

Maloney leads charge

Brule Oldsters grab gold in finale

Connie Maloney ignited the Penetanguishene Brule Hotel Oldtimers in their championship charge at last weekend's Scarborough Burros Oldtimers Tournament.

It was the second straight year the Penetanguishene squad have taken their division gold medal in the 32-team season-ending tourney -- but this time it was a tough haul all the way.

The Penetanguishene oldsters scored a 4-3 come-from-behind victory over the Scarborough Sudsers in their Friday night opener, came up with a goal with only seven seconds remaining to beat the Toronto Flashbacks 2-1 at Saturday noon, and came up short in the third game of the double-knockout event with a 3-2 loss to the Ajax Selects later on Saturday.

On Sunday, though, the Penetanguishene club earned another crack at the spoilers -- and this time they held up to come away with a 3-2 championship decision.

Maloney scored twice in the final, adding to his three previous markers -- the first Penetanguishene goal in each of the first three games.

But it was Larry Banks who put it away for the Brule club, making good on a blast from the point with only 46 seconds to play to snap a 2-2 deadlock.

Banks was also the winning goal-getter in his team's second effort, scoring the last-second marker that enabled Penetanguishene to advance to their clash with the Selects.

Dave Stanton and

Paul DeVillers added to Maloney's and Banks' goals in the first game, and Alvin Robillard had the other Penetanguishene goal in the club's first encounter with Ajax.

Nelson Robillard and Gary Ronald shared the Penetanguishene net-minding duties throughout the event.

Fresh off that victory, the club will now take aim at its own third annual Brule Hotel Slow-Pitch Oldtimers Baseball Tournament, scheduled for June 19 at McGuire Park in Penetanguishene.

For information on the ball tournament, contact organizer Alvin Robillard at 549-8375.



Bullish day for Juniors

The Midland Secondary School Junior rugby team and the Midland Bulls may not be setting their respective leagues on fire, but that hasn't fazed the determination or eagerness of either squad to engage in as much competition as they can get in -- even if it means having to go at it with one another as they did Saturday at MSS. MSS coach and Bulls playing-coach John Nix says the encounter was good experience and an excellent training session for both sides. The MSS Juniors played their first season game last week at Eastview Secondary

School in Barrie and were walloped 27-0. The MSS Midget squad fared better last week, tying Eastview 4-4 on a try by Mike Schmidt, and both teams were in action at home yesterday against Barrie Central Collegiate. The Bulls, meanwhile, are preparing for a clash against the Oshawa Seconds at Saturday's Brock Rugby Club Annual Pig Roast in Cannington, and their counterpart Old Bulls will be at it Sunday in Toronto for a season-opening scuffle against the Toronto Barbarians.

Town searches for net set

It wasn't long ago that tennis was a major summer activity in the town of Penetanguishene.

Playing on cracked asphalt courts and against torn nets, as many as 150 enthusiasts banded together to form a tennis club which helped develop younger players and provided a

social and competitive focus for everyone involved.

And many top-flight players evolved from the club program and the interest which it spurred, including stars such as Anne Merkley.

For some reason, though, interest withered, and it hasn't been revived despite the

construction of four new lighted courts in town.

But, says recreation department director Ron Marchildon, it's not dead yet, and many people are still confident that the sport could make an organized re-appearance this summer.

Marchildon called a meeting Monday at

Penetanguishene Arena in an effort to determine interest in the reformation of a local tennis club, and though he says the turnout for the meeting wasn't enough to go ahead and start organizing anything, he still believes there's enough community interest to warrant another meeting.

He's called a second organizational meeting for next Thursday (May 6) at 7:30 p.m. at the Penetanguishene Arena lounge, and urges all interested in joining a club, or anyone interested in helping organize a club executive, to attend.

"I really think there are a lot of people to whom this idea would

appeal," said Marchildon yesterday.

"Now that we have the facilities (two courts at Memorial Park, two at McGuire Park), I think more people would be more inclined to take advantage of such an offer."

Marchildon says the club could work this

way: two courts, probably those at Memorial Park, would be taken over for use by the club; a membership would be established with a cost-covering fee schedule and eventually a club executive could organize junior, instructional and competitive club programs as well as tournament and social events.