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Bob Watts guides the rock down the rink while Nancy Schultheiss and Irene Soal sweep during the Cornelius Olympic bonspiel at the North Halton Golf and Country Club on the weekend. The bonspiel was the final one of the year. Participants were encouraged to dress in whacky outfits for the event. (Herald Photo)

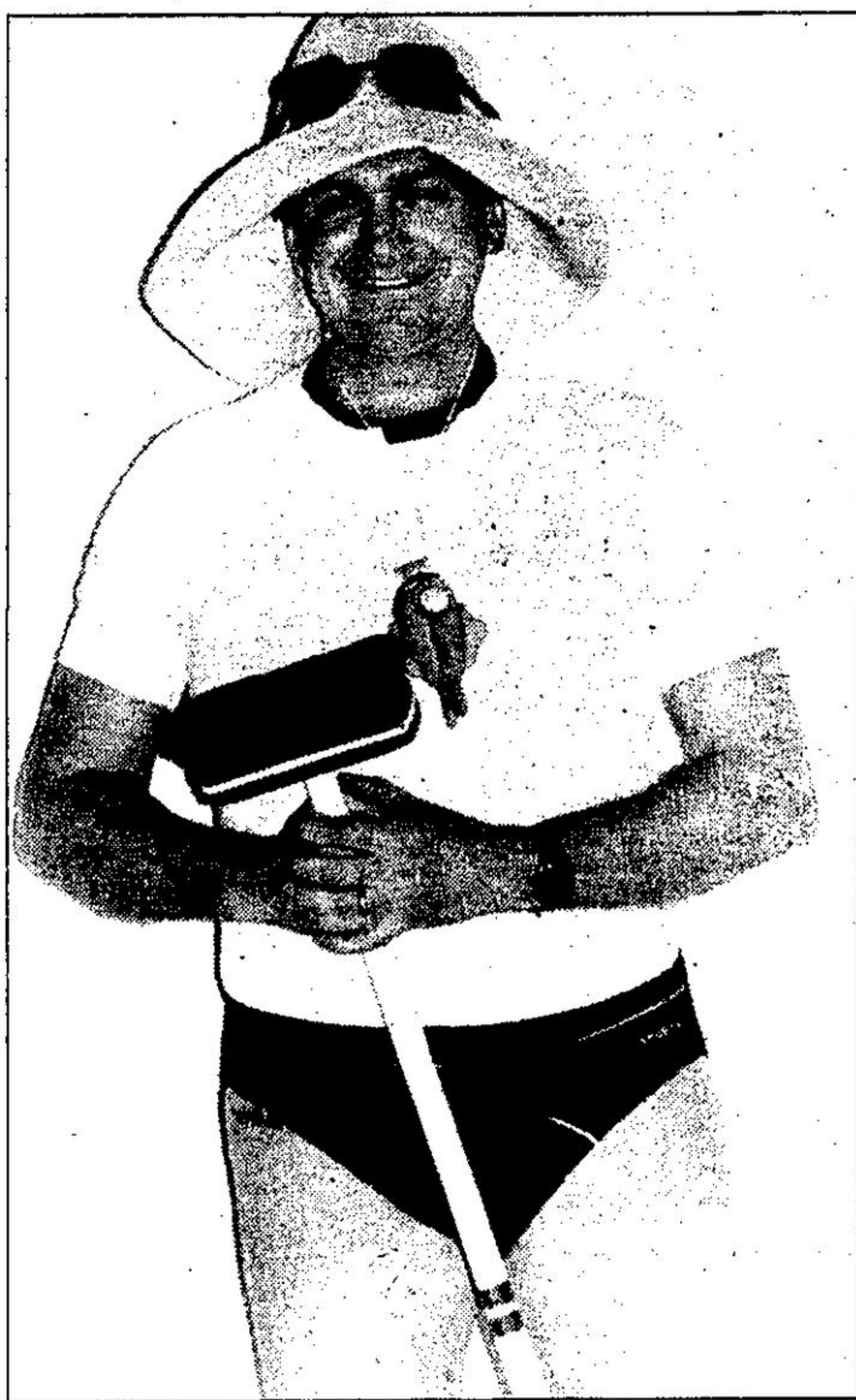
Curling Club news

Cornelius 'Spiel ends season

By ELLEN BURNS
 Herald Special
 When you hear of the Cornelius Mixed Bonspiel at North Halton, you now the curling season is over. This event was played this past week, running from Wednesday to Saturday, ending with a dinner and dance at night. Eighty curlers played in this popular event, the theme being "The 1990 Cornelius Olympics". This brought out some extremely clever costumes, and the winning team of Brad Burgess did a great job of "The Jamaican Bob Sled Team". This team really cleaned up as they also were the No. 1 trophy

winner. Congratulations Brad, vice Nancy Schulteis, second Bob Watts and lead Irene Soal. Runners-up were Ian Muir's team of Chris Burgess, Helmut Schultheis and Madge Whitfield. Second place winners were Bob Jickling, Mary Wands, Paul Panaboker and Eida Watts. In third place was Mike Makovnyk, Marilyn Barber, Donna Purrell and Terry Dowd. Our appreciation was shown to Mitch Jewell who has kept our ice in such good shape all season, even with its nice little "runs" and "falls". Many thanks for your hard work Mitch. Lucky draw winners of Blue Jay

tickets were Helen Mizener and Marie Stone. All in all it was a great four days and a round of applause was given to Bill and Marie who have worked endlessly all year. Sunday afternoon was the family skate-off and then "the plug is pulled" and out goes the ice. Ladies, please remember our closing dinner on April 18 at 6:30 p.m. Many thanks to the Herald for their great coverage all season. Have a good summer. Hope to see everyone on the ice in the fall.



Helmut Schultheis won the best single outfit for his wild costume of the Newfoundland Olympic swim team at the Cornelius Olympic bonspiel held at the North Halton Golf and Country Club on the weekend. The idea of the bonspiel was to dress up in wild outfits. (Herald Photo)

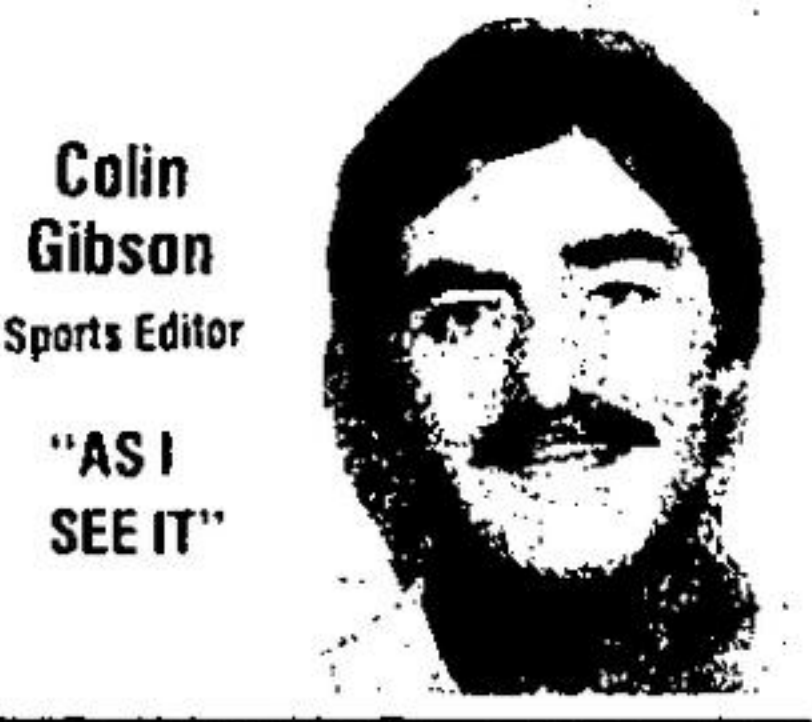
'AAA' hockey zone teams

Players deserve to play at highest level

By COLIN GIBSON
 Herald Sports Editor
 The possibility of 'AAA' Rep hockey competition becoming available to Georgetown hockey players moved another step close to reality following a meeting at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena involving representatives from those Tri-County Hockey League centres that would be affected. While the revelation of the possibility of Georgetown players competing at the 'AAA' level (from Novice through Juvenile) might make headlines as current news, in fact, the idea has been banded about for a number of years. One of the main proponents for the push to 'AAA' hockey availability for Georgetown minor hockey players, is Wayne Pries. He made the suggestion to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association in writing, way back in 1984. Pries wears many hats in the infrastructure of hockey in Georgetown but his philosophy has always remained constant. "Minor hockey players in Georgetown should have the opportunity of playing at the highest level possible, depending on their ability," stated Pries in an interview. "I have always maintained

this point of view. Now, it appears the Ontario Minor Hockey Association is going to give the local players this opportunity." While discussions concerning the 'AAA' hockey plan are still very much in the formative stage, sources close to the negotiations suggest it's "all systems go," and that time is really the only 'fly in the ointment' at this point. One person close to the discussions stated simply, "It's going to happen. If not this year, then next year for sure." The Ontario Minor Hockey Association grades teams in December for provincial playdowns competition. The grading system, while based on a number of factors, usually comes down to a community's population base and team performance against previously graded competition. It does not take into account the uniquely talented individual players on a team and OMHA bylaws being what they are, does not allow the uniquely talented individual to independently seek higher calibre competition. Dissatisfaction with these limitations within the OMHA-member community - not to mention the

threat of possible human rights violations lawsuits - prompted the OMHA to set up 'AAA' zone Rep team programs to ensure that every hockey player under the OMHA umbrella would have the right to compete at the highest possible level of competition. The OMHA approached the Tri-County Hockey League some time ago, concerning 'AAA' zone Rep teams and according to Tri-County sources, the suggestion was well-received. Tri-County Hockey League 'AAA' zone Rep teams would be formed with the core of players being provided by Georgetown, Milton and Flamboro. Feeder systems would include Erin,



Colin Gibson
 Sports Editor
 "AS I SEE IT"

Hillsburgh and Orangeville. Acton has been approached to join the 'Tri-County Zone as a feeder system. When the idea was first broached to the Tri-County Hockey League by the OMHA, a committee was formed, chaired by Georgetown's Wayne Pries, with representatives from the six involved communities. The latest meeting, held April 1, at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena, was described as "constructive" by Pries and a "Timetable of Events" agenda has been drawn up to move on the 'AAA' zone Rep teams concept. Another meeting has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m., April 25, at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena, at which time a formal committee, with elected officers, will be formed to deal directly with the OMHA. According to Wayne Pries, the OMHA has set a deadline of May 20, when a decision must be rendered as to whether or not the Tri-County Hockey League will be operating 'AAA' zone Rep teams for the upcoming 1990-91 season. Interim meetings leading up to the May 20 deadline will be held to sort out a number of issues. It is expected that the 'AAA' zone Rep teams will regard

Georgetown-Milton as their home base with home games split between the two communities' minor hockey systems. In addition, the knotty affiliation dilemma concerning the 'AAA' zone Rep teams at the midget and juvenile levels must be resolved. According to Wayne Pries, this could prove a problem. "The 'AAA' teams affected by affiliations could go several ways," said Pries. "Players could go to junior teams that their home minor system is affiliated with, or we could simply affiliate the 'AAA' zone Rep teams independently and in that case, the affiliation would basically be for sale." In other words, a Georgetown player with the 'AAA' midget zone Rep team could end up playing for Milton against the Georgetown Junior "B" Raiders. These and other matters will be ironed out, eventually. Suffice it to say, those involved in the 'AAA' zone Rep teams concept are excited about the idea. And for once, in a long while, the players' best interest will take priority. As I see it, anyway.