



Playground repairs

Brian Stewart and Philipp Cooper (inside) give a paint job and reconditioning treatment to wooden slides at the Russell playground.



Whoa! Boy

John Sauve brings Benito Bar Bud to a halt. Benito is a registered quarter horse and stands 15.2 hands tall. Benito is a recent purchase from Hampton, New Jersey. John's ambition is to ride Benito at

the National Reining Association Amateur Class events. In preparation, he will put it through its paces at the Metcalfe Fair.

Jack McLaren
Sports Ramblings

Junior "B" Hockey

Once again with the approach of the fall season the opening of the hockey season is just around the corner. I have often been critical of decisions made by hockey league officials particularly at the Junior B level. Officials of the Ottawa District Junior B league deserve full marks for a recent decision regarding the Metcalfe Jets. They have realigned 2 Junior B franchises bringing the Jets back to the Southeast division and moving the South Ottawa Canadians into Metcalfe's old spot in the Northeast division.

For the Jets the move should prove to be most beneficial. They now can renew their rivalry with Winchester, Morrisburg and Prescott.

I am told that the South Ottawa team is most upset by this ruling and I can appreciate their concern. It is going to be very difficult for them to generate much fan support for games as far away as St. Isidore, Alexandria and Rockland. It's a positive move for the Jets and an unfortunate one for South Ottawa but one wonders if a decision could not have been reached which would have satisfied both teams . . . but then again, maybe that's asking too much.

Minor hockey

During the season the Metcalfe and Greely Minor Hockey Associations decided to merge into one organization. This decision makes a lot of sense and young players in both areas should benefit. It is most gratifying to see this merger at a time when it seems to be very popular for organizations to go their own ways. With the 2 areas working together a higher calibre of hockey should result and more importantly it will give boys who are unable to participate in competitive leagues sufficient numbers to form more worthwhile house leagues. It undoubtedly means the Russell boys will face tougher opposition this year but that's what competition is all about . . . the better it is, the more you have to work.

Free agent draft

For the past few years WHA, NHL players have been making exorbitant demands on team owners for services rendered. If their demands are not met they play out their option year and then go to the highest bidder. A recent decision by Judge Huston should put an end to that and rightly so.

The ruling centered around the acquisition of Rogatien Vachon by the Detroit Red Wings from the Los Angeles Kings. League rules state that in such an event the team losing the player must be repatriated. Since the two teams couldn't work out a deal, Justice Huston was called in by the league to resolve the dispute.

He decided that Detroit would have to part with rookie sensation Dale McCourt. The fact is that Detroit management including GM Ted Lindsay, whom we were led to believe was opposed to the free agent draft and high salaries, deserve what they got. They have lost a young man who was the centre of their rebuilding program for an aged goalie who already must be feeling the pressure of the trade.

The decision was a tough blow for young McCourt but hopefully it will bring the players and owners to their senses. I think it is safe to assume we have seen the end of this free agent draft . . . about time.

Arena News

FLOOR HOCKEY

There will be floor hockey teams organized for men and women. If you would like more information or would like to play and you are 18 years or over call Don or J.C. at 445-5645.

ICE BACK ON

As of September 20th the Dr. Kinnaird Community Centre will be back in operation for another full season. Pre-season ice time is still available for those interested between Sept. 20 and 30.

Seasonal ice time is still open for those interested from 5-6 p.m. and 11-12 p.m. Monday to Friday.

PUBLIC SKATING

There will be free public skating Monday to Friday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. starting October 2nd and public skating Saturday evenings 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS

At the present time the Russell Recreation association is in great need of volunteers for bartending. If interested please call 445-2050.

To all those interested in the community there will be a public meeting Oct. 16 at the arena. Ideas and suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

WANTED: Part-time Help

Any boys between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age who are interested in working at the arena evenings and weekends please contact Dan Thompson at 445-2050.

MONS AND TOTS

There will be public skating at the arena every Tuesday between 10 and 11 a.m. for mothers and youngsters.

Dan Thompson

G. J. (Gerry) O'Reilley

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Lucky grant getters

Embrun broomball players are among new recipients of Wintario grants in the United Counties of Prescott-Russell.

The Embrun Broomball League will get \$1,331 to aid in the purchase of equipment while the Independant Radiator Broomball Team is to receive \$475 to help pay travel expenses to Hamilton

for an invitational tournament and the Club 18 team will get \$444 for the same purpose.

The grants are part of 149,536 recently awarded to 15 projects.

The Russell Agricultural Soc. will receive \$1,316 to share in the cost of drilling a new well and constructing proper washroom facilities.