

# Sports

Peter Van Dusen

## Dear Mom and Dad

I was at the Metcalfe arena covering some of the carnival activities when I spied a letter, handwritten, taped to the wall alongside the other notices. I read it feeling somewhat overcome by the message it delivered, felt obliged to present it in this column. Parents take heed.

Dear Mom and Dad,  
I hope that you won't get mad

at me for writing this letter, but you always told me never to keep anything back that ought to be brought out into the open. So here goes.

Remember the other morning when my team was playing and both of you were sitting and watching. Well I hope that you won't get mad at me, but you

kind of embarrassed me. Remember when I went after the puck in the front of the net, trying to score, and I fell? I could hear you yelling at the goalie for getting in my way and tripping me. It wasn't his fault that is what he is supposed to do. Then do you remember yelling at me to get on the other side of the blueline. The coach told me to cover my check and I couldn't if I listened to you. While I was trying to decide what to do they scored against us. Then you yelled at me for being in the wrong place. You shouldn't have jumped all over the coach for pulling me off the ice.

He is a pretty good coach, and a good guy, and he knows what he is doing. Besides he is just a volunteer, coming down at all hours of the day to help us kids; just because he loves sports.

And then neither of you spoke to me the whole way home. I guess you were pretty sore at me for not getting a goal. I tried awfully hard, but I guess I am a

crummy hockey player. But I love the game. It is lots of fun being with the other kids and learning to compete. It is a good sport but how can I learn if you don't give me a good example. And anyhow I thought I was playing hockey for fun, to have a good time and to learn good sportsmanship.

I didn't know that you were going to get so upset because I couldn't become a star.

Love,  
Your child

A recent study proved conclusively that crowd influence at sports events plays a major role in the performance of the athletes involved. Jeering, name-calling, and other such derogatory comments emanating from the bleachers can ultimately hinder the potential and attitude of competitors. Granted, there will always be the "mouthpiece" in the stands who feels he has to do everyone else's cheering for them. But

imagine how it feels to a youngster, looking up into the stands and seeing dad or mom with an ear to ear grimace on their face yelling instructions at the top of their lungs.

Many parents feel it is their duty to be "sideline coaches." But often times the commands they bark from the bleachers are directly opposite to those issued by the man behind the bench, the man who doesn't mind giving unselfishly of his time to help your child develop a healthy attitude toward sports and an athletic competition. So mom and dad, before you scream yourself hoarse at your child's next hockey game; remember cheering and constructive criticism will never hamper your child's performance or outlook toward sports, but constant attacks on his ability to play the game will make him afraid to set foot on the ice for fear of displeasing you. And to the author of the letter; message received, loud and clear.



### International showdown

The Yugoslavia National hockey team takes to the ice in a recent contest against the Embrun Panthers. The game ended in a 3-3 draw. 850 fans were treated to a fast-paced game and all got their money's worth.

### Garey "Toot" Ris

## O.T.H.S. Sports Beat

The OTHS Carnival was held in the last week of February and it was a great success. Monday was Hippy Day with skating on the Canal in the evening. Tuesday was Sadie Hawkins Day with a dance in the evening with the music of Tom Swift. Wednesday was a Professional Development Day but a Snowmobile Rally was held and there was also tobogganing at Conroy Road. Thursday was Greaser Day. Friday, there was a ski trip to Vorlage. It was Hat Day and Security Day.

In girls' curling, the OTHS team won the L.C.A. Curling Championships by winning all 3 of their games. OTHS bombarded Lansdowne 13-0, they edged Tecumseh 7-4 and won the championship with a 6-5 victory over Hillcrest. The boys curling team won the Gordon Morrow Invitational Tournament which was played at the Metcalfe Curling Club about 2 weeks ago. The boys slipped past Bell 5-3, they edged Cairine Wilson 5-4, and they downed South Carleton 5-3. In other curling news, the girls' team won the Carleton Board Championships by winning 3 of their 4 games. Osgoode demoralized Sir Robert Borden 11-2. OTHS hammered the boys' from Bell by a 11-2 count, they defeated the girls from Bell 7-4 and lost 4-2 to the males from Merivale. The boys' won 3 of their 4 games by doubling Bell 6-3, they got by Merivale 7-4, they tripled Bell 9-3 but they lost to South Carleton by a 5-3 score. So, the girls are the Carleton Champs and will be going to the Eastern Ontario championships which will be held in the middle of March in Sherbrooke, Quebec. The boys from Confederation won the boys trophy as the best in the Carleton Board. Regular season action saw the Osgoode boys double St. Pius 8-4 and in an exhibition match, the girls smashed the Bell boys 11-0.

The senior girls volleyball team lost their last three games by three to nothing matches. Gloucester won by scores of 15-6, 15-7, and 15-6. Cairine Wilson won easily and the scores were 15-10, 15-1, and 15-9. Colonel By beat OTHS in our final league game in three games.

The junior girls won two of their three final league games but lost out in the first round of the playoffs to Merivale.

### Sports Quiz

1. What U.S. hockey team was the first to join the N.H.L. and in what year?
  2. For which N.H.L. team did Howie Meeker play? For what is he best remembered as a player?
- For answers turn to page 7

### Raiders out

Kars Aces downed Russell Raiders 3 - 1 at Manotick on Sunday to clinch their best-of five playoff series three games straight. Ron McLean, Billy Fox and Brian Delfino notched singles for Kars while Dan Chamberlin replied for the Raiders. The Raiders provided Russell area residents with some truly entertaining hockey and we can be assured that next year's squad will do the same.

### Panthers lead

Embrun Panthers took a two-game lead in their best-of-seven series against Pembroke 76's with an 8-7 overtime victory Saturday and a 5-2 win Sunday. The winner of the series will represent the O.D.H.A. in the intermediate A playdowns toward the Hardy Cup. The series continues with games slated for March 19 and 20 in Embrun and Pembroke respectively.

# KAVOUKIAN

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