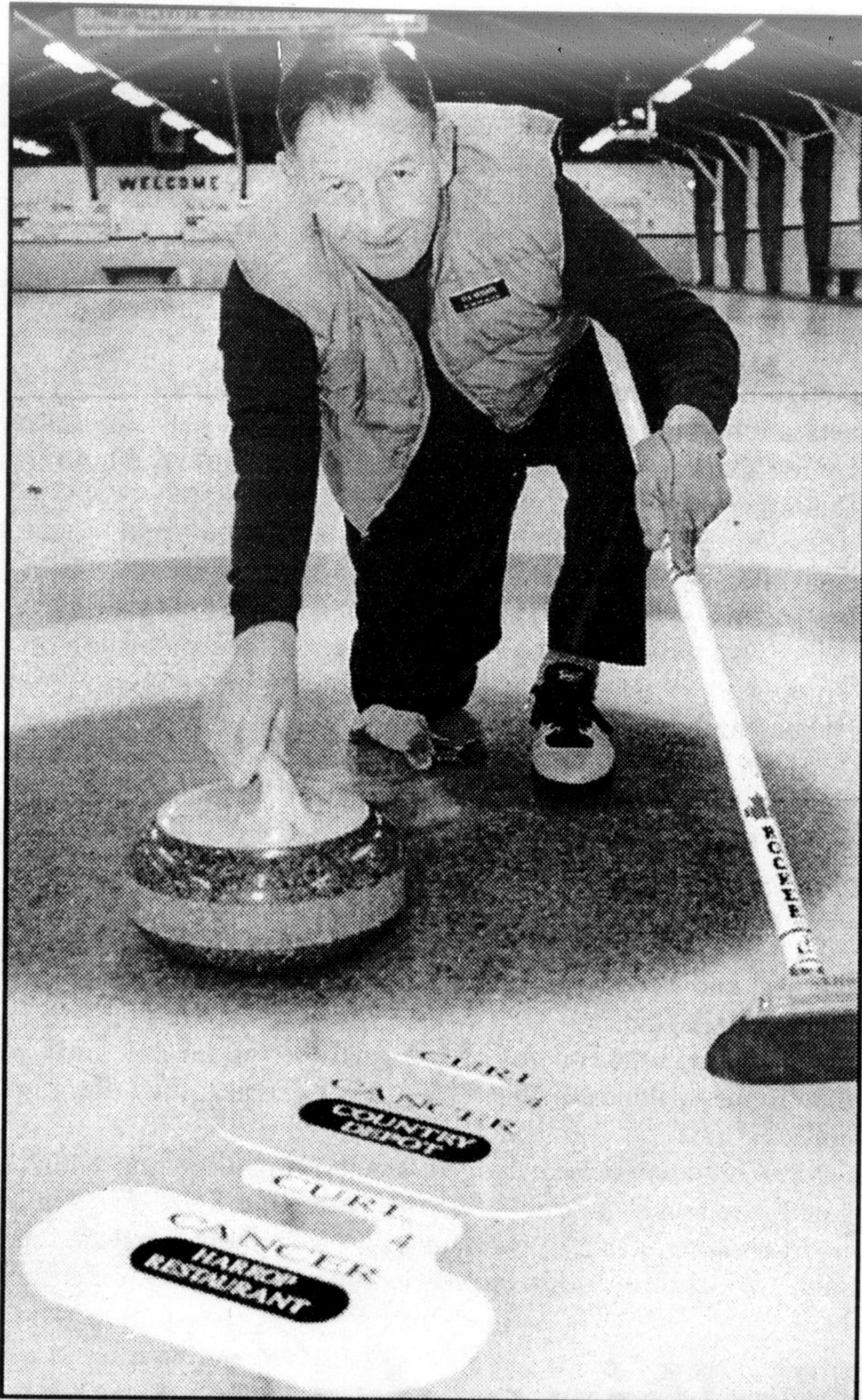


Ready to rock for the cause



Milton Curling Club's Ken Hassard gears up for the Curl For Cancer Bonspiel. Proceeds from the February 26 and 27 competition will go to the Camp Trillium Fund. Entry forms can be obtained by calling 878-8231.

It's just about time to rock the house, with the second annual Curl 4 Cancer.

Last year the local event raised a whopping \$25,771 for Camp Trillium — designed for children afflicted with cancer — and chair Ken Hassard has no doubts that even more support will come this time around.

"I'm not the kind of person who sets specific goals, but we definitely look to exceed last year's total," he said of the February 26 and 27 bonspiel at Milton Curling Club.

"We were absolutely surprised by the response last year. Half the people who came out weren't even regular curlers."

A total of 32 rinks have already signed up to compete at the fundraising tournament, which will once again enjoy tremendous sponsorship from the community.

Said Hassard, "Our aim is to raise money, not spend money. Everything is donated to us, right down to the refreshments."

While the event has reached its capacity in terms of team entries, individuals and businesses can still make a contribution. In addition to supporting a curler through a pledge, you can buy a rock for \$25, buy a sheet of ice for \$100 or buy the end of a rink for \$250.

Another way to help out is by participating in the silent and live auction, either by donating an item or purchasing one.

"We're going to have some very unique and interesting items on the block including a 15-minute aerobatics flying lesson with champion aviator Roger Hadfield," said Hassard.

Anyone who wishes to support the Curl 4 Cancer event can do so by calling Ken Hassard at 878-8231.

Farewell to the Gardens

• from LINGERING on page 6

When the biggest trade in NHL history was announced, the one with Doug Gilmour and Calgary, I was one of only two media people in the dressing room that morning after practice.

Russian Alexander Godnyuk was one of those traded, but not being able to speak English had no idea what was going on. He kept shrugging his shoulders and grunting.

I was even there when Harold Ballard was still about. He always walked around in his bathrobe during the day, which was a ridiculous sight. He hated writers — we weren't even allowed in the dressing room at the time — and I'm

proud to say he gave me one evil glare when I nodded and smiled while passing him in the hall.

Because I liked the Gardens so much, I'd go much earlier than I needed to before games, and saw things I normally wouldn't. I was touched one night to watch Felix Potvin try so hard to make a disabled child in a wheelchair feel like a king. I doubt that the boy has any happier memory to this day.

Maple Leaf Gardens will be about memories for all of us when we watch the final game. For me, I think, it will be like saying goodbye to an old friend — a friend who wasn't perfect, but a friend still the same.

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