



Sidelines

by Garry Forbes

TRUDEAU'S TIGERS DEVOUR OPPOSITION OWLS

Apparently, the governing mouths of Ottawa are capable of doing something right: in the annual Parliamentary benefit hockey tussle, the host Liberals maced the Opposition combo PC's and New Democrats 9-0.

Then again, the Opposition didn't do too bad for a team made up entirely of left-and right-wingers.

But where, oh, where, was that slick right-sider Doug Lewis, L.L.B., C.A., M.P., HUH?

What a bunch of ding-dongs.



NO, BUZZ! NOT INTO THE STANLEY CUP!

We can only hope that former Midlander Buzz Deschamps is sipping suds out of hockey's most prized possession (in the yonder lower pic) and not returning any previous intake from celebrations at Nassau County Coliseum during the Stanley Cup finale last year.

In the top photo is Buzz' son, Eric (white shirt, centre), who got his digits on the cup as stickboy for the New York Islanders dynasty.

Buzz, who's now a New York exec with Victoriaville sticks & stuff after a long stint with Koho, is a chip of the familiar Midland family which includes sister Andrea Desmasdons, Times' circulation manager and carrier-controller.

It is, to say the least, a sporting family. Buzz played many of his big shinny years at the old Midland barn, father Bun went so far as to play semi-pro hockey for the Miami Pirates, and Andrea has coached many a young Midland gang through their temper-forming years -- including one collection clear to an All-Ontario Novice Championship.

(One kid she distinctly remembers from past coaching days is the shy eight-year-old who'd always toss his stick aside and head into the corner while the play headed the other way. Alone, he'd practice his turns and dipsy-doodles. The kid turned out all right, though: to this day, all Brian Orser needs to be really comfortable is a sheet of open ice.)

So how about the mother of the Deschamps sports crew?

"Mom," says Andrea, "was always the bowler."

Buzz couldn't go for that: you can't get much beer in those little finger holes, and the trophies are always too small to throw up into.



NO, IT'S NOT A RACIST WITH A SPEECH PROBLEM

Quick, now, what's a "Miget"? Well, you might be at a loss if you haven't dropped into the Flos-Elmvale Community and Hootenaney Centre lately and eyeballed the team pix above the front glass.

A "Miget", according to some of the team titles, is a minor hockey age division between Bantam and Juvenile.

The big question, of course, is whether or not the Junior A ranks will have a Miget draft this year. If so, a lot of Elmvale kids are headed straight for the big time.



SPORTSQUESTION

Last week: Why do tennis players insist on counting "15, 30, 40, game"?

Well, best guess I've come across is that it's based on the quarter-hourly clock-face positions. The third point, it is said, was originally "45."

Of course, that still doesn't explain why the idiot who suggested the idea couldn't just count to four.

This week's noggin-scratcher: The hockey coach pulls his goaltender in the last minute of play, but the sixth skater jumps the boards too soon. Name the penalty.



SPORTSQUOTE

"The golden age of skating was in the '50s. Sport today is anti-creativity. The emphasis on technique has eroded any ability to become an artist. I don't see why the male skaters today even use music. Why don't they just have an obstacle course and see who can do the most triple jumps?"

—Toller Cranston, 1976 Olympic bronze medalist, speaking at last summer's World Sport Psychology Conference.

Note to Mr. Cranston: If you'd shut your mouth, nobody would know.

Note to Mr. Orser (obvious slapee of Mr. Cranston's slap): As you well know, they can't stop what they can't catch.



The multi-purpose cup

Three score three in 15-5 RCA stomping

RCA received three-goal performances from three players as they stomped Lafontaine 15-5 in the opening game of their best-of-three Georgian Bay Senior Mens' Hockey League semi-final series Sunday at Penetanguishene Arena.

In the other semi-final matchup, Olympia Restaurant doubled

Grew Boats 6-3. In the best-of-three consolation final series, Dock Lunch got the jump with a 4-3 decision over Tom Heel's Auto Body.

Pierre Belcourt, Mike Laurin and John Jones each notched three in RCA's winning effort, Brian Rambler and Ross Lemesurier each connected for two, and Ed Cramm and Paul Hayes rounded it out.

Replying for L.A. were Ray Morton, Bill Puddicombe, Mike Puddicombe, Vince Ladouceur and Henry Pauze.

Paul Lalonde led the way for Olympia with two goals and singles were chipped in by Rick

Anderson, Ken Forget, Bob Valentine and Ron Lalonde.

Bill MacIntosh, Jack Stewart and Mike Duval responded for Grew.

John Jessaeau did the

Olympia netminding, Mike Duquette was in for Grew.

Dave Forget came up with the winner in Dock's victory, and he was backed up by

Maurice Forget, Glen Smith and Randy Lalonde.

Brad Yorke, Willy Boulanger and Roger Reid were the Heel's marksmen.

John Ayling handled the netminding chores for Heel's, Guy Gignac was in at the other end. Play continues Sunday night.

Testing March 31

The Elmvale Figure Skating Club will host regional testing for preliminary, first and second divisions March 31.

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