



Fred Simpson

Several Sides Now

The trouble in my life is that I always see several sides to every argument. Not two, several. Therefore there are people who accuse me of being unable to make a decision. Which is ridiculous. Every Monday of my life I decide to get up and go to work.

As for the argument that I tend to ride the fence. That is also ridiculous. I tried that once. Fell off. Hurt myself. That fall brought logic into my life.

Which brings me around to the current controversy regarding the Richmond Hill Arena Association and the resignation of President Bill McVean.

Oh, you haven't heard about it? Stay. I'll do a brief introductory. Thousand lines. Briefly, the executive and/or members of the association were quite upset the other night, pre-election night, about certain "innuendos" that had been cast by aspiring municipal leaders. Namely about-to-be Mayor Dave Schiller.

Closed shop?

Crux of the whole matter revolved around "running a closed shop" and it "should be investigated."

To begin with, I don't know a damn thing about the arena association and whether it's run perfectly, imperfectly, or what have you. That's my fault. Never bothered to find out.

Therefore, I can understand Mr. McVean being upset over what he feels is undue and ignorant criticism of how the association has been run over the years. His attitude is that people should "let their fingers



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do the walking" over the telephone dial before blasting away.

He is also resentful that the matter arose during a somewhat exitable election campaign.

I'm sure Mr. McVean gave his own time, free time, even expert time to making the whole thing go. Along with his executive, of course. It's only human nature to be sensitive about criticism under these circumstances.

The thing that intrigued me about the association is that since 1969, the "board of directors have opened membership to interested parties at an annual membership fee of \$5 and a lifetime membership fee at \$15." That was changed recently to \$15 and \$25.

Nine since 1969

Now hear this. There are now 223 members of the association in a municipality of 30,000. Of that membership total, only nine new ones have joined since 1969. I wonder why? Doesn't seem to be too much interest. I can only presume anyone complaining is either a present member or someone about to become one and straighten things out if anything needs to be straightened out.

One more curiosity before moving on: The annual meeting was held a week or two ago, at which 12 spectators turned up including the executive. This was described as a better attended meeting than is usually the case.

All I can conclude is that it's a "closed shop" it might be that way because there's not too many members who care one way or another.

But not to harp on one facet of the problem. I thought the new president of the association, Elgin Barrow, struck the right note.

Right, Mr. Barrow

To quote:

"We might be at a fault to a point. We've always run a low key operation at no expense to the taxpayer and maybe we just haven't talked ourselves up enough.

"We know what we're doing but we haven't advertised what we're doing to the public. We should try to push our story more and let the taxpayer know it isn't costing him taxes to run our arenas."

Sounds quite logical. Let people know what is happening. If there's a better way, why, do it.

Mr. Schiller

Now to Mr. Schiller. I talked to him briefly and suggested probably all that was needed was just for everyone to sit down and talk about it. He didn't seem to think so. I got the impression he felt the association was simply exuding an atmosphere of resistance. Wanted things just left as they are. For (Continued on Page 18)

Six straight wins for hockey Rams

The Richmond Hill Rams dominated play for about 50 minutes last night in their game against Whitby and then came close to blowing a 2-0 lead and a seemingly sure win.

But it didn't happen. Whitby scored to make it 2-1 at 16:14 and then poured in the attack as Richmond Hill ran into a penalty 17:32.

Richmond Hill Goalie Brian Stankiewicz rose to the occasion making one great stop and was lucky on another when he was down and the Whitby player just couldn't lift the puck.

It was another sweet victory for the red-hot Rams who have now won six games in a row and are flirting with first place in the Provincial

Junior A hockey standings. The Rams outshot the visitors 45-26 on the game, getting the majority of them in the second when they fired 23 shots at Goalie Al McSorely but could only manage one goal.

It wasn't an end-to-end thriller but it was a grueling fixture with lots of body and an occasional wood laid on

the opposition. Particularly effective for the Rams was Defenceman Jim Roffey who was throwing his body around all night and doing it well.

The Rams opened the scoring at 11:37 of the opening period when Defenceman Scott Mabley's low slider from the blueline was deflected past Goalie

McSorely. Dave Stuart drew an assist on the play.

The Rams were firing blanks from thereon in until the 3:67 mark of the second period on a tremendous effort by Jim Clement.

Clement raced after a loose puck in the Whitby zone and made a diving slide to tick the puck over to Rick Febbo in alone on net and he deflected a backhand past Goalie McSorely in the same motion.

It was a game which looked like the Rams had locked up until that big goal by Whitby's Larry Wagner at 16:14. Whitby removed its goalie in the final seconds but the Rams held on.

They had the edge all night on the visitors who kept walking into a series of penalties which kept nullifying their own chances to capitalize on Richmond Hill penalties.

Selected most valuable Rams was Mark Street who scored a goal and was tops at killing penalties.

Goalie Stankiewicz, playing his first game in recent weeks, was outstanding when he had to be. Sharp all night.

The Rams play Toronto Nationals next Tuesday night at 8 pm. They are now approximately three points from first place.

One of the more interesting aspects of the contest came in the second period when the Rams' thought they had gone ahead by 2-0. The goal was disallowed.

Rams' Coach Karl Brimblecombe, usually impassive behind the bench, actually opened the door and started shouting. He even pointed. His sudden outburst of emotion might have startled the ref but it was

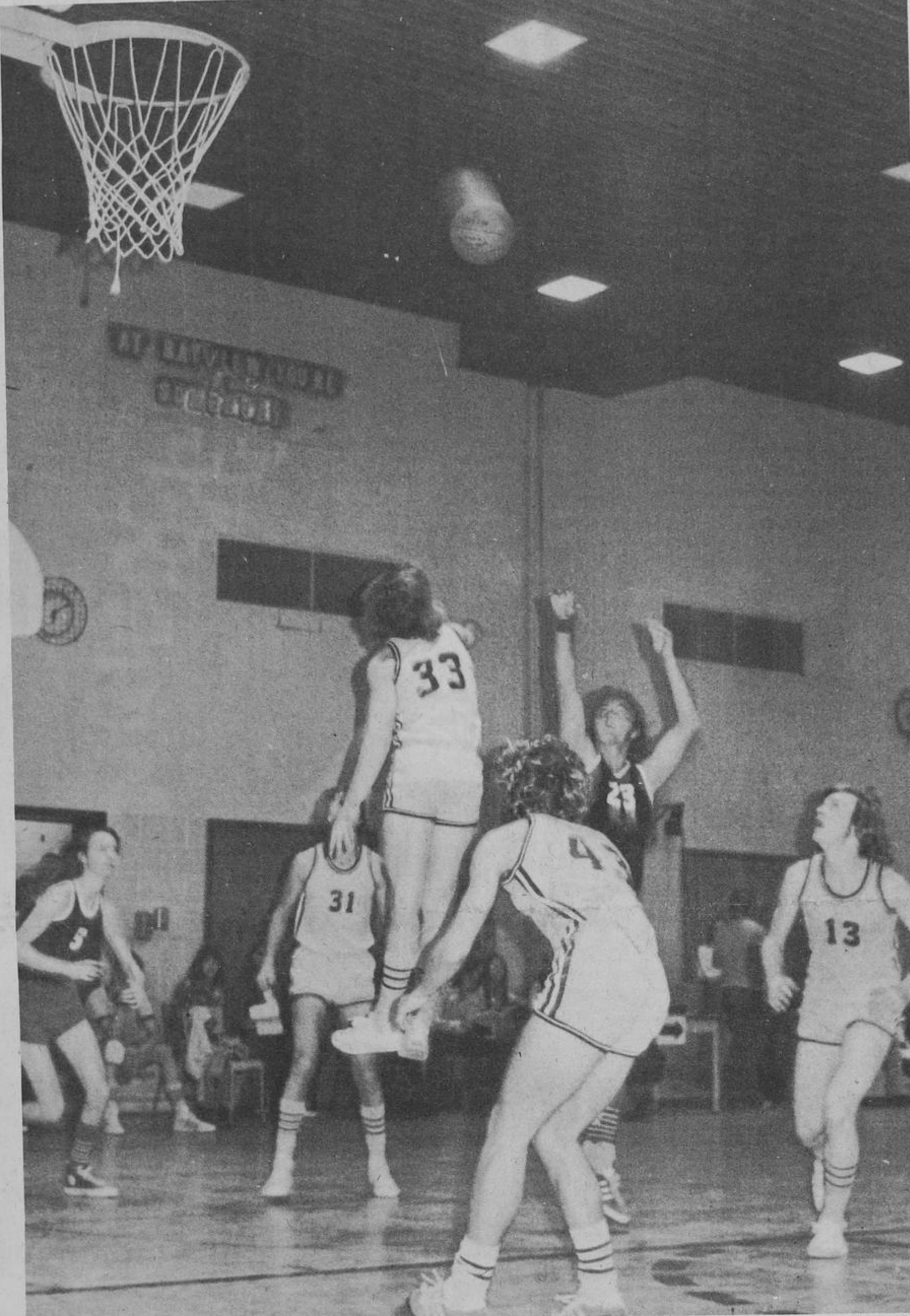


Karl Brimblecombe can relax a little

Another highlight of the game was the penalty-taking of big Rams defenceman Scott Mabley who walked into a five-minute first period penalty for high-sticking and then got called for a minor in the second. He protested too loudly and received a 10 minute misconduct.

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(Photo by Penner)

Trent McCabe (23) of the Bayview Secondary School Seniors shows his shooting style here against Huron Heights Secondary School of Newmarket. McCabe was one of the top senior scorers in the tournament

as the Bayview wrecking crew raced through three teams to win the senior championship at the ninth annual Referees Basketball Tournament held Friday and Saturday at Bayview and Langstaff.

Bayview wins senior

The powerful Bayview Secondary School Seniors basketball team had little trouble winning the ninth annual "Referees Tournament" on the weekend winning all three games handsly.

They opened with a 48-26 conquest of Huron Heights Secondary School in Newmarket, despatched with Dr. G.W. Williams of Aurora by 60-30, and then dumped Woodbridge High 51-30 to take the senior

championship. In fact, it was an area schools weekend of triumph as Thornlea Secondary School won the juniors by taking all three games in handy fashion with the final one being a 39-19 drubbing of Aurora.

Consolation winners was the Bayview Secondary School winners in a tight 27-25 squeaker with Langstaff Secondary School.

Newmarket won the Midget division with a final game win over Dr. G.W. Williams. Bayview Midgets were again the runners-up with a 48-26 win over King City to take the consolation championship.

No trouble "We didn't have too much trouble," acknowledged the Bayview Seniors Coach Cliff Nuttall. "In fact we rested our first stringers after the first half of most of the games."

Nuttall figures a contributing factor in the wins was a surprise team strategy of applying a "man to man full court press which kept the pressure on right from the beginning. They didn't seem to be ready for this."

Paul Jarvie led the opening game win against Huron Heights dropping 17 points although he only played three quarters of the game before being taken out.

McCabe 19 points The second game win against Aurora was led by

Trent McCabe with 19 points and Jerry Chaisson with 14 points. Bayview led 39-9 at half-time and that signalled the entrance of the second stringers for the rest of the way.

The Woodbridge win was engineered by McCabe again with 17 points followed by Jarvie with 14 points.

"You could say it was an all-out team effort which is the way I like to see it," said Nuttall. "Steve Dengate also played a fine game for us."

The Bayview has now chalked up eight wins against only one loss (to Brebeuff). And the league hasn't even started. The first league game is January 8 at Bayview at 3:30 pm. Opposition is Langstaff.

"Phew", was the main quote from the Bayview Juniors' Coach Harper Harrison as his team came from behind with a minute and a half to go to down Langstaff 27-25.

"We were down by five points when at one stage but we came from behind. It was quite dramatic."

Making it all possible was Dave Mercer with two baskets in the last minute which won it all.

The tournament, is annually sponsored by the referees, who donate trophies to the various winners as well as supply the food.

It was held Friday and Saturday at Bayview and at Langstaff Secondary School.

Another suspension irks Coach Steffan, 'ridiculous' he says

Richmond Hill Legion Midgets' Coach Sil Steffan is on his fourth or fifth suspension this season and he's slightly nettled by it all.

The latest came Sunday afternoon when his team not only lost 5-0 to Aurora Toyota but also picked up 46 minutes in penalties.

That's why Coach Steffan will be sitting out the next league game and any others in between.

"It's getting ridiculous," Steffan told "The Liberal". "They have a league rule whereby every team that gets over 36 minutes in penalties, their coach is suspended until the next league game."

"I'm getting embarrassed. I come out to coach kids playing hockey and all I end up doing is sitting out game suspensions."

Real unhappy Steffan was particularly unhappy about Sunday's encounter which saw some game suspensions handed out.

"They're trying to stop rough play in hockey but I can't see what handing out misconducts for such things as slapping your glove on the boards in protest of a goal stops rough play."

He was referring to an incident where one of his players received a 10 minute misconduct for the "glove" incident. Another game misconduct was handed out when a player hollered "nice penalty, Mike" to one of his players who had just received one.

Against dirty hockey "I'm against dirty hockey," said Steffan, "but I don't see anything wrong with body contact in midget hockey."

"When they start calling everything it means you're practically helpless as a coach. It's almost an automatic suspension for you."

Sunday's game saw most of the penalty action coming

in the last minute and 21 seconds of the game. In that short space of time the Legion players were given a total of 30 minutes in penalties.

The legion management stated the calls were definitely unwarranted because at no time was the game getting out of hand.

Both teams went out to skate and shoot and they did. As a result two very important suspensions will be in effect for the return game in Aurora Thursday night.

Toyotas scored their first goal midway through the first period. No scoring in the second. Aurora got the insurance goal with 3:49 remaining.

Good chances The Legion had many good chances to even the game but just couldn't get the puck between the posts.

Aurora put the game away with 1:41 remaining.

Coming up: Thursday at Aurora at 8:45 pm. Saturday here with Oak Ridges at 3 pm and Sunday in Orillia at

7:35 pm. The Legion Midgets hosted Chinguacousy December 2 in an exhibition match and came out with a 2-2 tie.

The Blues provided good, clean competition and probably would have given the Legion a stiffer game if they had more bodies. They came to town with only 12 players.

Richmond Hill got the only goal in the first period on an unassisted effort by Ross Middleton. The Blues tied the score early in the second, only to have Robbie Dynes score on passes from Mike Ham and David Earl.

Late in the game the Blues tied it again and that's the way the game ended 2-2.

Friday night the Legion squad defeated Newmarket Redmen 6-1 in Newmarket.

Goals went to Mike Gallagher from Peter Kendall, Gallagher again from Rob Dynes, Mike Ham from Danny Jones, Jones from Ham; Randy Hughes Guest unassisted; and Dynes from Kendall.



Coach Sil Steffan too many suspensions



(Staff photo by Draper)

Luck, be a lady. Get that rock in the house

Francis Anderson is all business here as she sends a rock on its way in the Richmond Hill Curling Club's annual Xmas Bonsel Saturday night. The win-

ning rink was one consisting of John Johnston, Helen Greer, Betty and Ted Kerr.

McCabe 19 points The second game win against Aurora was led by