



Fred Simpson

Pot of Potpourri

I don't know if this has anything to do with sports but the other morning I rounded the corner to "The Liberal" and walked right into the side of an "outhouse". This can be a shattering experience at 7:30 in the morning. On Yonge Street yet.

For the past 9 or 10 years I've been coming to work in various shapes and disguises fretting about the day ahead of me. But never have I had to fight my way past an "outhouse" just to get in the front door of an office.

I won't go into the details about why and how it got there except to say the whole episode started with a cartoon in the previous week's paper which referred to "outhouses". This obviously, roused some anger.

And that's why this column is a rather shaky one this week. Experiences like I just mentioned leave a mark on my soul.

Of this and that

However: Have been attending the Arena Board Review Committee for the past couple of Thursdays and have been finding it a very interesting session. Interesting simply because it's happening. There's no doubt in my mind the arena association has, is, and will probably continue to be operated by capable people.

However, like any other public operation, it should be under periodic review just to check the beat of its pulse and find out what if any complaints are forthcoming from the general public.

I gathered from the current sessions there are more things right with the association than wrong.

Pays own way

The general feeling (as deduced from the various delegations) was one of approval at the way the association has managed to be self-sustaining through the years by generating the money to pay off the debentures on its new arenas.

Apparently this is one of the few communities with an arena association which gets by in this manner without burdening the general ratepayer with an added tax-bill.

Of course the arena association is finding (like the most of us) that it takes money to exist and that means charging ice fees which are high enough (but, hopefully not too high) to pay off those debenture debts.

Enter the problem encountered by groups such as minor hockey people, figure skating clubs, etc., who are faced with footing the increasing bills for ice-time.

Subsidize programs

I thought Bill Rice (town treasurer who was representing his own personal feelings at the session Thursday night of last week) had the right idea when he advised that if subsidies are necessary they should be directed at programs such as minor hockey and not the arena facilities themselves.

I agree. Why spend the taxpayer's money to subsidize the arena facilities which are also used by groups outside the municipality?

Subsidize our people if necessary but let outsiders fend for themselves.

There was also a plea by one of the delegations for possible grants to groups such as figure skating clubs and so on. I agree that such bodies provide enjoyment for people so inclined but also feel they are "special interest" functions.

Why should the general taxpayer pay for the enjoyment of a limited number of people despite the undeniable fact that it's a worthy project?

Don't go overboard

If money has to be doled out it should be confined to community projects that involve the greater number of people.

Then again, I'm opposed to going overboard with subsidizing this and that.

After all, it's your wallet that takes on that battered look after awhile. Proceed with utmost caution.

One other complaint that I found noteworthy involved communication or lack of same with the residents at large.

There's a tendency to give an "ear" to well organized groups to the detriment, on occasion, of the individual who also has rights as a taxpayer.

I'm not saying the arena association is negligent in this area but the fact someone feels it is should be motive enough to examine its past policies.

Fine job

What am I saying in essence? Simply that the association is doing a generally fine job. But also that the idea behind Mayor Dave Schiller's move to set up a review committee is an excellent one.

We should have more of them. Just to keep the taxpayer "in the know".

Ooops

I mentioned last week that Sil Steffan is moulding a junior ball team this season which will be the first of its kind in Richmond Hill since the demise of the old Kent Clothes aggregation of a few seasons ago.

The problem is, Sil provided me with a phone number that he doesn't have any more. You can't win them all. Here's the right one: 884-6736.

If you're interested in playing junior ball locally you should let your fingers do the dialing.

One more item

A rumor to the effect that ex-Dynes Jeweller Manager Russell "Casey" Cripps had signed with the Newmarket Rays of the OFL as an assistant coach is apparently unfounded, premature or something.

Casey states he did turn out for a couple of exhibition games with the Rays but, apparently, couldn't come to any agreement with owner Ray Twinney as regards fulltime duties.

York County championships

Huron Heights rips to track title



(Photo by Hogg)

And they're off! King City's Fred Robbins is shown (second from left) leading the pack in the 3000 metre run Saturday afternoon at the York County Track championships at Birchmount Stadium.

That's the way it ended too. Robbins stayed in front all the way. Robbins is a resident of Oak Ridges.

Huron Heights Secondary School emerged the winner among 14 schools at the York County track and field championships held at Birchmount Stadium in Scarborough Saturday.

To the winner went the Eckhardt Trophy, emblematic of track and field supremacy.

Huron Heights compiled a total of 263 points followed by Markham with 259, Newmarket 248, Thornlea 202, Thornhill 180, and Richmond Hill 163.

In the age category team awards, Markham High School won the midget girls trophy while Stouffville surprised everyone by winning the boys midget trophy.

The junior category saw the girls team award going to Huron Heights and the boys to Thornhill Secondary.

Huron Heights won the senior boys top category with the girls going to Woodbridge High School.

Four first places:
Tom Gerrits, Newmarket — high jump, long jump, pole vault, triple jump, junior division.

Three first places:
Midget, Mary Ball of Langstaff — 80 metre hurdles, 100 metres, 200 metres; midget, Jane Toporowski of Richmond Hill — javelin, shot-put, discus; junior, Rick Smith, Thornhill — 110 metre hurdles, 100 metres, 200 metres; senior, Bruce Hart, Huron Heights — high jump, triple jump, pole vault; senior, Fred Robbins, King City — 1500 metres, 3000 metres, 400 metre hurdles; senior, Nancy Wherens, Bayview — shot-put, javelin, discus.

Two first places:
Donna Summerland, Markham, junior — long jump, 100 metres; Laurie Neufeld, Markham — 400 metres, 800 metres, midget; senior, Dianne Diggins, Thornlea — 100 metres, 200 metres.

The top two finishers in each event advance to the Georgian Bay championships next Monday and Tuesday at Parry Sound.

Team standings at end of meet: Huron Heights 263, Markham 259, Newmarket 248, Thornlea 202, Thornhill 180, Richmond Hill 163, King City 148, Langstaff 131, Woodbridge 123, Stouffville 122, Sir George William 112, Bayview 59, Aurora 45, Sutton 26.

Richmond Hill High dropped from third to sixth because they did not have any relay teams entered. Markham moved from eighth to second on the strength of their relay teams.

Local winners

Winners in local area:
Nancy Wherens, Bayview — senior javelin, discus, shot-put; Jane Toporowski, Richmond Hill — midget javelin, discus, shot-put; Fred Robbins, King City — senior 400 metre hurdles, 1500 metres, 3000 metres; Dianne Diggins, Thornlea — senior 100 metres, 200 metres; Mary Ball, Langstaff — midget 80 metre hurdles, 100 metres, 200 metres; Rick Smith, Thornhill — junior 110 metre hurdles, 100 metres, 200 metres.

Single winners locally:
Rick Carton, Bayview — 1500 steeplechase; Leslie Rogers, Richmond Hill — junior high jump; Mark McMillan, Thornlea — junior shot-put; Rick Murphy, Richmond Hill — senior shot-put; Ted Ruffman, Richmond Hill — midget high jump.

Probable team winner at Georgian Bay: Markham District High School. Ealanor Mahal is back from Vancouver which will add two sure victories to their total.

The Liberal

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1975

sports



(Photo by Hogg)

Kind of hard on the back. Or is it? Newmarket High's Tom Gerrits arcs his way over the crossbar clearing 1.88 metres in the process (over 6'2") during the junior high jump competitions. Gerrits won

handily. A total of 14 schools participated in the York County track championships at Birchmount Stadium Saturday.

Minor soccer at starting line

Outdoor practice and training has been the order of the day for the past two weeks for the Richmond Hill District Minor Soccer Association. Coaches have been endeavoring to come to grips with the composition of their teams.

The main portion of the town representative teams has been selected but there are still a few positions to be filled and the coaches are on the lookout for likely candidates.

Most club league teams have been filled and no more registrations will be accepted for boys between the ages of six and 10.

However, waiting lists are prepared and names will be accepted and placed on them and the boys placed on teams as soon as possible.

The association held its pre-season spring dance May 9 and an enjoyable time is reported. A good crowd turned out to this very successful evening.

Appreciation is expressed to the generous individuals who donated prizes, although it is to be wondered what the lucky lady will do with the soccer shoes she won.

An invitation has been issued to her to join the girls' team.

It is pointed out that all games, unless otherwise specified, are scheduled for 7 pm.

For teams travelling to Aurora, sufficient time should be allowed for the game to commence on time. Coaches should co-ordinate all boys on their teams.

Coaches, managers, parents of players and other spectators are reminded that the referee is the only person in charge of the game. The referee will call it as he sees it and he should not be unduly harassed from the line.

Some referees are young lads who need your indulgence and co-operation.

Unnecessary vocal comments should be avoided. Games and referees for the coming week are:

Squirt: May 27 at Crosby Public School — Baif Bombers vs Sanders Gulf, Tom Jensen; Ratcliffs vs Ed's Carpet (Aurora); Norman Murphy; Richmond Hill Maple Leafs vs Aurora Legion, Scott Patterson; Travelways to Aurora.

Atoms: May 27 at Bayview Secondary School — Thornhill Village vs Lamb Moving, Gord Cardwell; Tournaments Inc. vs J.T. Carpet (Aurora); Jan Spiers; Concord Auto to Aurora.

Mosquitos: May 28 at Don Head Secondary School — Creative Decor vs A&W, Ivor Bevan; Pony vs Midway Machinery (Aurora); Cor. Van Kempen; Richmond Hill Legion to Aurora.

Peewee: May 26 at Bayview Secondary School — Flair vs St. Andrew's (Aurora); John Elliott; Baymar to Aurora.

\$1,778 deficit arenas

By Gay Peppin

The annual meeting of the Richmond Hill Hockey Association officially ended the 1974-75 hockey season Wednesday of last week.

Bob Reeves, president of the RHHA expressed concern in his report about the decline in registration.

In the past season, 704 boys and girls registered which is a drop of approximately 40 from the preceding year, he said. Mr. Reeves suggested the new board of directors might consider lower registration fees for the younger age groups as a means of encouraging enrolment.

The seven members elected during the meeting to the present board of directors were Bill Majury, Ron Russell, Jim Stockall, Claude Henderson, John Leonard, Ken Mitchell and Harold Todd.

Executive members will be chosen from the board at its first meeting. President Bob Reeves and Don Moore, secretary, will continue in their present positions.

Mr. Reeves thanked the house league sponsors who contributed a 50 per cent increase and to the town representative team sponsors for their major increases. (Continued from Page 16)

Light slaps on wrist for Arena Board

By Fred Simpson

The Richmond Hill Arena Association came in for a slap or two on the wrist but generally escaped unscathed Thursday night of last week before a slight but eloquent group of ratepayers.

Occasion was the second session of the Mayor Dave Schiller-inspired Arena Review Board Committee designed to shape the present and future policies of the association.

The most criticism came from a delegation of ratepayers representing the Hillcrest Residents Association but this was also leavened with praise.

Spokesman Collin Jacobs felt the arena board "has been extremely negligent in understanding and catering to the desires of residents who have no interest or involvement in hockey or figure skating."

Excellent job

"We feel that while the arena board has done an excellent job in providing information and assistance to hockey leagues, they have not made any attempt at building a good base of communication and public relations with the residents at large."

The presentation also asked the arena board to consider constructing an out-door

artificial ice surface in the Richvale area with a view toward using it solely for public skating.

"By centralization of public skating in one arena, the burden of providing public skating in the other arenas would be alleviated and the income from such skating would be concentrated in one area rather than spread thinly across the board."

Weather too warm

This portion of the presentation received scant support from Superintendent of Recreation Lynton Friedberg who observed that "the experience of Metro people in

regards to outside artificial ice services hasn't been good.

"Outside rinks need very cool temperatures for a satisfactory ice surface and the winters just haven't been that severe. It was discovered that outdoor rinks just weren't a paying proposition and in North York they're in the process of covering them."

Student skating

Also asked to be investigated was the possibility of implementing skating programs for students in the region providing suitable accommodations were available. This could be worked out in

conjunction with the York Region Board of Education.

The brief referred to the apparent success of the Thornhill Community Centre in promoting public skating and indicated that more effort along this line could be exerted locally.

Arena Administrator Ed Sackfield said he had discussed the matter with various officials of the schoolboard for the past two or three years with little response primarily due to the cost.

Mayor Schiller ventured that "the situation might be changing but its something we should investigate".

Compliments

Jacobs complimented the arena board in the way "it has made available, to residents and non-residents alike, ice surfaces for winter-time recreation at little or no apparent cost to the taxpayer."

"We believe that the concept of a non-profit corporation running arenas is worthwhile and beneficial to the town. Any attempt by council or the review committee to abolish the board and replace it with a department within the direct control of the town would be detrimental to the operation of arenas within the municipality."

(Continued on Page 16)



(Photo by Hogg)

Richmond Hill High School track star Jane Toporowski starts winning throw in the discus competitions Saturday. Miss Toporowski also took firsts in the midget javelin and shot put.