

Talking Sports

by Tom Shields



By the time this column hits the streets, we will know a little more about the Barrie Flyers — St. John's Capitals fiasco in Newfoundland. As I am writing this story, we don't know whether the Flyers will stay in the Newfy area for one more game.

It seems a shame that the Flyers, who only need one more victory to gain a berth in the Allan Cup finals, will pull out without giving it a shot. But the question now arising is the number of players available to finish the series. Between injuries and suspensions, Barrie feels that they cannot ice a team.

It must be quite some series, as each team has five players on the sidelines with assorted ailments including broken noses and in one case a broken arm. This suggests to me that a lot more than hockey was being taken place.

In the past I have stated that I don't mind a rough or hard-hitting game with the odd punch being thrown in the corner, and the combatants then sitting out five minutes in the penalty box for their efforts. I still like that type of hockey, but when 10 players are injured in two-and-a-third games, and most of the others are suspended, something other than hockey is taking place.

Without seeing the games, one might fault the refereeing, as they usually control the game by calling penalties before things get out of hand. Then again, the some four thousand fans in the rink yelling for blood could intimidate the officials. They are human too, and they want to be able to walk out of the building without threats to their lives.

Larry Bellisle on the spot

Larry Bellisle from town is representing the OHA in Newfoundland, so with Larry right on the spot to see what has happened, I feel that the end result of this mess will be fair to both sides.

This takes me back five years, when the Midland Flyers of old Intermediate A fame had their final OHA series for the cup with the Port Colborne Sailors.

The Midland Flyers won the first game easily by a 4-0 score at the Midland Arena, and it looked like Midland would win the championship. But that is as far as the Flyers got. In the second game in Port Colborne, the sticks were swinging at the Flyers from the ice and from the fans as well, and coach Tiger Moore was being attacked by the fans.

As the Flyers left the bench to get away from the stick-swinging fans, the stick-swinging players from Port Colborne gave it to them on the ice.

The Flyers had a great hockey team, but they were not fighters, as Midland had some lighter players on the ice such as Ken Edgar, and Bill Lepage. Midland didn't back down, mind you, but its tough taking on the other team and four thousand fans to boot.

To give you an idea of a crowd going berserk, in that game as the fans were swinging lumber at the Midland players, an elderly lady had suffered a heart attack in the stands, and she was being helped out on a stretcher in the midst of the melee. Yours truly took off his Flyer jacket and tried to nonchalantly stroll to the bus or basically just get the hell out of there with my skin intact.

Bayonet used

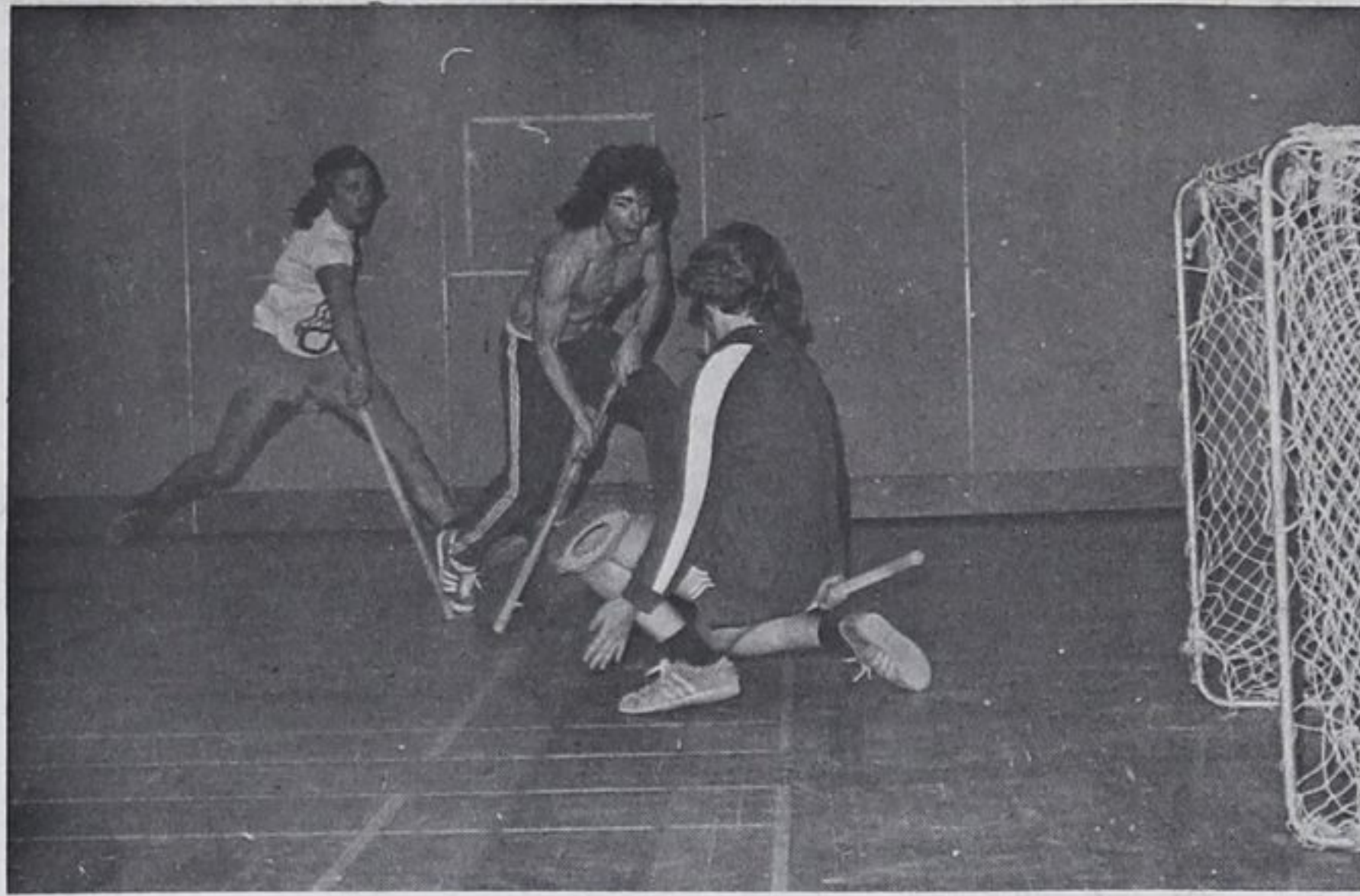
The next game back in Midland saw a Port Colborne fan arrested at the Midland Arena because he had a two-foot bayonet under his coat. Fortunately, the Midland men in blue saw the long blade before he led a banzai attack on either the fans or the Midland players. But the damage was done, the Port Colborne team completely took the sting out of Midland and won the series four games to one — that is if you wish to call it a series.

Now the same thing has happened to the Barrie Flyers. Can they come back and win or is it all over for another year, not because of the hockey on the ice, but because of the goings on which shouldn't be going on in a normal hockey series.

If the people and players of the St. John's hockey team treat another Canadian team in this fashion, can you imagine what would happen if they were having a series against a Russian team? World War Three would be underway.

Backing Bill McMurtry

If this is what Bill McMurtry wants to clean up, I will back him all the way. If a fan pays his money, he is entitled to yell at the ref, to yell at the players etc. and make noise, but not to throw things at the other team. The last time people threw things at the other team was more than 2,000 years ago. The other team was called "The Christians" and they were headlined daily at the coliseum in Rome.



At the goalmouth

Some fast action around the net during an intramural floor hockey game at Penetanguishene Secondary School on Monday afternoon. The senior and junior leagues have been operating for three weeks now and will soon draw to a close with the playoffs.

Photo by Bob Faulkner

John Gignac heads Little NHL

The 1975-76 executive for the Penetanguishene Little NHL was elected at a public meeting on Tuesday, April 22 with a new president and a lot of familiar faces willing to volunteer for another year.

An estimated 35 people turned out, and there were elections for all positions according to outgoing general manager Grant Lotton.

John Gignac of Penetanguishene, a young lawyer just called to the bar with the Midland firm of Teskey, Heacock and Ferguson, was elected president for a one year term.

The first vice-president is Bert Dubeau, who this year

managed the major atoms, with Dick St. Amant re-elected second vice-president, and solid fan Rita McReynolds joining the executive as secretary.

Elected directors were Don Quigley, this season's major atom coach, Ray Brooks, a referee during the year, Bob Paul for another term, Verna Dusome, this year's public relations person, Max Cowan, this season's trainer with the all-star midjets, Reg McConkey, Mike Morrow, house league coach for the past season, Stan LeClair, head coach on the executive another term, and newcomer Gloria Cowan.

Lotton said after the meeting he was told it "was

one of the better turnouts they've had for minor hockey" in Penetanguishene.

The old executive now has just one last organizational job to do: they must finish buying trophies and run the annual awards day, slated for this Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m. at Penetanguishene Secondary School.

Lotton said the financial books have not been finalized, but he expects the league to be in the black. And he noted that during the year there were only three suspensions of players for various periods — "and we think that's pretty good, considering the number of youngsters who played hockey this year."



Third in all-Ontario event

The Penetanguishene Secondary School badminton team placed a respectable third in the all-Ontario competitions at Seneca College in Toronto over the weekend. The previous week, the team took the GBSSA championship, and this coming weekend will compete in the Senior Georgian Bay District

badminton championships. They are, back row, left to right, Dan St. Amant, Frank Berdan, Rob Berdan, Pierre Belcourt, and coach Mate Lichtenberg. Holding the GBSSA plaque, left to right are Angela Wesser, Kathy Payne, and Mary-Sue Beatty.

Photo by Bob Faulkner

PSS badminton team places third

by Pat Fitzgerald
Penetanguishene Secondary School's badminton team placed third overall in Ontario last Saturday at Seneca College.

the all-Ontario were second best in Ontario. They went to the finals and lost out in their set of the final game.

Mary Sue Beatty and Kathy Payne were fourth best in girls' doubles in Ontario.

Dan St. Amant and Pierre Belcourt grabbed a seventh overall position in Ontario, in the boys doubles.

Frank Berdan, entering one of the hardest competitions in the all-Ontario singles, placed fourteenth in Ontario.

Robert Berdan and Angela Wesser, favorites going into



Practising getting ready

Tom Pauze gets in some vital practise in leaping the hurdles at the Penetanguishene Secondary School's track in preparation for the school meet on May 8, followed by two interschool meets. According to coach Larry

Banks, the avid track and field athletes have been training since January, and the rest since the middle of April. This young athlete also runs the 400-metre relay.

Photo by Bob Faulkner

Baseball:

Marchildon hopes for two boys', two girls' divisions this summer

Minor baseball for both girls and boys could be a reality this summer in Penetanguishene, following a meeting Monday night at the town's arena.

Recreation co-ordinator Ron Marchildon said after the meeting he was "optimistic — very much so. The people there tonight made me that way."

The turnout wasn't large — only nine people showed up — but it was an improvement over last year when nobody volunteered to help and there was no house league baseball for boys in

the community. But Marchildon said those who were there appeared determined to get the leagues off the ground — "I think the people who were there will get out and go."

Registration forms are available today at Penetanguishene Secondary School and at all elementary schools in town, with the deadline for submitting them this Friday, May 2.

The forms may be brought to the municipal office, Pike Cleaners, Ken's Esso or Gauthier's Sports, along

with the \$1 registration fee. Marchildon said he expects two divisions in each of girls' and boys' leagues. For boys, the age groups will be 7-11 and 12-16; for girls, 8-11 and 12-16.

Organizers plan to pick teams next Thursday, May 8, at the arena, and Marchildon said all interested coaches are asked to turn up on that date. High school students and adults alike are needed as coaches and umpires.

Last summer, an estimated 90 girls registered for house league baseball,

and this year Marchildon is looking for "at least six or eight boys' teams."

The Penetanguishene Minor Baseball Association, while not yet formally constituted and without an elected executive, appears to be getting on the rails.

Tomorrow, May 1 at 7:30 at the arena lounge, will be an organizational meeting for ladies' intermediate baseball — for players, and for men interested in working in a coaching, managing or executive capacity.

Recreation Scene

by Ron Marchildon



Penetanguishene recreation coordinator

Hopefully, by the time you read this, a Penetanguishene Minor Softball Association will have been formed. The meeting was held on Monday evening to try to form such an association, but without sufficient volunteer help these programs cannot function.

The Minor Soccer Association will get off the ground in the near future with two teams in the mosquito and peewee divisions. Tryouts will be held early in May for both these teams.

All ladies interested in playing for the

Penetanguishene Red Sox ball team or interested in acting on the executive are asked to meet in the Arena lounge on Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. All last year's players are urged to attend as well as any newcomers who wish to try out. All are welcome.

I have been asked to contact the OASA to find out about umpires cards. I can also inform you about cards from the ladies' leagues. If you are interested, please contact me.

Congratulations to the new executive of the Penetanguishene Little NHL which was voted into office last Tuesday evening, although they do not officially take over for a couple of months. I would also like to congratulate the last year's executive, their coaches, referees, time keepers, and so on for a job well done.

Day camp forms will be available in the very near future for a two-week camp, which will be held June 30 to July 11 (Excluding the holiday).

We will be contacting the schools about day camp as well as swimming lessons for this coming summer, in the very near future.

sports calendar

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MIXED BASKETBALL
Tuesday, May 6, 7 p.m.
Teams 4-2
8 p.m. Teams 3-1
Minor Soccer
Practices to begin Tuesday, May 6, more information as it is available

Teen Dance
Friday, May 2, 8:30 p.m.
at the Arena Lounge, Penetanguishene

Archery
Thursday, May 1, 8 p.m.
at Corpus Christi School

Badminton
Friday evenings 7-9:30 p.m.
at Corpus Christi School

Ladies' Softball
Meeting at the Arena Lounge, Penetanguishene Thursday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

Minor Softball
Meeting was held Monday, April 28. More information when it is available.

Opening

O R R L A K E G O L F C L U B

Sat. May 3rd.

Green Fees

Weekdays \$2.75

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Membership Fees

Seniors - \$65

Juniors \$40 (under 18)

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Up with a javelin

Monday afternoon at PSS found all the budding young track and field stars out practising in preparation for the school meet, coming up on May 8. Aside from fun, the meet will help determine who represents the school in inter-school meets, two of which will be held at PSS on May 15 and 21. Here Roger Dupuis gets his arm in shape for the junior javelin throw.