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# Sports

## and Recreation

COLIN GIBSON Herald Sports Editor

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STERN-FACED Ken Scovell signals where he wants the next rock placed during play in the Seagram Masters Zone 9 curling playdowns held at North Halton Golf and Country Club over the weekend. The Scovell rink, from Brampton, emerged as A side winners. (Herald photo by Colin Gibson)

### Curling

## Scovell scuttles opposition

North Halton Golf and Country Club was the scene Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday evening of the Zone 9 Seagram Masters (over 60) curling playdowns.



Twelve teams from the Halton-Peel region, including teams from Georgetown and Acton, competed in the double-knockout bonspiel for the right to advance to the regional playdowns scheduled for Ingersoll Dec. 16-18.

A and B side (one loss) winners advanced to the Ingersoll bonspiel.

The Ken Scovell rink from Brampton with vice Bob Knight, second Doug Reid and lead Walter File, won the A side, with the Ken Phillips rink from Milton, with vice Leo Furlan, second Reg Corp and lead Morley Rasberry advancing from the B side.

Representing the host club, North Halton Golf and Country Club, was the rink of skip Graham Farnell, vice Irwin Noble, second George McIntosh and lead Bill Currie.

The North Halton rink lost both their bonspiel games to rinks from Dixie.

The Acton Curling Club was represented by the Del Hickling rink. Other members' names were not made available.

Acton failed to advance after suffering losses to rinks from Brampton and Oakville.



SWEEPERS (from left) Bob Knight and Doug Reid, work at directing their rock into the house during play in the Seagram Masters curling playdowns at North Halton Golf and Country Club. Knight and Reid, members of the A side winning Scovell rink, advance to regional playdowns in Ingersoll Dec. 16-18. (Herald photo by Colin Gibson)

## Dick Beddoes one of a kind

The bubbly, bespeckled, bombastic and be-hatted Dick Beddoes paid a visit to Georgetown Saturday to flog his just released tome on Toronto Maple Leafs owner Harold Ballard - entitled 'Pal Hal' - at Oxbow Books on Main Street.

The former sports columnist and sportscaster is an irrepressible sort who will never turn down an insult - justified or not. It gives him a chance to masticate on the rebuttal.

He thrives on the spotlight and on controversy and takes his hat off to no one when it comes to the wonderful wacky world of sports, especially hockey.

The book, Pal Hal, is an unauthorized biography of the carrot-topped owner of the 'Multiple Laffs' but according to Beddoes, "Harold has read the book and likes it."

Methinks, however, it was the chance to meet Beddoes in the flesh rather than the opportunity to get a glimpse of Ballard between the covers that drew the curious to Oxbow Books.

Beddoes even went glad-handing down Main Street to the delight and surprise of Christmas shopping Georgetowners.

While autographing copies of his book, Beddoes was more than happy to answer any and all questions about hockey that the public put forth and once he got rolling, anecdotes and sidebars from the past came gushing forth.

Beddoes has been pilloried by many critics over the years for his often irascible and arrogant style but it is clear he loves what he does, loves the public and can empathize with the ordinary sports fan in a gracious and attentive way that all too often has been sadly missing from the airwaves and newspapers in recent years.

He was this way at Oxbow Books on Saturday.

Beddoes reports that he has served his relationship with Hamilton's GHCH television sta-



"As I See It"

Colin Gibson  
Sports Editor

tion, after 17 years, but that a deal is in the works that might see him surface with radio station CFRB sometime in the new year.

Beddoes has had a type of adversarial relationship with Ballard over the years and is the first to admit that Ballard is at the crux of the Leafs problems. Simply put, "He's hired bad people to run his hockey club, so he must shoulder the blame."

On deposed Leaf general manager Gerry McNamara, Beddoes stated, "I wouldn't hire him to clean out the store."

Beddoes has never been barred from Maple Leaf Gardens by Ballard for one simple reason, according to Beddoes, "How can he toss me, I've had season tickets for 25 years."

Beddoes is against expansion because he feels the NHL is "healthy now" and that further growth, at present would only dilute the product.

He is iffy on fully integrated NHL-International play but would like to see a world series matching the Stanley Cup champion and the champion of Russia's elite league.

On the Russians now playing in the NHL Beddoes feels only Alexander Mogily, of the Buffalo Sabres and Viacheslav Fetisov, of the New Jersey Devils are NHL-calibre players. The rest, he noted, "are over the hill."

Love him or hate him, Dick Beddoes is a character. His book on Ballard has already sold over 22,000 copies, thanks mainly to the personality of the author rather than the subject himself.

As I see it, anyway.

### Sabres struggling

## Losing skid runs to four

By COLIN GIBSON  
Herald Sports Editor

The Acton Sabres battle wagon was loaded and ready to head into enemy territory for a pair of Mid-Ontario Junior "C" Hockey League clashes last weekend.

Unfortunately for the Sabres, the wheels fell off during battle and Acton suffered a pair of lopsided losses - 14-7 Friday night in a game played in Orangeville and 10-5 to Alliston Hornets in a game played Sunday afternoon at the Acton Community Centre.

Sabre coach Ken Steen could offer little in terms of explaining why his charges performed so badly.

"It was just a bad weekend all-round," said a disappointed Steen. "We obviously didn't get good goaltending but we didn't do that well from a team defensive standpoint either."

"The defencemen weren't clearing the area in front of the net properly, 400 many rebounds were left up for grabs and the forwards didn't help out much in our end," continued Steen. "Just bad efforts overall. You would have to say it was a team letdown."

Sabres had entered the weekend games hoping to end a two-game losing streak coming on the heels of a four-game winning streak.



Instead, the losses have mounted to four-in-a-row, the Sabres season record drops to 8-13 and the team must regroup before heading into the league's Christmas break.

Jim Mantione started in the Sabres nets Friday evening against Orangeville, but was lifted for Jason Nicholson, then reinserted as the score got out of hand.

Orangeville led 7-3 after the first period and 10-6 after two periods en route to the 14-7 win.

Jeff Shevalier and Jason Lucas each scored a pair of goals against Orangeville with Bob Watson, Dale McNiven and John Van Dam chipping in with singles.

Van Dam also had three assists, while Bob Gagnon had a pair of helpers.

Jim Mantione started in the Acton nets against Alliston, Sunday afternoon, but was yanked after 15 minutes and three questionable goals. Jason Nicholson played the balance of the game between the pipes for the Sabres.

Alliston opened up a 6-3 first period lead, jumped in front 7-5

after 40 minutes of play, then coasted to the 10-5 win.

Mark Boersmma, Bob Gagnon, Vince Rogers, Mark Guardino and Jason Lucas shared the scoring for Acton against Alliston.

Craig Cullen and Jeff Shevalier each picked up a pair of assists.

Sabres were scheduled to journey to Caledon for a Tuesday night scheduled game - at press time, the score was not available.

Friday night, 8 p.m., at Acton Community Centre, Alliston Hornets pay a return visit.

NOTES-Despite the weekend debacles, Sabre coach, KEN STEEN, is not out beating the bushes looking for replacements. "we'll be making a few calls and looking at some players," said Steen. "But I don't foresee any wholesale changes."

The Sabres ranks will be a bit thin this week. MARK BOERSMMA will miss at least one game because of university exams.

PETER CARGILL is still nursing a sore back and is questionable. BOB WATSON is out indefinitely with a neck muscle injury suffered over the weekend and CRAIG CULLEN is not at 100 per cent because of a shoulder injury.