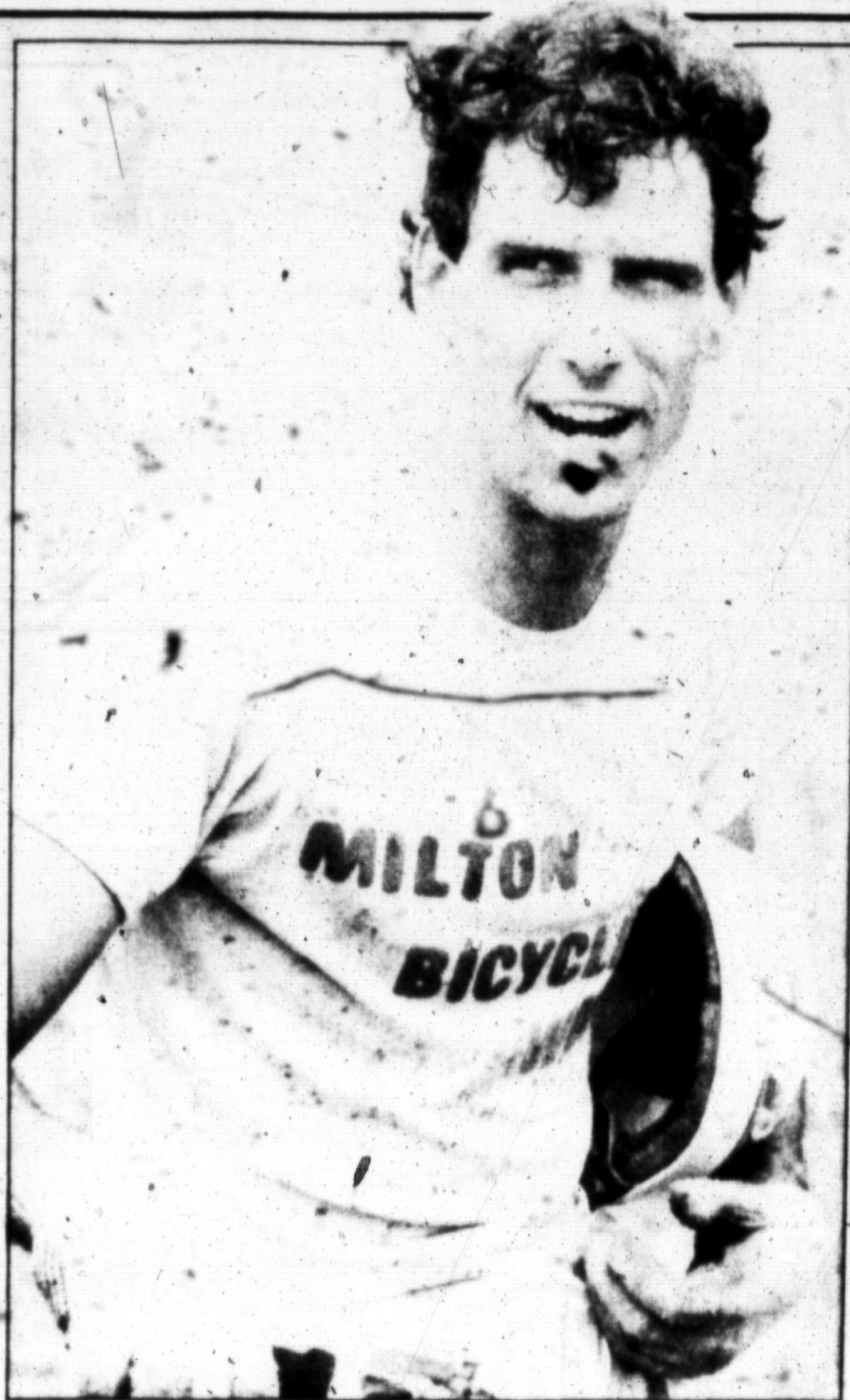


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# Sports

Wednesday, July 16, 1986

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## Dark horse wins first race



You couldn't ask for much more of a success in your first outing than Gary Zuest enjoyed Sunday at Glen Eden in his inaugural mountain bike race. Zuest, a Milton resident, dominated the 10-kilometre event, run over a hilly course around the ski hills. At left Zuest relaxes, without even looking too tired, after the race. At top right a competitor cools off following the distance event and at bottom right Jonathan Richardson of the Cycle Logic racing team does a pre-race warm-up stretch. See story below.

Photos by ROB KELLY

It's a new sport taking hold throughout southern Ontario, and it's a new sport to Gary Zuest, 23, of Milton. But Zuest was a winner in his newly adopted event Sunday.

Zuest won the grueling 10-kilometre event at the Norco Mountain Bike Event Sunday at Glen Eden, negotiating the hilly course in 34 minutes, 37 seconds.

It was the first time Zuest had ridden a mountain bike competitively. "I'm not a mountain bike rider," Zuest said after the race. He had obtained a machine only a couple of weeks ago and traded it for another, which he used in the race. Zuest, a former motocross racer, led for most of the race, to his surprise, as much as anyone else's.

Zuest has been a 10-speed road bike rider and said he recently completed a seven-hour 130-mile sprint to Wasaga Beach. As well as winning the 10-kilometre race he finished first in the two-kilometre expert event. While unfamiliar with mountain bike riding, he used his general bicycle knowledge to full effect Sunday.

"I wasn't going too hard off the line. I knew a lot of guys would die on the rocks. And I only passed when I had a good line. It was a good, steady race, nothing overly fast. I took the lead in the second lap and by the third lap I saw a lot of people pushing to get up the hills. It just killed them."

David Sudbury was second in the 10-kilometre event in 35:47 minutes and Hernan Bergos was third in 36:54 minutes. Bergos was second to Zuest in the two-kilometre expert race while Mark Precious was first in the novice two kilometre race. Peter Nella was second.

Mountain bike racing is new to Ontario, with the Glen Eden event

reported as the first such organized and commercially sanctioned race in the province.

The races come as the inevitable result of the bike's growing popularity. Doug Brown of The Milton Bicycle Works said "Sixty to seventy per cent" of the bikes he now sells are mountain machines. Brown competed Sunday, as well as tuning up Zuest's bike for the race.

"Out west mountain bikes outsell others three to one," said salesman Andrew Johnson of Toronto's Bloor Cycle, who is considered one of the better riders in the new sport. "It's the versatility of it. You can ride it anywhere. On a 10-speed you're limited by the tires and the gear ratio. This kind of bike makes you feel like a kid again."

A mountain bike has 18 close-ratio gears to make climbing the toughest hill short of a cliff at least a possibility. Sunday riders were challenged to ascend one of the Glen Eden ski hills, and both Sudbury (first) and Zuest made it to the top. The frames on the bikes are smaller than 10-speeds but larger than BMX machines, and they are sturdy. Wide, heavily treaded tires are designed to handle slick and tough terrain.

A mountain bike tract, the early prevailing wisdom goes, should be 30 per cent uphill, 30 per cent downhill and 40 per cent flat. The Glen Eden course, five times around two kilometres of service road up and behind the ski hills, featured at least that percentage of hills.

Halton Region Conservation Authority marketing director Bob Falle had 78 entries for this first event and said that the Authority may well run a similar race day in the fall. The track is tailor-made for such racing as is. "All we had to do was cut the grass," Falle said.



## Welders going to the big one

They had to go to extra innings for the first time this year, and a lot was at stake. But Seehaver Welding major peewee baseball reps, thanks to some heads-up ball, a break and Garth Moore's timely hit, have earned a berth in a prestigious tournament.

Welders will be going to the Pepsi-Cola CNE Major Peewee Baseball Tournament in August.

"A berth in this journey is one of the most sought-after prizes, next to an OBA championship, for the best teams at the peewee level in Ontario," said Milton spokesman Gary Williams.

Welders qualified for the tournament, earning one of the Central Ontario Baseball Association spots, by beating Brampton in a best-of-three series.

Milton shaded Brampton 4-3 in the opening contest but dropped the second game in Brampton 5-3. Brampton returned to Milton for the rubber match.

Welders were in trouble early on, as they gave up four runs in the first two innings on only two hits. Damien

Dubien came on to pitch relief and allowed only two hits for one run over the next three innings.

Welders chipped away at Brampton's lead, scoring two in the second and two in the fourth. Brampton scored again in the fifth, but Milton replied with a run. Milton then went to the bullpen for David McDuffe, winner of the first contest. McDuffe held the visitors scoreless for the remainder of the game. But Welders went into the last regulation inning (the seventh) down 6-5.

In the seventh, Todd Mulley reached first on a fielder's choice for Milton, stole second and scored on McDuffe's single.

Moore led off in the bottom of the eighth with his third hit of the game, a single, and advanced to second on a passed ball. Stewart Williams struck out, but the catcher couldn't control the ball and Williams was safe at first while Moore went to third base.

With the infield drawn in, Kevin O'Donnell laid down a textbook suicide squeeze bunt to easily score Moore for the winning run.

Cont'd on pg. 8

## Frustration continues for sr. Royals

The study in frustration for Royal City Realty continued in senior baseball action Sunday at Brian Best Park as Royals lost yet another game that they could have won.

St. Catharines Metros downed Milton 11-8. "The long ball killed us today," said Milton co-coach Glen Turner, who shares the job with Rick McTrach. "They had one solo and two two-run homers."

But the one that blew out the candles for Milton came following a seventh-inning three-run Royals rally. Following that the score stood at 9-8 St. Catharines until the top of the ninth, when Larry Stephens walked and Darren Beu slammed a two-run homer.

"We've lost five one-run ball games and then a game like this," Turner said quietly after the game. "It's getting frustrating but I'm not going to let it show. You can't lose 15 players over the past two years and expect

experience to show through. I don't think the older guys (players) are getting frustrated though. They realize that the young guys have got to get into the games. And our new guys are still enthusiastic."

At the mid-way point of the season Milton has three wins against nine losses. St. Catharines upped their record to 7-6 at Milton's expense Sunday.

"That was the best game they have played against us all year," said St. Catharines manager Mark Walters. "I think Milton has more talent than their record shows. With Wade Bekar they may have the best hitter in the league. I think Milton may be a little short in pitching, although Galvao (Mario) has a live arm. Other than that I think they can upset anyone at any time."

The key word, giving Milton's current record, however, is upset.

Royals, who have often outthit the

opposition in a losing cause, string together 10 hits, rather a low total for them. Sunday St. Catharines had 13 safeties. Royals scored once in the second, twice in the fourth, once in both the fifth and sixth and three times off the seventh frame. Metros scored once in the first, once in the fifth, three times in the sixth, and twice in the seventh, eighth and ninth innings.

Darren Bell picked up the win for St. Kitts while Dominic Falcone shouldered the loss, surrendering the winning run after starter Rick McTrach got into trouble in the fifth.

Shortstop Gary Naylor went three-for-five for Milton with a double and two singles, knocking in two runs and scoring twice. Newcomer Scott Early, who played for Campbellville Mohawks six years ago, collected two hits and tried his switch-hitting technique (fly-out) in only his second start. Gerry Milne and Galvao, who pitched both, effectively and er-

atically to close out the game, each collected two safeties.

Dan Despres hit the other two-run homer for St. Kitts while Larry Stephens uncorked the solo blast.

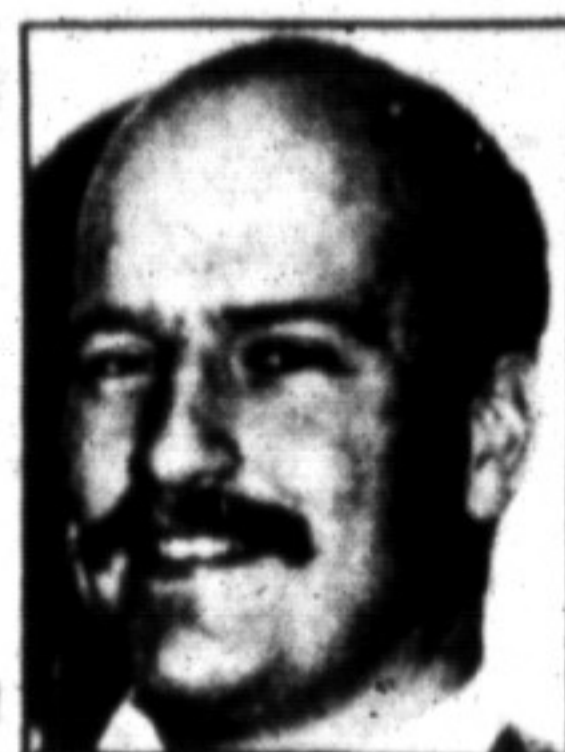
Notes: Milton's southpaw Dave Turner is tied with St. Catharines' Tim Rowden for the league's lowest ERA, 2.1. Turner has three runs charged against him and Rowden four, but Rowden has worked 17 innings and Turner only 12.

Glen Turner plans on applying for the D berth in Ontario Baseball Association senior playoffs. It would mark Milton's third year at that level. Submissions on the issue are made locally next week, but are subject to OBA approval.

Milton played in Oakville last week, but only a partial game. A night contest, it was suspended in the fifth inning when the park's lights failed. A suspended game is resumed at the point play ended.

## They search for an elusive ideal

**ROB KELLY**  
 Sports Editor



Fitness and Amateur Sports, has set aside \$500,000 per annum and summoned eminent sports celebrities from around the country to help him spend it. They plan on sowing a grass roots movement away from today's trend, toward a new notion of what amateur sports is about. They'll throw \$500,000 at the problem annually for the next five years. Your agent thinks 10 times that sum would be a wasted drop in the bucket, but that's not the point right now.

Besides Bruce Hood, Jelinek and his associates have convinced some heavyweights that the proposition will work. Canadian Amateur Hockey Association president Murray Costello is in. So is Western Hockey League president Ed Chynoweth. Sport Canada director Abby Hoffman is taking part, former Montreal Canadiens' great Jean Beliveau will help out and Wayne Whatishisname from Edmonton Oilers is the honorary chairman.

Hood has a definite and admirable concern for the physical welfare of hockey players, and anybody playing any sport anywhere. He's demonstrated that in the past and he keyed on that early on as he spoke about what the government is calling it's "Fair Play in Sport-A campaign against Violence."

Citing what he views as an alarming increase in sport injuries, Hood pointed toward what he feels is the cause.

"We've got a different attitude in sport now. Maybe, as you say, more kids than ever are playing. But more are leaving top. The support for the officials is not there. There's too much harassment, too much involvement from the coach, the players, the parents. There's too much involvement and not enough respect. Safety goes hand-in-hand with what we're trying to do. It's only logical that better discipline and better safety go hand-in-hand."

"Basically we're trying to create an attitude so that kids want to play. We've got a lot of good people and we're going to infiltrate, if you will, sports. Look at the soccer World Cup. The officials ran the game and that was that. In our business (hockey) the attitude is 'win at all costs'. There's got to be competition, but let's put it in perspective. When I was a referee I wanted (players) to like me but if they didn't like me I wanted them to respect me. It's evident in Europe, where they abide by the rulings and accept them. Why couldn't that become prevalent here? It was at one time. But we've gotten so far away from it."

There is no question that, particularly at the highly competitive junior levels, the referees and linesmen are often treated as lawn ornaments by the players. But that free-for-all attitude is most strongly exemplified among the pay-for-play crowd, the National Hockey League fraternity. Hood knows that, and he has his differences with those people.

"The rules are not applied the way they should be in the NHL," Hood said flatly. "It's a detriment to hockey. The NHL is a business. Guys will run their businesses as they see best. But they have never directly addressed the problem of goon hockey." And Hood left little doubt as to the strictures under which any big league referee worked. He added: "National Hockey League referees are employed by the NHL to apply the rules."

And so Hood, his colleagues in this ad hoc adventure and the federal former figure skater stand before one big mountain claiming to be ready to climb.

In the recent American bestseller Megatrends, a fad is described as a short term phenomenon that trickles down from the top, like hula-hoops or yo-yo's. A trend is described as a movement that begins at the grass roots level and spreads. It is a long-term change. Hood, Jelinek, the rest, they hope to start a trend that eventually extends to pro hockey. "If we can shame the NHL into doing it (changing) then so be it," Hood said.

"That I find very idealistic, my well-meaning friends. I think it's safe to say that I've been to more hockey games in any given year than all but a handful of people in Milton, and I see little that points toward a major change in the way people play or appreciate the sport, or fail to do either of those things. And I do not think the government, with what amounts to good intentions, some earnest help and a pittance, has a hope of making a big dent in the status quo across the country."

Hood said the following at one point in his interview: "I can remember when they used to play intermediate hockey Friday nights in Milton and whenever there was a fight there'd be a fight the next morning in minor hockey."

Instead of intermediate hockey substitute the NHL. That dream factory is where the example is set, and the feds have little control there. Until the NHL changes, the rest will tend to emulate its present trend. Good luck to the fair play folks. It's luck they will need.

Bruce Hood has chased and even lived a superfan's hockey dream. As a former NHL referee he has played traffic cop at more than 1,000 self-styled pro hockey demolition derbies. He is within and without the world of professional sports as it applies most seriously throughout Her Majesty's biggest former annex.

Within through on-ice participation, attempting to maintain an almost subtle equilibrium in any given contest, in a game where by definition emotional equilibrium is elusive.

Without through his longtime role as the bearer of bad news, to players and his, of necessity, somewhat distant relationship with NHL barons. Hockey at the professional level is a contest of reflexes and retaliation. The first was what the game's creators had in mind. The second was the inevitable offspring. When the slick play, the big make 'em pay.

Goon breed counter-goons. A while ago it occurred to the ingenious overseers of pro sports' biggest free-for-all that a goon, acquired at a modest stipend, about what a surgeon or an airline pilot might make, could force a superstar to sit out an equal stretch in the sin bin merely by poking his proboscis. Well heck, that's a good deal.

Now we have peewees pounding each other on their protoscks, or at least trying to through the cages that surround their little faces. To be truthful we've had that all along, but according to Hood and others we have more of it now. And not just in hockey. In all sports, Hood believes, violence is on the upswing, common sense is on the skids.

That's what Otto Jelinek thinks too. Mr. Jelinek, the federal Minister of