his age, Beaumont joined the armed forces and in 1943 he was in the navy aboard the Corvete Trentonian for much of the war. He was part of the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944.

He was part of an exciting hockey family, which included the explosive skater Junior Beaumont, a former Georgetown Raider. Junior died this year, along with another close hockey pal, Murray Ezeard, who was organizing the oldtimers hockey



Del Beaumont relaxes in his Shelly Street home after hearing the good news about his hockey heritage award.



Del Beaumont as seen when he was a hockey player with the Toronto Marlboros.

game and heritage night for March 1 and 2. Tickets for the Detroit and Toron-

to Oldtimers game and hockey heritage award night will not be available until Feb. 1.

Blue Fins go for more than the distance



SWIMMING NOTES—Lessons in swimming are sometimes learned more easily when demonstrated on

land. Blue Fins coach Tina Newman is seen here with Wija Primorac. (Herald photo)

By SANDY CAMPBELL, Herald Staff

There is something humbling about swimming lengths in a lane next to an 8-year-old who can swim non-stop for an hour. Most people would be humbled by such an experience, but don't worry, there are not that many 8-year-olds capable of that kind of endurance.

At least they are not capable before the Halton Hills Blue Fins get a hold of them. The Georgetown club swimming at the high school pool has 40 swimmers ages 7 through 14.

Children interested in swimming usually take to the water with more enthusiasm than skill their first times out, said Lynda Gillett, president of the club. But after a couple of weeks work those weaklings who were spurling up water and hanging onto the sides of the pool after a couple of lengths, are capable of an hour of straight swimming, Mrs. Gillett said. "You wouldn't know it was the same kids."

Most of the children who join, stay with the club. The executive and four coaches of the club try to make swimming enjoyable for the children, Mrs. Gillett said. The Blue Fins are not an aggressive, victory-hungry club, but they do enjoy swimming at competitive meets.

Practice remains where most of the time is spent: Between

September and June the club meets five times per week. And for the first time last year they started meeting two times per week in the summer.

"At times I wonder why (the children keep coming to practice), because it's hard work," Mrs. Gillett said. About 90 per cent of swimmers make all practices. There is no penalty for missing one.

There are sports and other interests which keep the young swimmers busy. If these interests clash with practice time some swimmers will show up for half a practice, Mrs. Gillett said. "They love it."

Three of the four coaches are former Blue Fins swimmers. They like many former Blue Fins are now swimming for the Rebels. Those coaches are Tiffany Goodlet, 17, Tina Newman, 16, and Jill Lusby, 15. Rob McGuigan, 17, is the other coach.

There are some very good swimmers on the club, made up of about the same number of boys and girls. Mrs. Gillett insists they're all great.

As a team competing in the Canadian Amateur Swimming Associa-

tion at the Quad A level, the Blue Fins are not a powerhouse. They swim at about 10 meets each year in the Halton area. Acton and Milton are the local powers, Mrs. Gillett said.

If the team practised more than six hours per week they might be more of a force. However, competing with other clubs isn't the most important thing, Mrs. Gillett said. The swimmers are told, "You are not up against the guy in the next lane, you're up against yourself and the clock."

For this reason swimmers can have just as much fun at a time trial as they can at a swim meet. Every second week there is a time trial. "Kids go all out for the time trials," Mrs. Gillett said.

Swimming is a team and individual sport. Often the swimmers are competing as individuals, but their team mates are cheering on the sidelines. "When you go to a meet it is as a team," Mrs. Gillett said.

DENTURE THERAPY CLINIC
A.W. TRENTON, D.T.
18 CHURCH STREET
GEORGETOWN
ACROSS FROM LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTRE
877-2359

THE NEW 1987's ARE NOW IN STOCK
8.75% FINANCING ON LIMITED TIME OFFER
1986 MODELS IN STOCK.
NEW AND USED CARS & TRUCKS
Cantel Approved Agent **CELLULAR MOBILE PHONE**
CALL TIM FOR MORE INFORMATION
Approved agent for Milton and area.
BUY OR LEASE STARTING AT **\$79** month
NORTH END NISSAN
610 MARTIN ST. MILTON
878-2471 MISSISSAUGA 821-3513

USED ALUMINUM PRESS PLATES FOR SALE
Great for roofing sheds, lining outbuildings, protecting tree trunks from rodents and preventing cats and small animals from climbing into bird feeders. They have numerous home improvement uses including hot and cold air runs for heating and cold air systems as well as insulation under cottages or behind new walls.
SIZES: 23 1/16" x 30" Or 23 1/16" x 35"
3 for \$1.00 (While Sale Lasts)
Call
the HERALD
Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1868
877-2201