

## One Storey after another

BY TANYA MARISSIN

"Be honest and talk slow." That is the advice retired Rockwood auctioneer Max Storey has for young, upcoming auctioneers.

When asked how he began his distinguished career as an auctioneer, Storey grins and reminisces. "I used to go to auctions and was rather intrigued with the way they worked and thought if they could do it, I could." Eventually Storey became the well-known auctioneer he is today.

It is the weather, more than the bids, that Storey remembers from his first auction. "It was a very, very cold day in March, 1967 ... There was a good crowd and we made some very successful sales."

One of the most memorable items Storey has ever sold was an antique chair. "It was a farm auction near Milton on a Wednesday afternoon," he says.

"This old chair had only a frame, no back or seat to it, and some guys tried to push it through a high window and into a bonfire, but when that wouldn't work, they brought it down to me to see if I could get anything for it. I started the bidding at \$2 and that day, it finally sold for \$2,800. It turns out that the chair was a rare antique and the estimated selling price was \$25,000.

"You name it, I've sold it," boasts Storey, who practised selling his farm equipment while perfecting his auctioneering technique. My wife thought I was nuts because I was in the field spreading manure and I was selling the tractor and my voice carries pretty good, so she could hear all this, but

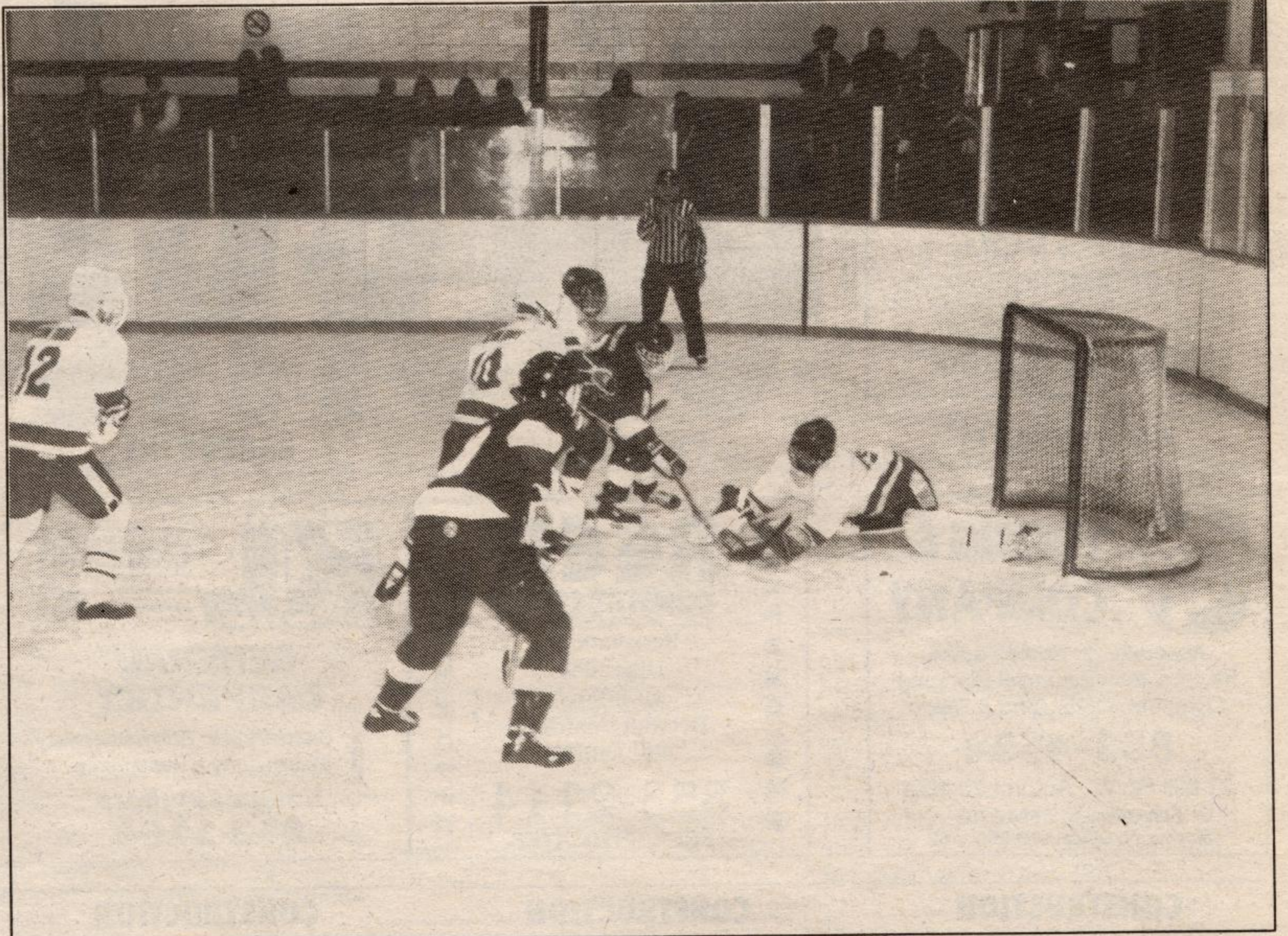
this way I could get in some of my practice," Storey recalls with a laugh.

The best memories Storey has as an auctioneer are "keeping the buyers and sellers satisfied and happy. Doing a good sale, and keeping people in good humour."

Although Storey is retired from auctioneering today, he says he "helps his son on the farm with some tractor work. There is one particular young auctioneer that I help, I'm taking it easy, and doing a lot of visiting."

When asked if Storey had any regrets on choosing to be an auctioneer, he shakes his head and replies, "We were different from most families: we had a purebred herd of Holsteins and we shipped a lot of milk, so we were comfortable because everybody said we would never be successful at auctioneering." Well, Storey proved everybody wrong.

Does Storey have any more advice for budding auctioneers? "Always do your homework, and that goes for everybody," he says with a wink.



### SAVED AGAIN!

AN ACROBATIC STOP: Acton Travel's goalie Gipton Gunn makes a save in a Midget hockey game last Friday at Acton arena. Number 12 Rob Tiralongo and Jim Lloyd rush in to help out. The team lost 6-2 against a tough Cambridge squad. (Jim Cooney photo)

### Fight violence against women

Monday, on the third anniversary of the shootings at L'Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, women gathered in communities large and small across Canada. Whether they gathered to mourn quietly or scream out their rage and fear, they served as reminders of the violence that is directed against women in this society.

The problem is pervasive, every class, race and religion harbour abusers. The facts that follow only begin to indicate the magnitude of the problem.

- In Canada, 121 women have been killed by their current or estranged male partners since 1991. Forty-nine of these women lived in Ontario and some of them lived in Halton Hills.

- One in four women will be assaulted in her lifetime.

- One in five men living with a woman admits to using violence against his partner.

- Six out of ten Ontarians know either a man who assaults or a woman who is assaulted.

We can do something about this problem. We can educate ourselves and our partners. We can educate our children and ensure that they do not grow up to be abusers or abused. We can stand together and fight the violence that surrounds us.

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