

## Limping Lakers bounced from playoffs

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Acton Tanner

It was a comedy of errors that bumped the St. Joseph's Lakers from the Halton separate school boys' basketball playoffs on Thursday, but local players didn't find it amusing.

Laker point guard Kyle Artem rolled an ankle, another player had a bummed knee and a forward sustained a bloody nose in what became a bloody mess of a 47-34 semifinal loss to St. Marguerite on Thursday at Oakville's St. Marguerite d'Youville.

"It was almost like Murphy's Law — whatever could go wrong, did," says Laker coach Kevin Harkin, who was somewhat fortunate to miss the game while on a school trip to Temagami. "Maybe if Artem was playing the entire game we could have made it closer, but I don't know if we could have won. They were missing their star point guard as well.

"We were in the game (scoring-wise), but there was a lot of miscommunication between the players."

The Lakers advanced to the semifinal after defeating St. Philippe 45-42 in overtime at Our

Lady of Peace in Oakville last Tuesday in the quarterfinal.

Harkin was rather upbeat considering the Lakers mustered a 4-1 regular season record and captured the North-Halton final 50-48 over St. Peter's in Milton just two weeks ago.

"To make the final four, I can't complain," he exclaims. "Anything after the North-Halton win was icing on the cake. Hats off to my guys."

Harkin adds next season will be a rebuilding year, but he's looking forward to seeing how this year's Grade 7s step to the fore.

"I'm tickled pink about this year, and the guys deserved a lot of respect for what they have done," Harkin praises. "They're all natural team players and very easy to work with.

"The Grade 8 players did a lot in teaching the younger guys about team ethics and a good attitude."

## Petkoff records 15th point in last 3 games

Following a 1-1 draw with Chinguacousy last Wednesday, the Halton Minor Peeewe hockey Hurricanes steamrolled over Guelph 8-6 and then blew away Oakville 9-1.

In Hillsburgh on Sunday against Oakville, Acton's Joel Petkoff notched his 15th point in three games, scoring twice.

He combined on a tic-tac-toe setup and then streaked in all alone on the Oakville goal-

keeper, foiling him with a spectacular deke.

Meanwhile, it was 8-2 Canes before Guelph climbed back into the game late in the third period while the Canes were playing shorthanded.

Petkoff had two goals and three assists.

The 29-4-2 Hurricanes finish the regular season tonight (Wednesday) at Tonelli arena in Milton at 8:40.



**NO CHANCE!** Acton Peeewe 1 Galvcast Sabres' goalie Craig Foster hugs the post to thwart a Merritton opponent from stuffing the puck home during recent action at the arena. The locals won the game 6-1 and the Round 2 OMHA series 3-1. (Eve Martin photo)

## Redmen in OFSAA A-final

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It is said one player cannot make a team. So how about two?

Missing their two giants, Jenny Goy and Heather Trotter, in the Volpe Division quarterfinal against E.C. Drury on Feb. 15, the Acton Redmen Senior girls' volleyball team was relatively ineffective in all facets of their game — serving, court coverage, setting and, most notably, blocking.

However, with their return last Tuesday, the locals looked like OFSAA champions rather than potential participants. It took just 40 minutes for the Redmen to run Hamilton's Hillfield-Strathallan out of an Acton High gym filled with 350 giddy students with scores of 15-8, 15-5 in the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference (GHAC) qualifier.

The Redmen left yesterday (Tuesday) for North Bay, where they will play games today and tomorrow in the A-final of the OFSAA championships.

"They (Hillfield-Strathallan) couldn't handle Goy and Trotter at the net. They couldn't put the ball over us," Redmen coach Bob McKay remarked after the game. "We performed tremendously."

McKay added Goy is the finest female athlete he's ever coached. "At the beginning of the year," said the coach, "she was hitting five or six balls out of bounds, but (last Tuesday) she only hit one."

The third-year Redmen coach mentioned that his team pass-served, pass free-balled and moved better on the court than they did late in the regular season.

"Finally it started to come together," sighed McKay. "That's the best we've played in a month. We played effectively at both ends of the court."

The Redmen jumped out to an early lead in Game 1, but the visitors came back to even the game 7-7 before the home side reeled off seven straight points.

In Game 2, a much stronger serving Redmen unit prevailed over mediocre pass-serving by Hillfield-Strathallan as Shelby DaPonte put away five consecutive serves for a 13-3 bulge.

## Reeve pots 2

### INDOOR SOCCER RESULTS

At St. Joe's: The Wild Rebels (boys) — 10 (Dan Pursoo with six, Shawn Gray three and David Hatch) The Green Grass — 8 (Ryan Samson potted four, Joel Savard three, Greg Boughton); The Blue Hurricanes — 1, The Green Grass — 0; The Barnies (adults) — 11, The Hornets — 8; The Reds — 9, The Wilde Burgans — 5.

At McKenzie-Smith: The Green Hornets (Jr. girls) — 5 (Shannon Gray had four, Nicole Findlay) The Lightning Bolts — 4 (Meighan McIntyre with two, Becky Taylor and Ashley Campbell); The Lightning Bolts — 5 (Meighan McIntyre four, Sabrina Fread) The Blue Bears — 2 (Jennifer Reeve, two).

Francis Beans (Sr. girls) — 4 (Julie Diamond, Trisha Edwards, Amanda Paton and Colleen Thompson) Aqua Stingers — 3 (Jennifer Elliott, Jessie Brown and Alsitia Weeks); Francis Beans — 9, The Big Bad Smurfs — 6.

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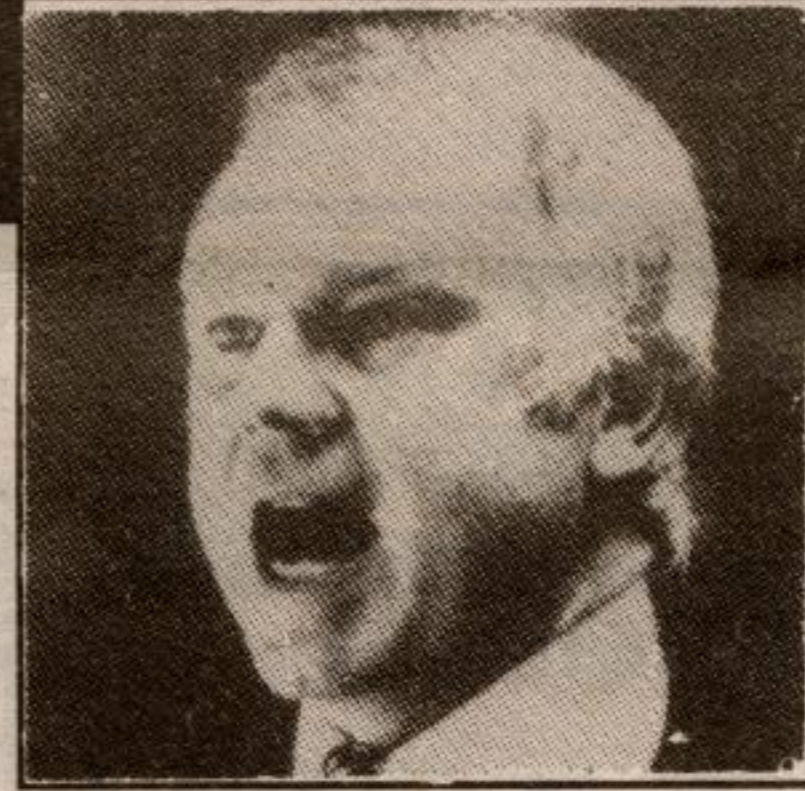
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## Beauty late draft picks

The teams that are successful are the ones that pick the winners in the later rounds of the NHL entry draft. Really, it is not too hard to pick the top three rounds (just follow Central Scouting), so let's begin our look at some beauty late drafts with Nos. 10 through 8.

10. **Dino Ciccarelli** was picked up by the now-defunct Minnesota North Stars as a free agent mainly because he had a broken leg in junior and nobody would take a chance except Minny (even though as a rookie with the OHL London Knights he scored 72 goals in 68 games).

In his first year for Minny, he set a rookie record for goals in the playoffs — 14 in 19 games. Dino has scored a zillion goals since.

9. **Joey Mullen** was signed as a free agent by the St. Louis Blues. So far, he has had five 40-goal years and one 50-goal year. An All-Star, he led the NHL in plus-minus in '89, won the Lady Byng in 1987 and '89 (and I'm not holding that against him). Joey is still putting the puck in the net for the Pittsburgh Penguins.

8. **Bernie Nicholls** drafted 73rd by the Los Angeles Kings.

So far, Bernie has had three 20-goal seasons, three 30-goal campaigns, three 40-goal years and a 70-goaler.

I know he'll shine in Chicago now.



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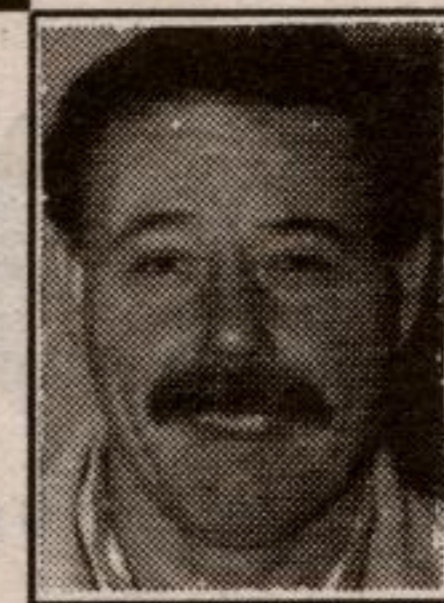
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**GRIPS, PART III:** When determining the style of your golf grip you must be aware of the different types of material that are available in the golf grip industry today.

The golf grip has come a long way from the original grips designed by the "fathers" of golf. Initial grip material included wrappings of padded cloth or a crude winding of leather.

Due to technology golfers today have a greater amount of flexibility when selecting the style and material of their grips. Leather is still the most classic material used in regards to feel and appearance. It has a long life span and if tanned properly is not affected by the environment. Although leather will last longer, it will become very hard and slick after a period of time. Dry leather is excellent but when wet it becomes slippery and you could lose some control. Leather grips are also expensive.

Natural rubber is still the most popular material used in golf grips. While natural rubber performs very well, it is affected by the weather and the ozone, which causes the grip to crack. **MORE NEXT WEEK!**

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