

1,200 preview new arena

Although the official opening date for the new Midland arena is set for May 6, about 1,200 people previewed the new facility Sunday, as the first hockey games to be played in Midland for a year and a half got underway on the recently installed ice surface.

The first day of the new arena's operation was truly a community event. Parents, entire families, boyfriends and girlfriends and grandmas and grandpas all came out to the new facility to see the product of their tax and fund-raising dollars, and to watch Midland teams compete in fast-paced hockey action.

It was a day for Midlanders to be proud both of their new \$1.4 million arena, and the teams for which it is now home. This pride was particularly evident during the first game played on the new ice surface, as Midland's Civitan major Bantams fought an uphill battle to gain an overtime victory from Saltfleet, in the second game of their all-Ontario final series. When the final buzzer blew at the end of the game, the intensely partisan crowd erupted in a cacophony that revealed immediately just how much Midlanders wanted the first game in the long awaited arena to turn out in their favour.

In a brief ceremony prior to the game, Board of Parks Management chairman Doug Fox and mayor Moreland Lynn spoke of the dedicated efforts that have gone into making the new arena a reality, congratulating all those citizens and groups

who contributed to the construction project.

The first puck was dropped by Sib Brodeur, who played in Midland's first wooden arena, formerly located in the King and Hugel Street areas, and also in the

arena which was destroyed by fire in August 1976. Taking the face off for Midland was Mr. Brodeur's high scoring grandson, Pat. Once the game got underway, it was fitting that Pat Brodeur scored the

first goal ever in the new arena.

Arena manager Jim McLaren said Monday that he was encouraged by the response shown by Midlanders to the first opportunity of viewing the new arena.

"I never heard any negative comments, most people seemed really pleased with the arena," he said. "There's still a little work to be done, but it will be finished soon."

Mr. McLaren said he wasn't surprised at the large turnout for the first day of operation,

claiming that he "would have been shocked if there had been less people."

Midlander's appetites weren't only confined to viewing the new arena and watching hockey. Mr. McLaren reported that the concession booth run by the minor hockey association was completely sold out by the end of the day's action.

The arena will continue to be a busy spot this week, as there are games scheduled each night. Also, public skating will begin this week.

PSS News

by Peter McDonald

The March Break is over. PSS is starting the spring term. And as usual, the students are complaining that the holidays were too short. It seems many of the teachers have the same complaint.

Stories of far away places like Rome, Sorrento, Havana, Orlando, Toronto and Barrie were traded with people who stayed home amidst snow and rain. And to rub salt into the wound anyone that had a tan was wearing a short sleeve shirt. Ah! C'est la vie!

On Friday, March 31, the PSS dance committee presented the rock band "Shooter". The members of this entertaining band dress as Chicago style (1920's) gangsters and they come on stage in a (supposed) blaze of gunfire. This entry sets the pace for the rest of the night. According to the treasurer Bonita Desroches the dance was a success. Everyone enjoyed themselves much to the pleasure of the Dance Committee and the students council.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week students that do not yet have their Social Security Numbers will be able to apply when federal government officials will be present at the school. The students will have to have two pieces of identification, one of them being a birth certificate.

Stardust night

Tonight the Midland YMCA is presenting the annual Stardust night.

Stardust 1978 starts at 7 p.m. and has a full program of events, including gymnastics demonstrations, tap dancing, baton, solo Judo demonstrations, tumbling, vaulting, ballroom dancing, floor hockey, belly dancing and karate.

The master of ceremonies for the evening is physical

director David Hamilton.

The opening of the program will be highlighted with instructor and leader crests being awarded.

There will be a presentation made to the gymnast of the year as well as the presentation of the Ko Huvers Award.

There are 20 things on the program which will be interrupted with a short intermission for refreshments in the lobby.

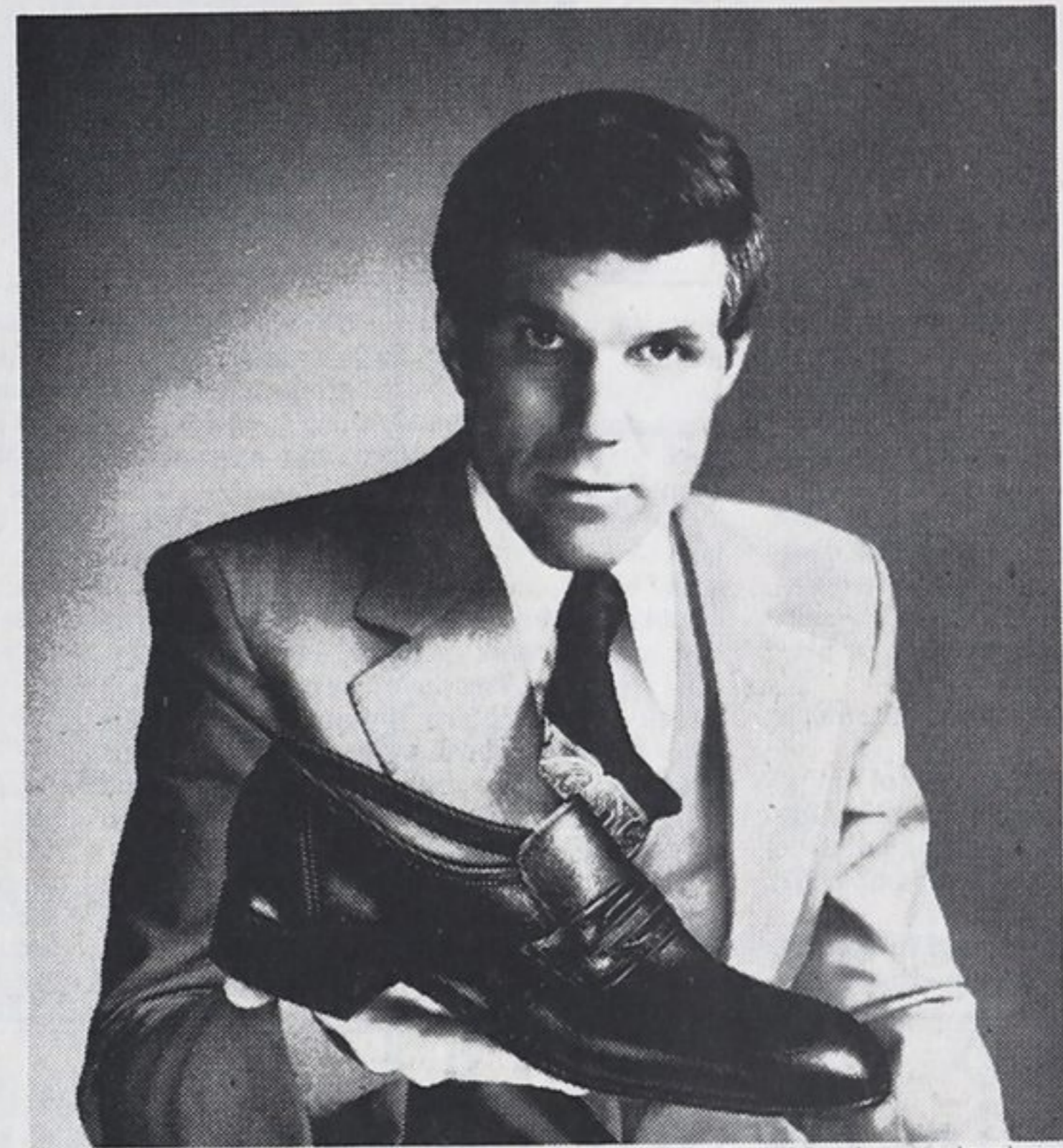


Shot in the arm

The fundraising campaign for the new Midland YMCA got a big shot in the arm right off the bat, Saturday, as the Midland Y's Men's Club pledged a total of \$70,000 over the next five years to the project. Pictured above,

Y's Men's president Dick Gay (left) hands over the pledge to top level gifts chairman Robert Hartog, while John Leitch (centre) looks on. For more on the pledge and the upcoming campaign,

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Obituaries

Mrs. Beatrice Beauchamp died on March 22, 1978 following a lengthy illness.

Born in Lafontaine on April 24, 1908, Mrs. Beauchamp lived all of her life in that area. She was a member of the Ladies of Sainte Anne of Lafontaine.

Services were held at Sainte Croix Church with

Reverend Cyril Robitaille officiating. Interment at Sainte Croix Cemetery in Lafontaine.

Predeceased by parents Emery Brunelle and Nellie Lecamp. Survived by husband Pierre Beauchamp. Also survived by daughters, Mrs. Rose Marie Senecal of Sturgeon Falls, Mrs. Jeanette Zabzinski of

Midland, sons, Marc of Barrie, Julien of Midland, Paul and Michel of Penetanguishene.

Mrs. Beauchamp leaves behind sisters, Mrs. Gertrude Desroches of Lafontaine, Mrs. Monica Cadeau, Mrs. Alfred Mayer, brothers, Raymond and Hubert Brunelle of Lafontaine and also 13 grandchildren.

Centre d'activités françaises

télé: 549-8594 Penetanguishene

REUNION MENSUELLE DU CENTRE: La prochaine réunion mensuelle sera le 10 avril à 8h00. Avez-vous songé à venir à une réunion du Centre d'activités françaises? Le Centre est pour vous.

REUNION du Comité consultatif de langue française fut remise du 13 avril au 20 avril.

INSCRIPTION POUR LES GARDERIES au Centre d'activités françaises, 63 rue Main, Penetanguishene de 9h00 à 5h00, lundi au vendredi. Si vous avez des questions, veuillez téléphoner 549-8594.

SPECTACLE "Les Tourneols" en concert, le 16 avril, à l'école secondaire de Midland, sous les auspices du Midland-Penetang District Real Estate Board. Les billets sont disponibles à tous les bureaux d'immeubles locaux ainsi qu'au Centre d'activités françaises, 63, rue Main, Penetanguishene. \$2.50 pour adultes et \$1.25 pour étudiants. "SI TU AIMES LE SOLEIL": un microsillon produit par Joan Northcott qui comprend des chansons et rythmes simples et plaisants pour des enfants de 3 à 10 ans. Disponible exclusivement au Centre pour le prix raisonnable de \$6.98.

D'après le recensement du Canada, 1971, il y a 7,895 personnes de langue maternelle française dans le comté de Simcoe. Nous sommes 7,000. Il faut se parler. Nous sommes 7,000. Qu'on se parle en français.



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