

Sportlight

By Garey Ris

Paul Wylie taking on tough challenge

Russell Arena Manager Paul Wylie isn't new to the field of recreation.

Mr. Wylie was born in Toronto in June of 1946. Paul's parents were in the armed forces and it allowed him to travel throughout Canada. He also spent two years in Germany.

Because of his parent's travels, Paul attended six different elementary schools and four different high schools.

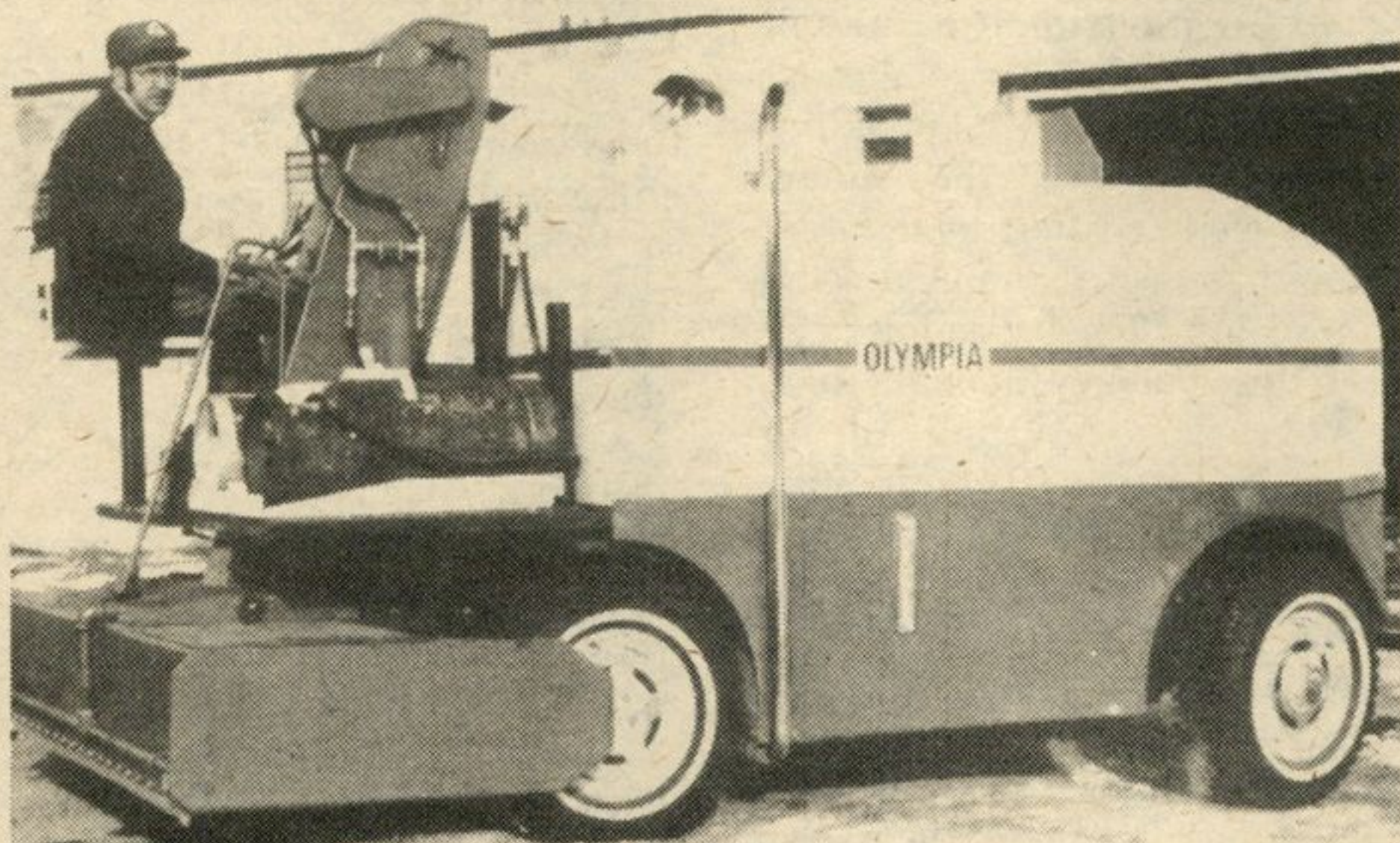
He graduated from Algonquin College in 1970 with a recreation leadership diploma. In late Fall of 1970, Paul married Sandy Foshay. He now lives in Ottawa and has a son, Troy.

Work is nothing new for Paul. He started working in the summer of 1960 as a playground instructor and until he turned 17, he continued to volunteer his services at the local pool in Bagotville, Que.

At 17 he was a lifeguard instructor. Mr. Wylie taught swimming until he left Bagotville at the age of 20 to start his career in recreation.

The City of Ottawa employed Paul as an instructor and desk attendant in 1976 which left him in charge of five different pools in the two years he stayed at that position.

He transferred to community



Russell Arena Manager Paul Wylie aboard new ice resurfacer. Mr. Wylie brings to his new job a wealth of experience to better serve Russell residents.

services branch in 1969 and worked out of local community centres. Mr. Wylie was promoted to area supervisor at Carleton Heights in 1973.

An application for a position at Goulbourn Township proved successful in his effort to advance himself in the field of recreation. As recreation director, Paul was involved in the preparation of budgets, community programs and community school programs. After two years at Goulbourn there were staff cutbacks and as a result, he was out of a job.

Five months later he became

employed by Public Works Canada as Maintenance Superintendent. He decided he'd rather get back into recreation and began looking for employment.

He took over the arena manager's position in Russell in June of 1979 after Danny Thompson was fired from the job he had held for the previous two years. Paul applied for the position in Russell because he thought he could assist in providing recreation programs, leisure services and other programs in the rapidly growing village of Russell.

His track record shows he has done a great deal since coming to Russell eight months ago. Already, Russell residents can enjoy the Fitness and Cross-Country Ski Trail which was constructed this past summer through a grant from the federal government. Also there is a morning break for Moms and Tots including exercise and social programs, creative dance on Saturday mornings with over 40 local children participating. There is an English language program at Embrun High School during the day with 24 local immigrants participating. And many other events have made the Dr. F.A. Kinnaird Community Centre the most popular in town.

The arena was painted last summer and renovations have been made to the Lion's canteen. A new \$22,000 Olympia Ice resurfacer was purchased in November with \$10,000 coming from a grant from the provincial government.

Mr. Wylie doesn't regret his return to recreation. He gets a great deal of satisfaction out of his job and gets along with the Russell Recreation Association. The job is a challenge and he hopes he can continue to serve the community well.

RIS RAP

With Garey Ris

The Toronto Maple Leafs are continuing their mid-season slump and controversial owner Harrold Ballard is determined to get a winning franchise.

The Leafs general manager Punch Imlach has already made four trades and is contemplating more. Among one of the surprising trades was Lanny McDonald, one of the better players on the squad, in a slump of late, and Imlach decided to dispose of him.

Dave Hutchison, a veteran NHL defenseman was no loss to the team seeing he wasn't much of a hockey player anyway.

The Leafs haven't won a Stanley Cup since 1967 and the fans are hungry for a winner.

Because of the problems between management and players, Darryl Sittler resigned his captaincy. It has been said on a number of occasions that if Sittler didn't have a no-trade contract, he would also be gone. League President John Zeigler said the NHL wouldn't honor the no-trade clause in Sittler's contract.

It looks like a few more seasons before Ballard and his Leafs get to slip out of the Stanley Cup.

The 1980 Moscow Summer Olympics could spell the end to the Games. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has prompted countries including Canada and the United States to threaten to boycott the games. Canada and the U.S. have set Feb. 20 as the deadline for the Soviets to pull their troops out of Afghanistan.

Pulling the 1980 Games out of Moscow seems to be impossible, both politically and physically. A partial boycott is almost certain.

Changing the site of the Games is unrealistic. Montreal's Olympic Village is almost at full capacity. Therefore, housing would be a major problem because of the housing needed for the thousands of athletes, officials and journalists attending the Games.

The International Olympic Committee is involved in a contract with Moscow.

Cancellation will probably spell the end of the modern Olympics.

The suggestion of staging the Games in different locations isn't worthwhile because it would reduce the competition to ordinary world championships. The purpose of the Olympics is to bring athletes from around the world together for two weeks of athletic events, competing against the world's best.

A boycott of the Olympics for political reasons is nothing new. Although organizers insist that politics don't play a major role in the Olympics, they know politics mixes with sports all the time. With the flags, anthems and other national customs major world powers hope to get their national anthem played the most and have their flag raised the most times.

In 1956, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Spain all withdrew from the Melbourne Games in protest over the Russian invasion of Hungary. In the same year, Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon all pulled out because of the Suez War. Because athletes from Taiwan were invited, China also refused to take part.

The 1976 Montreal Olympics were marred when 28 African countries pulled out because of sporting links between New Zealand and white-minority ruled South Africa.

Although Canadians athletes are mixed in reaction to Prime Minister Joe Clark's threatened boycott, I think it is better if all western countries boycott the 1980 Summer Olympics in protest over Russia's invasion of Afghanistan. It may not help in getting the Russians out of Afghanistan but the Olympics wouldn't be very exciting without the Americans and Canadians participating.

The 1980 Ottawa Citizen Indoor Games were a resounding success with seven meet records in front of a near-capacity crowd of 9,000.

Russell's Pat Reid and Bridgette Bittner did a marvelous job in staging the meet. There were no major problems during the meet and the crowd was treated to some world-class performances by internationally famous athletes.



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