

Carrying a torch for Canada

Torch bearer lost for words

By MIKE TURNER
Herald Sports Editor

Jim Clarke is hard-pressed to find the proper words to describe how he felt on Dec. 10, when he ran his kilometre in the Olympic Torch Relay as it made its way through Belleville.

In fact, forget "hard-pressed". He just plain can't.

"It's a feeling you can't describe," he says. "It's a big thrill to stand on the side of the road, and see the torch coming toward you. I just felt a chill go down my spine."

Mr. Clarke lives on Sherman Court, and is employed with Northern Telecom in Bramalea. He found out last summer that he had been selected to participate in the Torch Relay, which will see the flame change hands some 7,000 times, before finally reaching Calgary, the site of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games.

Though he runs on a regular basis, and says he has probably covered "about a thousand miles" this year, that single kilometre carrying the Olympic torch was, without a doubt, the ultimate.

"To coin a phrase," he says, "it's the thrill of a lifetime."

Each of the runners who carry the torch are allowed seven minutes to cover the distance, but that of course, isn't carved in stone.

Mr. Clarke figures he finished his leg of the relay in about four-and-a-half minutes.

"I intended to run slowly. But when I got the torch, I took right off like I was running for a gold medal."

Fortunately though, he slowed down enough so his 12-year-old daughter, Lynne-Ann, could keep up for about 100 metres and run along with her father.

Mr. Clarke was impressed with the precision in which the Torch



Jim Clarke of Georgetown proudly carries the Olympic Relay torch as it makes its way along a roadway just outside of Belleville. Mr. Clarke

was chosen to carry the torch on Dec. 10, and described the experience as a "thrill of a lifetime."

Relay is organized. Participants are shuttled in and out of the travelling "caravan" and don't actually see the lit torch until it's their time to run.

The effect is a major build up of emotions.

"My excitement came out in nervousness. I was very tense. Waiting in the van, I became very quiet, thinking about the whole

thing."

Unfortunately, Mr. Clarke's oldest daughter, who also sent in entries to become a participant in the Olympic Torch Relay, wasn't selected.

But Mrs. Clarke and the couple's three children were all there to see him carry the torch, and all of them shared in a proud moment that will last a lifetime.

Others wait for their turn to carry the Olympic torch

Tommy Dembie and Janie Reid are eagerly anticipating the time when they'll take their turn in the Olympic Torch Relay, and do their part to help the flame along on the road to Calgary.

Both have been chosen to carry the torch on Wednesday morning, Jan. 6, which is Day 51 of the cross-country relay.

The two will complete one-kilometre stretches shortly after 9 a.m., along Highway 9, near Mono Mills, as the torch continues its trek.

Tommy, of Wildwood Road, is 11 years old, and has been keeping himself in shape for the task ahead of him by running a little each week, and playing hockey.

The youngster has a pretty good grasp on what this special event means. "It's only a once in a lifetime thing," he says. "It won't happen again. I'm very proud to be running with the torch."

Tommy expects to have his family on hand to cheer him along as he carries the torch.

Janie, a 31-year-old accountant, lives on Park Avenue, and is anxiously awaiting her moment with the torch.

"It's getting closer. Now it seems more real," she says.

Janie has been training for her part in the relay by running a few miles three or four times a week on an outside track, to help build up her wind. A close friend of hers, Val Lawson, of Hamilton trained right along with Janie, since she had been chosen to carry the torch in Bradford on Christmas Day.

But as the big day approaches, Janie has remained cautious in her routine. "I'm a little nervous," she admits. "With the snow and ice, you have to be careful. I don't want to twist an ankle or anything."

Janie has also been lifting weights to strengthen her shoulders, so she won't have any problem hoisting the torch, which weighs about four lbs.

Janie has scouted out the general area where she'll be carrying the torch, and was relieved to find it will be relatively flat.

Like Tommy, she'll have a large contingent of family members on hand to share in the momentous occasion. She also hopes to have her 10-year-old nephew Bobby Reid on hand to "share the spirit". Although he's blind, Janie hopes he will be able to feel the excitement, and be a part of it.

Janie and Tommy have been instructed to be at a briefing station in Orangeville at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. There, they'll be given their official jogging suits and toques, and they'll also be briefed on what to expect in the relay.

From Orangeville, they'll be shuttled out to the Olympic Torch Relay caravan, where they'll be transferred to a mobile home.

There, they'll wait for their name to be called as the next bearer of the torch.



Tommy Dembie



Janie Reid



Georgetown prepares to host annual midget hockey tourney

The 22nd Annual Georgetown Midget Hockey Tournament gets underway Tuesday, as 16 teams will vie for the event's championship title.

The tournament has come to be known as one of the best in the province as a "AA" Midget hockey showcase throughout its more than 20 years, and this year's version is expected to be just as impressive.

Wayne Pries, chairman of the tournament, promises there will be plenty of exciting hockey action.

The Waterloo Chevvy Midgets, who are the tournament's defending champions, will be back to try and retain their crown. Last year, Waterloo doubled Stratford 4-2 in the tournament finale.

Another team that would have to be a legitimate top honours is Brooklin-Whitby. They are likely to be bolstered by Bantam graduates who claimed the championship title in the Georgetown Bantam Hockey Tournament last spring.

Chatham would also have to be considered a favorite heading into the tournament, according to Pries, since they play at the "AA" level, despite the size of their community.

Other teams taking part include Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Thornhill, Burlington, Brampton, Markham, Stratford, Richmond Hill, London, Port Perry, Owen Sound, and the Metro Toronto Aeros.

The Georgetown Sunny Acres Midgets, as the host team, will see their first action Tuesday night, when they take on Hamilton at 6:30

p.m. at the Alcott Arena.

The Sunny Acres squad got off to a slow start this season, but have begun to take winning strides lately, according to Pries.

The Georgetown club's second game will be Thursday, at 7 p.m. If the loss, and at 8:30 p.m., should they win.

Pries expects there will be a number of scouts on hand to take in the action, and try to uncover talent. But since the age changes have been made in minor hockey, scouts for larger clubs have been paying more attention to Bantam level teams.

The tournament gets underway Tuesday with three games, and continues Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings, and all day Saturday.

The consolation final has been set for 2:45 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 10, with the championship game to follow at 5 p.m. Winners in the first round of play will advance to compete for the championship title, while losers will go on to play for the consolation crown.

For Saturday's games, the Georgetown Hockey Monis will be on hand to serve refreshments and food upstairs in the Alcott auditorium. The premises will also be licensed for the day.

Tuesday, Jan. 5
6:30 p.m.
Georgetown vs. Hamilton
7:45 p.m.
Niagara Falls vs. Waterloo
9:00 p.m.
Thornhill vs. Burlington

Wednesday, Jan. 6
6:30 p.m.
Brampton vs. Markham
7:45 p.m.
Stratford vs. Richmond Hill
9:00 p.m.
Brooklin-Whitby vs. London
Friday, Jan. 8
7:45 p.m.
Port Perry vs. Aeros
9:00 p.m.
Chatham vs. Owen Sound
Second Round
Jan. 7 (Two Games)
7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.
Jan. 8
6:30 p.m.
Jan. 9 (Five Games)
Beginning 8 a.m.
Third Round
Jan. 9
Championship and Consolation
Semi-Finals Beginning 3:30 p.m.
Finals
Jan. 10
Consolation
2:45 p.m.
Championship
5:00 p.m.

AFTER FIVE

THINGS TO DO PLACES TO GO

Adults can learn to skate

Have you ever wanted to learn how to ice skate or improve your skating skills but never took time or found the right opportunity to give it a try?

Well, here is the chance!

The Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department is offering an eight week Adult Learn-to-Skate program on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 7:50 p.m. beginning Jan. 6. Our instructor will work closely with you in a small group setting to help you learn and develop all the basic skills to enjoy the art of ice skating. You just can't pass up this great opportunity to finally master those basic skills of skating any longer. Register today at the Recreation and Parks Office.

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The Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department is now taking registrations for all Winter Fitness Programs. All programs start the week of Jan. 11 to 16 and run for 10 weeks. Full descriptions of all the classes can be found in the Fall and Winter Brochure. Register now to avoid disappointment. For more information call 877-5185 ext. 260.

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- 1 1/4 c. All Purpose Flour
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- 1/2 c. Granulated or Raw sugar
- 4 tsp. Baking Powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 c. cooking oil
- 1/2 c. milk
- 1 c. whole Cranberry sauce

In a large bowl combine flour, bran, sugar, baking powder & salt
In another bowl, beat eggs until frothy, then mix in oil, milk & cranberries.
Stir liquid into dry ingredients, just enough to moisten (if difficult to mix up quickly, add 3 tbsp. orange juice)
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