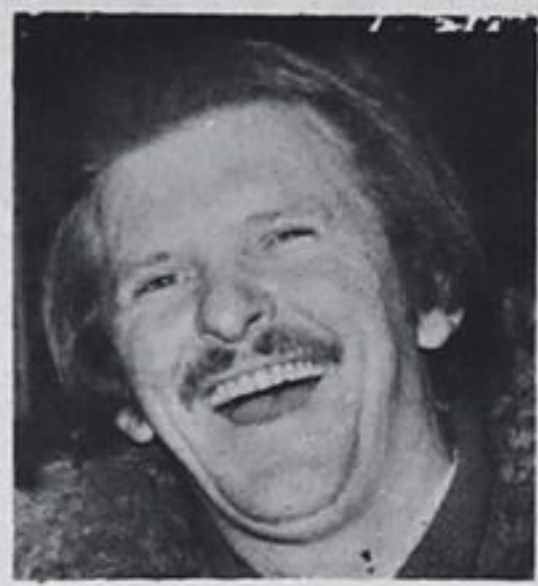


## Talking Sports

by Tom Shields



### Here come the Flyers

From out of nothing, flying high comes a bird....a plane....no, its the Philadelphia Flyers making a run at top spot over-all in the NHL standings which will be most important when it comes to getting the extra home game in the playoffs. In other words, the top-point NHL team will always get that extra game.

But how important is it? In many cases the team not having the extra game can turn it around into their advantage and a good example of that was just last year when the Flyers beat the Bruins in the sixth game in Philly. This year in the first round of playoffs, which are 2 out of 3, we will probably see some upsets. Even the Leafs could get hot and beat Los Angeles, come back to old Hog-town and play a kitty-by-the-door game, waiting for the Kings to make a mistake. That should lead us to a dull game as the Kings play the same style. In the first round, if both New York teams square off against each other, that will probably be the best series to watch. There will be no love lost between the combatants.

In the final week of play, an interesting sideline is watching for the winner of the Vezina trophy for the best goaltender. The Kings' and Flyers' goaltenders are locked in a battle, but with the Flyers playing hot hockey, I think I will go along with Bernie Parent to win it alone this year. Last year, he shared the honours with 'Zero' Esposito of the Hawks.

### The super stars shine

This has been the year for the super-star to shine. Bobby Orr already has 44 goals as a defenceman, and that mark will never be beaten, not even by Mr. Orr himself. Along with the assists that he has picked up, his point total should be near 150 by next weekend. Bobby Hull (at the writing time of this document) had 75 goals in 73 games. He should break Esposito's record of 76 goals in a season. That is a tremendous achievement in any professional hockey league. It should also bring the Golden Jet, the Most Valuable Player award in the WHA for the second time since the league's inception.

Another big name in the game, Mr. Hockey....Gordie Howe has set a phenomenal record by achieving the 2,000 point level. This record should remain untouched forever and if there ever was any doubt, should put the big guy at the number one All-Star spot in the Hockey Hall of Fame. To beat that record, a professional hockey player would have to play from the age of 20 until he is 40 years old and score at least 100 points each season. I lost count, but Dave the "Hammer" Shultz will set an all-time high in penalty minutes that neither he nor Steve Durban will break, and the Washington Capitals will set all sorts of records as the most inept professional hockey team in the history of hockey. That goes back to the time that Samuel Compers played shinny for Upper Canada.

### Looking at the local scene

On the local scene, the ice plant took a powder at the Midland Arena Gardens, and leaves the Midland recreational hockey league playoffs up in the air, until April 8th that is. The Midland men were lucky to get ice on that night at 6:30 p.m. at the Penetanguishene Arena. Bausch and Lomb currently leads the best-of-seven series, three games to two. Should a seventh game be necessary it would be played the following night, Wednesday, April 9, at 6 p.m. Then the Midland boys will wrap up the year with a dance, a presentation of the hardware at the Midland Legion on Friday, April 11.

### One last fling

With the lateness of these series, it will no doubt eliminate the possibility of a super-series between the Midland and Penetanguishene winners. There was word that the winner of the Elmvalle Industrial League was going to challenge as well. Maybe they could all have a quick round robin tournament on a Sunday with the winner taking all....(its just a thought)....but it would get a lot of interest from the fans for one last big fling at hockey before the ice comes out.

Tom Shields is the Sports Director at CKMP radio.

## IGA edges Emery's 4-3 in opening game



Jerry Gignac

Penetanguishene IGA edged Emery's Electric 4-3, Sunday, in the first game of the best three-out-of-five game final series between the two Cinderella teams which surprisingly find themselves battling for the Penetanguishene Industrial League Championship.

IGA and Emery's Electric were flops during the regular season when the only question seemed to be which of the two teams would finish in last place. IGA eventually won the race for last place finishing one point behind third place Emery's Electric. But thanks to a playoff system which allows even the last place team to qualify, IGA now stands within two games of the playoff championship.

Three weeks ago IGA eliminated Penetanguishene Marine in two straight games. Emery's Electric polished off regular season champion Ken's Esso last week to qualify to meet IGA in the first game of the final

playoff series on Sunday. As the 4-3 score indicates, Sunday's game was a close one with not much to chose between the two teams.

IGA jumped into a 1-0 lead at the 18:13 mark of the first period on the first of two goals by Jerry Gignac. Kenny Edgar and Sandy McKillip picked up assists on Gignac's game opening goal.

Ted Devillers widened the IGA lead to 2-0 early in the second period by scoring on a pass from Cec Merkle.

Emery's Electric narrowed the margin to a single goal on Ken Desjardins' goal at the 6:36 mark of the second period. Ken Poppo and Brian McConkey drew assist on the Desjardins goal.

IGA pulled in front by two goals for the second time in the game when Ven Desroches' shot from the point eluded Ted Mason in Emery's net. Brian Merkle, who seconds before Desroches' goal had rattled a slapshot off the left post behind Mason, picked up an



Vern Desroches

assist on the play. With only 1:32 left in the second period Emery's Ken Poppo found the mark beating Pete Wilson on a play that had been set up by Bob Ruston.

For the third time in the game IGA took a two goal lead when Jerry Gignac scored his second goal of the game by beating Mason high on the right hand side. Sandy McKillip and Bobby Rice earned assists on the play.

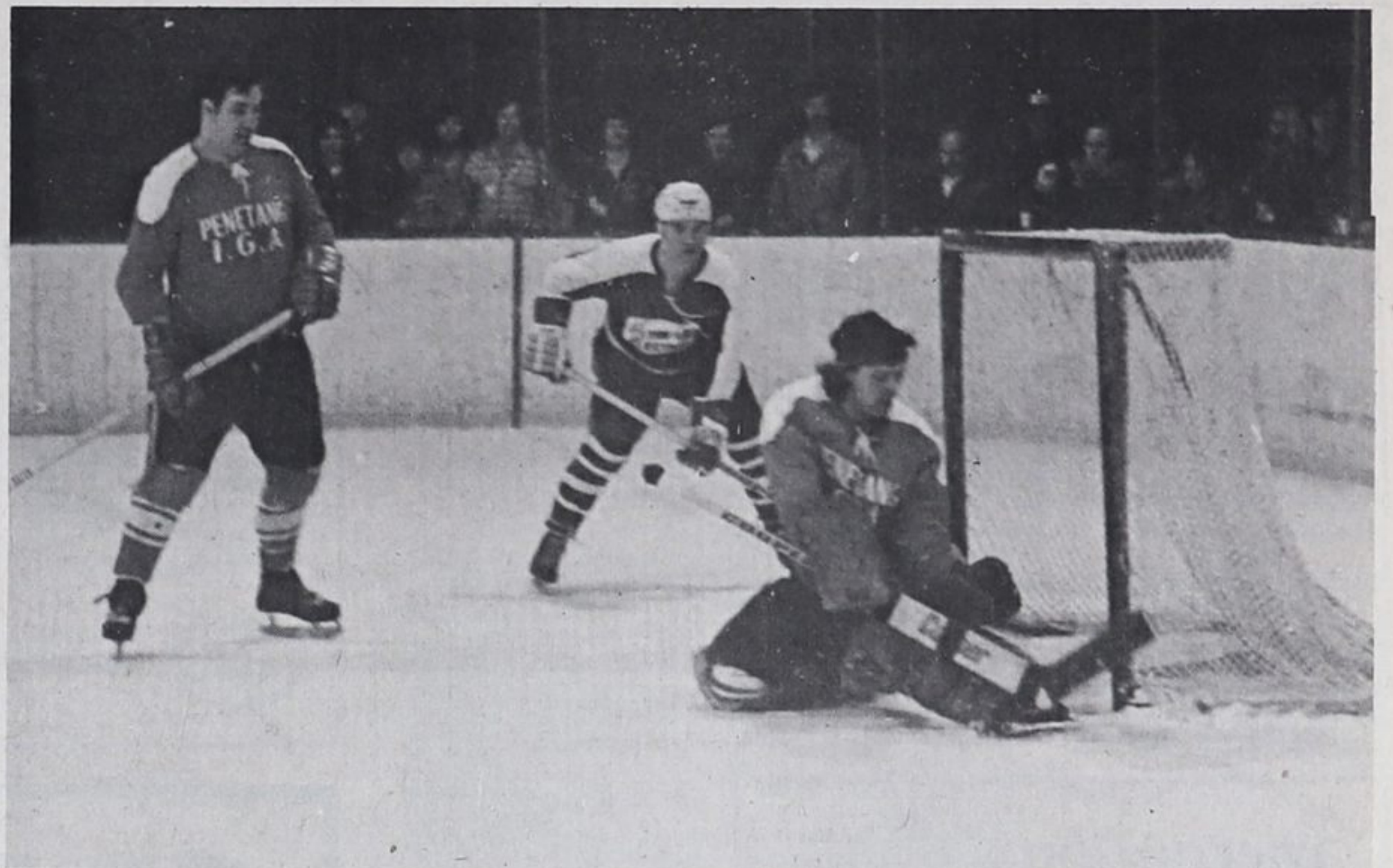
Emery's closed the gap to a single goal when Larry Dion beat Wilson with only 3:24 left in the game. Poppo picked up his third point of the game as he and Brian McConkey drew assists.

IGA's Bobby Rice drew a penalty in the dying minutes but despite playing short-handed for the final two minutes IGA weathered the storm.

The second game in the best three-out-of-five final series is scheduled for Sunday at 10:30 a.m.



Ken Poppo



### Making the save

Pete Wilson follows the flight of a puck which he has just deflected wide of the IGA net. The Penetanguishene IGA goaltender was a standout in IGA's narrow 4-3 victory, over

Emery's Electric Sunday, in the first game of a best three-out-of-five series final for the town's industrial league championship.

## Orser places first in freestyle

Eight North Simcoe figure skaters travelled to North Bay on the weekend to participate in the 'Make-a-date-to-skate' spring invitational competition. And they came back with honours.

Penetanguishene's Brian Orser placed first in the novice men's freestyle competition, and runner up in the men's silver interpretive event.

Mary Kay Orser finished third in her flight in the pre-novice ladies' freestyle event.

Midland Skating Club's Cindy Mandley took seventh spot in her flight in the juvenile ladies' freestyle.

After placing first in her flight in pre-junior ladies, Michelle Simpson of the Elmvalle skating club picked up top honours in the novice ladies' freestyle event, and skated to a second place.

Midland placed sixth in her flight of the pre-junior ladies' event. Alan Sangster, skating in the pre-junior men's event, placed ninth in his flight, while sister Karen placed sixth in the junior ladies' freestyle.



Brian Orser



### Close quarters in ringette

Two girls battle it out along the boards Penetanguishene Arena last Thursday. The ringette season closes this Thursday.

## Midland dominates Pea Soup

Midland curlers dominated the second half of the back to back weekend Pea Soup Bonspiel in Penetanguishene as rinks skipped by Frank Spence and Forbes Stewart, both of Midland, finished in first and second spot respectively. The other members of the winning Spence rink were: Dr. Gary Gunn vice, Jim Nicholson (second) and John Adamson (lead).

All of the Penetanguishene rinks finished out of the money. The highest of the Penetanguishene rinks was skipped by John DesRochers. Members of the DesRochers rink were: Al McClinton (vice), Mike Bourrie (second) and Larry Merkle (lead).

Gary Phillips skipped his Downsview rink to a third place finish. Jim Dunlop's Orillia rink finished in fourth spot.

The overall trophy for the highest scoring rink in the back to back weekend competition goes to the Bala rink which placed first in the opening half of the Pea Soup

Bonspiel on March 22. Congratulations to the drawmasters for the Pea Soup Bonspiel, Ernie Lalonde was the draw

master for the March 22 edition of the Pea Soup Bonspiel, while Pops Gravelle ran the March 29 event.

## CWL bowling results

Vi Robitaille led her team to a five game sweep over Eva Secord's team last Thursday. Both the high single and the high double games were recorded by Vi Robitaille during the Ladies of St. Ann's league bowling

In the other games, Annette Robitaille's team shutout Marion Axton's team five games to none. Alma Desjardins' team lost by a close score of three games to two against Florestine Dupuis' team.

## Indians want a chief

The Midland Indians are looking for a manager, says club president Bruce Armstrong, Sr. With the resignation of Larry Green as team manager after 20 years of playing and coaching, the team has a big hole to fill.

The team executive has been doing some scouting for someone to fill the position

and will be meeting to discuss the upcoming season in the next few weeks.

Many of last year's players will be returning this season, which gets underway in late May, and Armstrong is looking forward to another good season. The players, he said, are anxious to get out again this year.

## Centennial Bonspiel set for April 10

The Penetanguishene Curling Club is holding a mixed Centennial Bonspiel on Thursday, April 10.

There will be two draws at 9 a.m. and at 11 a.m. for two eight end games.

Invitations are being extended to members of the Simcoe County council (and special guests) to enter a rink composed of councillors, employees and guests of their municipal councils.

Owing to limited accommodations registrations for only the first 24 rinks will be accepted. The entry fee is

\$35 per rink of four. This includes morning coffee, trophies and a banquet. The fee should be paid in advance and should accompany an official registration form which can be obtained at the Penetanguishene Curling Club.

Cheques should be made payable to the Penetanguishene Curling Club (Centennial Bonspiel). They should be mailed to the County of Simcoe Recreation Department, Administration Centre, Midhurst, Ontario, L0L 1X0.

## PSS dominates badminton meet

In doubles action PSS players performed well. Pierre Belcourt and Dan St. Amant teamed up to win Chris Robitaille and Frank Berdan, Susan Maracle and Betty Anne Lemieux, and Kathy Payne and Paulette Robitaille also won for PSS.

Janet Allsopp and Mike Berdan captured the mixed doubles championship for PSS.

Singles matches were won by Robert Berdan, Bob Harrison, Elizabeth Mericz and Karen Yule.



# sports calendar






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**Bantam B Hockey Playoffs**  
Thursday, April 3, 5:30 p.m. Chicago vs Toronto  
6:30 p.m. New York vs Boston  
7:30 p.m. Montreal vs Detroit  
Winners play Monday, April 7, 6 p.m.

**Peewee B Playoffs**  
Winners play Monday, April 7, 5 p.m.

**Junior B Playoffs**  
Championship game will be played Sunday, April 13

**Midget Playoffs**  
Monday, April 7, 7 p.m. Russia vs Canada  
8 p.m. Sweden vs Austria

**Georgian Bay Hockey Tournament**  
At Penetanguishene Arena Friday, Saturday, Sunday April 4, 5, 6

**Volleyball**  
At Corpus Christi School Wednesday, April 2, at 7 p.m.

**Mixed Basketball**  
Tuesday, April 8, 7 p.m. Team 1-2  
8 p.m. Team 3-4

**Archery**  
At Corpus Christi School Thursday, April 3, 8 p.m.

**Badminton**  
Friday Evenings, 7-9:30 p.m. at Corpus Christi School

**Senior Girls Ringette Final Game**  
Thursday, April 3, 4:15-5:15 p.m. Toros vs Jets

**Industrial League Hockey Midland Playoffs**  
at Penetanguishene Arena Tuesday, April 8, 6:30 p.m. Bausch & Lomb vs RCA

**Industrial League Penetanguishene Playoffs**  
Sunday, April 6, 10:30 a.m. IGA vs Emery's Electric



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