



Liberal friends

This whole Fraser family has participated in helping make sure The Liberal arrives safely on the doorstep. Back row: Mother Dorothy, Donny, John, Mike and father Ed. Front row: Debbie, Donna, Linda, Bonnie and sitting on the floor Ellen.

Seven Fraser children carried The Liberal

Delivering The Liberal has been a family affair for the Frasers of Bent Crescent in Richmond Hill.

Seven of eight children in the family shared the paper route at one time or another with an average of 110 customers. John was the first to be a

carrier in 1963, then it was passed on to Linda, Donny, Debbie, Mike, Ellen and Donna.

Mrs. Dorothy Fraser said John, Linda and Donny managed to save \$100 each for a trip to Expo in 1967.

Linda and Donny paid for many extras from their route,

including figure skating lessons.

These were some of the first lessons Donny took before going on, with Candy Jones, to become Senior Pairs Champions of Canada in 1976-76 and World Professional Champion for the last two years.

Letters

It is more important for a player to be with friends than win awards

Mr. Hunt — I really liked your novel in the last issue of The Liberal, but I think you should have gone with truth rather than fiction, or did you have a ghost writer?

Your novel mentioned the lead character was given concessions, but in real life he was not; it was 'split or out', in the presence of the RHMBA executive, The Liberal, North Star, and Mr. Duffy.

Both Mrs. Ferrando and Mrs. Hunt admitted that I said that the splitting of the team was a decision that was up to the boys' parents, as they had signed them up and it was up to them.

I was told to ask the parents and let RHMBA know, I did this and the answer from both parents and boys was 'no'.

So you see, Mr. Hunt, the coach did not refuse to comply with the rules.

You talk about rules and regulations, could you please tell me why RHMBA has different rules for different people?

A Pee-wee player parent at a meeting in Oak Ridges, told Mr. Duffy, Mr. Friedbert, and The Liberal that she got a call from the Oak Ridges coach of the Pee-wee team that she had three choices to keep the boys playing in the RHMBA.

1. Split the team.
2. Play for no chance of championships or trophies.
3. Pitch four pitchers in seven innings.

Why was this not done for the squirts? I asked if it could.

She said no splitting of the team and the coach could pick from the last two choices. Four pitchers was the choice.

Sportsmanship — I've coached for many years and never once met with anything like this. I have worked with gentlemen in Richmond Hill before, and I mean gentlemen such as Mr. Fox, Mr. Morland and the Phillips and others who I feel are true sportsmen, with one aim, the boys and girls of Richmond Hill.

When they made a statement you could count on it, and you knew where you stood at all times, but this bunch changes their minds faster than the weather.

As for my coaching style, I feel it is my duty to the parents and the boys to try to the best of my ability to teach the right and, yes, with a win attitude — a "yes you can" attitude.

And when that boy is competing with boys on the same level, he knows, win or lose, that if he has done his best, it's all right, and that is my ego trip.

When I see a boy who has never played organized ball before, get to first on his first hit, and I see the grin on his sweaty little face — you bet I go on an ego trip. Yes sir, I really do.

I would be very upset if my son were under a coach who didn't care if he won or not.

If you take a boy and teach him that his attitude should be "I don't

care", I wonder if this would carry over to his schooling, and be his attitude in life.

So, Mr. Hunt, as a "concerned parent" you should think about it.

I never had any trouble with my convener Mrs. Hunt; she told me she had never been in ball before and knew nothing about it. I was very impressed that she would take on such a job without any knowledge of ball.

She was very nice on the ball field and never once did we have any trouble, but in a meeting, she seemed afraid to answer any of my questions, yet I still admire her for taking on such a big job.

As for not being informed properly, you said yourself that it was a time of turmoil, RHMBA changing schedules and Oak Ridges trying to get boys signed up.

I did not sign the boys up and I did not know who I had until I was phoned with names and numbers, and met most of them for

the first time at our first practice.

Maybe, Mr. Hunt, it would be a good idea to have such important information on the registration forms.

And, finally, my boys will be playing ball every week all summer long and we will get into some tournaments and at the end of a year of fund, we will have our day together, and in that year, I hope I can teach the boys something that will stay with them all through their years in ball.

Because I know I will learn from them, just as I have from my other boys through the years, and Mr. Hunt, I truly feel sorry for you, and I pray that someday you will find out what my boys feel; that being with your friends is far more important than any championship or a cold, gold trophy.

Al Bestard
Oak Ridges & District
Minor Ball Assn.
Squirt team coach

Letters

Seek explosion answers

On May 3, 1978, an explosion occurred in a section of the Transcanada Pipeline on the Humber Valley about a quarter of a mile north of Kleinburg.

The explosion was of such intensity that it blew

open doors on the main street of the village.

Flames roared hundreds of feet in the air and the resultant wind caused windows to rattle half a mile distant.

Flaming objects were hurled for an equal

distance, causing several major fires in the forested valley, many of which were not brought under control for several hours. It was approximately 30 minutes before the gas in that section of the pipe was turned off and the

flames brought under control.

Had this explosion occurred a short distance to the west, houses would have been destroyed and in all likelihood deaths would have resulted.

A public inquiry would certainly have followed. To date there has been no public inquiry nor has the public been formed of the following:

1. What was the cause of the explosion?
2. Why did it take so long to bring the flames under control?

3. What specific steps is Transcanada Pipelines taking to ensure that a similar explosion, with potentially tragic results, does not take place again?

These and other questions cry out to be asked.

It is important in our view that officers of the pipeline company be subjected to cross examination before a public hearing to ensure that the answers are full and unequivocal.

We should like to have the assurance of the proper authorities that such an inquiry is contemplated and that this association will be notified so that we may have a representative in attendance.

R. E. McAfee
President,
Kleinburg & Area
Ratepayers Assn.

Oak Ridges boys signed as a team not individuals

My mind was running wild again, and it ran back to a copy of the Richmond Hill Liberal to an article written by none other than a Gale Ferrando — Liberal May 10, 1978.

QUOTE: "the boy, Phil Lusk and his friends would like to register with RHMBA but as a team and not individually, the boys want to stay together for various reasons, one of which is

transportation. As a team they could hold practices in their own area and would only have to travel to Bradstock Park once a week for a regulation game. At the meeting on Sunday, Phil was assured everything would be done to make suitable arrangements." Unquote.

So our imaginations are not so wild in Oak Ridges and a local paper did not use cheap sensationalism when they printed words, used by yourself in an article written by you. Half truths, Mrs. Ferrando, indeed. Finally a way has come to show we have contended all along.

We were signed in Richmond Hill as TEAMS from Oak Ridges, not individuals.

Thank you very much for writing that article.

County Board of Education, regarding the extension of French in the elementary schools.

Your education reporter Mr. Steve Pearstein writes concisely and well, highlighting our concerns.

We were very pleased with his articles.

We appreciate having a newspaper that cares about its community.

Judith A. Flow
Past President
8 Blue Spruce Lane
Thornhill

He will miss Rev. Shorten

As a parishioner of Richmond Hill United Church, I was saddened by the news of the intended departure of our minister, the Reverend Robert Shorten.

Reverend Shorten will be assuming greater responsibilities in the life of the United Church of Canada in his new role as secretary of the division of Ministry and Personnel.

During the four short years Reverend Shorten has spent with us, his ministry has provided a source of renewed optimism for our church's survival.

In many ways the Reverend's life with us was a lesson in those basic qualities we have all come to look for in our pastors and yet seldom seem to find.

Humility, decency and tolerance were the essence of Robert Shorten's ministry.

I know that I shall miss Reverend Shorten's wise counsel, moderating influence and total commitment to his church and his parishioners through his absolute faith and trust in God.

Paul Boreham,
25 Cartier Crescent,
Richmond Hill

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