

GRAPEVINE

Logo almost right

There's still some fine-tuning to be done, but the new logo for soon-to-be renamed Acton Sabres Rep hockey teams is almost ready. The Sabres name will be retired at the end of this season and the 10 Rep teams will be called the Acton Tanners, a name first used by the Beardmore and Company intermediate hockey teams in the 1930s. The 1938-39 team was Ontario champs and the name showed up on jerseys until 1970-71.

The Acton Minor Hockey Association then adopted the Sabres name.

"The new name fits in with the Town's image and the kids really like it," explained Acton Minor Hockey Association president Steve Prentice, adding that the team logo will be the letter "A" and a bull and the colours will be blue, white and tan.

The Rep league will spend approximately \$10,000 to buy 340 sweaters, a home and away set for each of the teams.

Best wishes John Toebes

A lot of Acton residents will be happy to learn that Acton's John Toebes, former Citizen of the year and "Mr. House League Hockey" is recovering at home after being rushed to the hospital on Saturday. Toebes was at the arena (surprise) when he felt faint. He was kept at the hospital for a couple of hours and sent home to rest.

On Monday John said thanks to all of the people who were concerned about him and sent their best wishes.

Best of best honoured

Kudos to the approximately 95 individuals, four teams and one organization that will be honoured at tonight's Town of Halton Hills Municipal Awards Evening. The award recipients have achieved excellence

and fame at provincial, national and world levels in a wide range of activities including arts, culture, recreation, sports and academics.

Ceremonies begin at 7 p.m. at the John Elliott Theatre, Georgetown.

Carnival cancelled?

No word yet if there will be an Acton Figure Skating Club carnival this year. Club officials will meet this week to determine if the very popular event, staged for the past 37 years, will take place this spring at the new Acton arena.

One Club official said that all of the props, lights and sets from the old arena are no longer adaptable to the new facility.

The carnival has lost money for the past few years.

Welcome Wagon award

Acton's Pamela Worsfold knows the benefits of being a Welcome Wagon sponsor. "It has been great to help build up the business."

For 10 years Worsfold, who owns Corrie's Hair Place at 21 Mill Street West, has been a member of the Welcome Wagon community welcome program. When Welcome Wagon staff visit a new resident, among the other goodies they receive, is a gift and discount coupon from Corrie's.

"It was my husband's idea to join Welcome Wagon as a sponsor and it's a great service for newcomers. This is a nice little town and we need to promote it and that's what Welcome Wagon does."

Worsfold received a collector's plate from Welcome Wagon staff on Tuesday to mark her decade as a sponsor.

Unidentified curler

Thanks to all the readers who called in with information about the unidentified Acton Curling Club member. The person was Case Dejong, the picture taken in 1964.



GIRL GUIDE POWER: Members of the 2nd and 3rd Acton Guides, and some of their stuffed pals, spent a fun-filled night camping at Badenoch, near Moffat, on the weekend. Shown here are Julia Niblock (front, left) Jasmine Hess (centre) and Thea McMillan. Second row, left to right: Kendra Freeland, Christine van Opstal, Megan McCluskey, Jackie Rivers, Alisha Wainwright, Danielle Casson. Back row: Leanne Marcoux, Marissa Kidd, Marianne Querques. — Frances Niblock photo

1998 Olympic perspective

As the glow of the just completed games slowly fade I offer a few thoughts on how we fared. Obviously, from a medals standpoint, this was Canada's most successful games. We even outpointed our neighbours to the south, which was a bonus. To me, however, the Olympics is about much more than medals. Here are a few examples:

My most special Olympic moment came courtesy of our gold medal winning Ladies' Curling Team. You could feel the excitement in the air as skip Sandra Schmirler threw her last rock to cement the win. Here were five ordinary ladies from Regina who clawed their way to the pinnacle of their game. No multi-million dollar egos here. It was great.

The most heartbreaking moment came when Brian Stemmler caught an edge and skied off the course at the men's downhill. Stemmler has come back from horrendous injuries and this was probably his last Olympics. To add insult to injury, he was ahead of the ultimate winner's time and was literally in sight of the finish line when the mishap occurred. A tragic finish to a fine career.

I wasn't especially upset when the men's hockey team came up short. Actually, I hope this will be the first and last time we send N.H.L. pros to the Olympics. This is a time for amateurs to have centre stage. Our guys ran into a hot goalie and a Czech team fueled by national pride. Besides, you can't be a life-long Leaf's fan and not become somewhat stoic about losing a hockey game. It would have been nice, though, if Wayne Gretzky could have added an Olympic gold to his collection.

Hopefully the U.S. TV networks will see the lousy ratings for hockey and the pros will stay home. Let's face it, U.S. TV revenues finance the games. Not many Yanks would have stayed up

The Way I See It

with Mike O'Leary



to watch the Czechs and Russians face off. Nor do the networks pay big bucks to watch Norwegians beat the stretch pants off American cross-country skiers. At least with amateur hockey players there is a commitment that you don't see with pros.

I am amazed that so many people think Elvis Stojko was not as seriously injured as claimed. With the megabucks available to a gold medalist there is no possibility Elvis would take a dive in this competition. We should all be proud that he completed at all. I'll say it again: his courageous skate in the long program was a demonstration of the highest ideals of Olympic sport. He is a find role model for our children.

I believe he was sincerely touched by the fax for the little girl in Barrie. I've seen him with our own Acton kids. He is a real person. He deserves the Order of Canada.

Something has to be done about the judging in figure skating. Especially the disgraceful cheating that went on in ice dancing. The answer is not to cancel the event. Why punish the athletes? The answer is to have salaried judges working for the International Skating Union whose performance could be evaluated.

The judges who diminished the sport in Nagano should be banned from sport forever. It was a disgraceful exhibition: just disgraceful!

Although I didn't enjoy seeing them lose, didn't you think the men's curling and ladies' hockey teams were just a little too cocky going into the competition? Still, a silver medal is nothing to sneer at.

Don Cherry certainly caused a tempest in a jock-cup when he blasted Jean-Luc Brassard for whining about carrying the flag at the opening ceremonies. Not content with singling out poor Brassard, Cherry then went on to generalize that most French Canadians consistently whined about "their rights"

I though Ron MacLean was going to swallow his microphone. Politically incorrect or not, Cherry was only saying what a lot of others in this country think. Agree or disagree, you have to give Don full marks for speaking his mind.

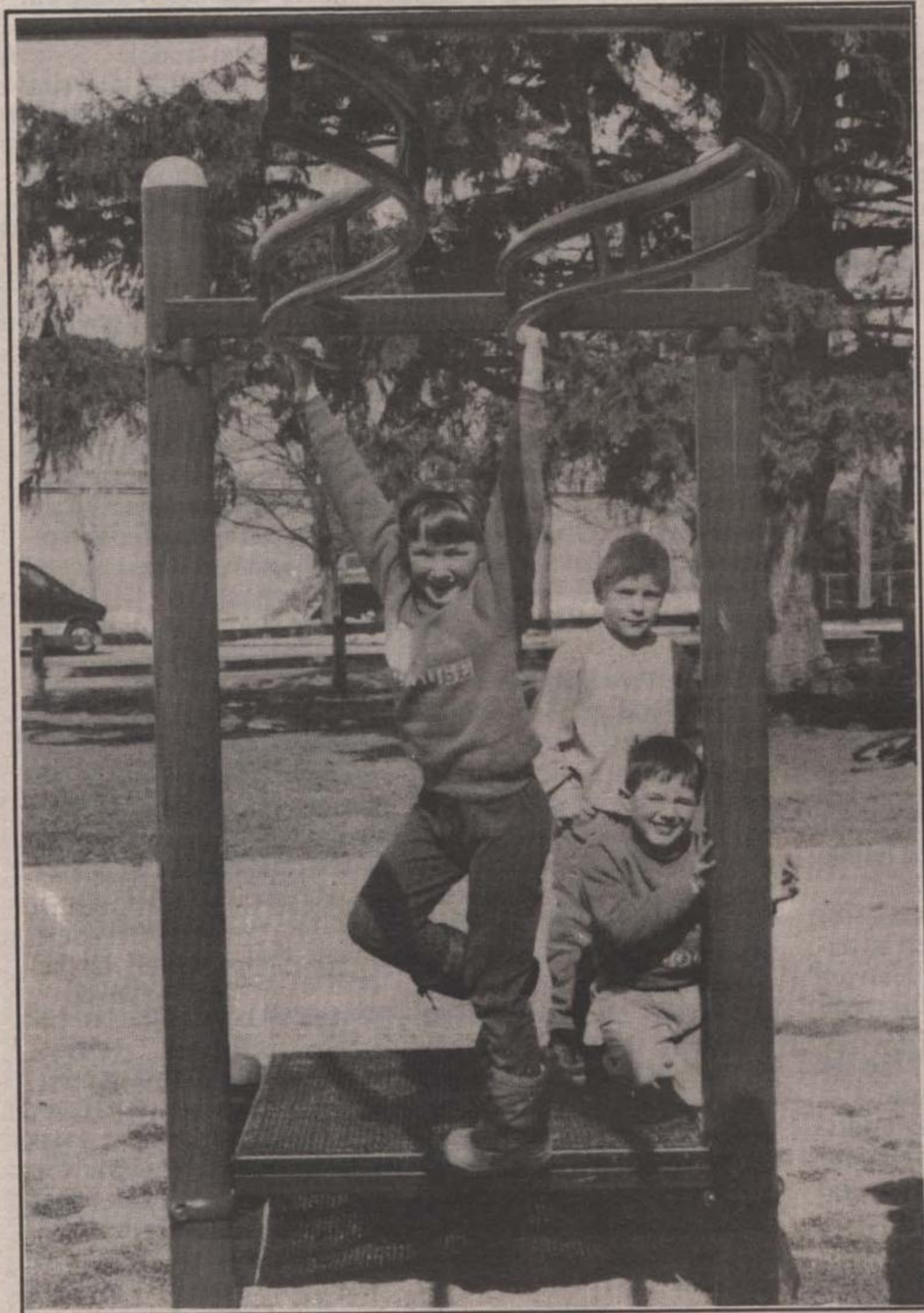
I never thought I'd write this but, the CBC did a great jog in covering the games. Brian Williams was often wordy, especially during the Rebagliati situation, but most of his interviews were superb. Ron MacLean's efforts at humour fell short but his segments were interesting and well paced. Is Steve Armitage the best sportscaster in the world or what? I swear, that man could broadcast a sneezing contest and make it sound exciting.

An added bonus was that we didn't have to put up with Rod Black and Valerie Pringle. Well done CBC.

As a country our only embarrassing moment came when blockhead MP Suzanne Tremblay complained there were too many Canadian flags at the games. Why this person was given so much press is beyond me. Heck, most Quebec born athletes low live and train in Calgary. Then, other Bloc MP's jumped on the bandwagon demanding Cherry's head. Hah — no chance.

Let's stop giving these dorks so much coverage. Who cares what a bunch of traitors have to say?

It was a great Olympics. Well done, Canada. I look forward to 2002 in Salt Lake City.



JUST HANGING AROUND: Emma Jolly (front), her brother Ben Jolly and their friend Cameron Short (standing) took advantage of Saturday's spring like temperatures to have fun in the Prospect Park play area. — Angela Tyler photo