

THE SPORTS BEAT

By Glen May



They must be worn

This reporter has fastidiously talked to, overheard, read, and listened to hockey players oratorically giving their views regarding the pros and cons of wearing a helmet to earn a living.

The upshot of this latest outcry resulted from a tragedy. It is indeed a puzzling and frustrating world when a death has to be the key to unlock the door of common sense.

Bill Masterton died from injury received in a game between his Minnesota North Stars club and the Oakland Seals. The general concept of the tragedy is now that it might have been avoided IF Masterton was wearing a helmet.

Following are a host of comments from National Hockey League players and executive explaining their personal views on the use of helmets in hockey.

NHL president Clarence Campbell said: "Masterton's death was a normal hazard of our business. The very best helmets that money can buy are made available by the team if the players want them. Some players just won't wear them."

Gordie Howe: "No, I won't wear a helmet, but I'd recommend youngsters wear them."

Bobby Hull: "The reason we don't wear helmets is vanity, that's all. After this I'm going to take a very careful look at the possibility of wearing a helmet."

Stan Mikita: "I'll be wearing a helmet as soon as I can find a good one. And to be sure it's right for me, I'm working on my own design."

J. C. Tremblay: "I've been hit on the head only once since I've been wearing a helmet, but I'd never take it off now. I've only got one head and I'm going to keep protecting it."

Pierre Pilote: "I guess I'm too old to wear one now. But I think they're a good idea. When I'm instructing at hockey school and a kid comes without a helmet, I ask him what's going on."

Dave Balon, who used to be a linemate of Masterton's: "I talked to my wife before the season and told her I would wear a helmet. But when I came to training camp there was only one helmet around and I didn't claim it."

Hap Emms, owner and general manager of Niagara Falls Flyers in the Ontario Junior A Hockey League has ordered all of his players to wear helmets. The same now goes for the Peterboro Petes of the same league.

Frank Mahovlich says he "would wear a helmet tomorrow if ordered to do so" by his employers.

Wren Blair of the Minnesota North Stars: "I think helmets are a good idea for amateur players. Pros are putting on entertainment and part of the artistic appeal is being close to the players and seeing their faces."

One NHL'er told me that he is positive 95 percent of the players would wear helmets if a suggestion was put forth.

Hockey players wear pounds of protective material from their shoulders to ankles. Yet, they leave the most important part of their anatomy open for wounds, be they minor or serious.

Professional hockey players are credited with intelligence, but it certainly makes this scribe wrinkle his brow in confusion when it's the teenyboppers who show the intelligence of wearing helmets.

Father to son trying to play violin while dog howls: "Junior, can't you play something the dog doesn't know?"

Rosspport - cont'd from page 13

The Rosspport Curling Club opening bonspiel was held on Friday and Saturday evenings with four mixed rinks participating. Mrs. Edith Ibey threw the first rock to start the bonspiel.

In the first event, Josephine Gerow's team of Patsey Gerow, Joyce Yandon and Joyce Mushqush won while Edith Hubelit's team of Tom Yandon, Dave Spencer and Mrs. Prinselaar were runners-up.

In the second event, first were Anita Bowlier, Chas Todesco, Edith Spillett and Rev. Prinselaar. Runners-up were Camilla Legault, Ken Bowlier, Edith Ibey and Carol Lespenski.

Members of the executive presented the prizes at a social held in the club rooms after the games. A puppy draw was won by Mrs. Hattie Yandon and Mrs. Anne Todesco.

I knew a guy who was so mean that on Christmas eve he sneaked out, fired a pistol, and then rushed in to tell his kids that Santa Claus had just committed suicide.

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1-Southern cuckoo 4-Exclamation 6-Small shovel 11-Smaller 13-Ached 15-Postscript (abbr.) 16-Prayers 18-Conjunction 19-Symbol for tantulum 21-College official 22-Dines 24-Escaped 26-Speech impediment 28-Beverage 29-Eagle's nest 31-Fate 33-Man's nickname 34-Units 36-Space 38-A continent (abbr.) 40-Allowance for waste 42-Burdens 45-New Deal agency (abbr.) 47-Distance measure 49-Winter vehicle 50-Part of church 52-Father 54-Tuberculosis (abbr.) 55-Note of scale 56-Platitude 59-Diphthong 61-Tavern 63-Makes into law 65-Tears 66-A continent 67-Roman bronze</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1-High mountain 2-Fondle 3-Exists 4-Flock 5-Fairy in "The Tempest"</p>	<p>6-Patron 7-Container 8-River in France 9-Preposition 10-Pounding instrument 12-Conjunction 14-Gave medicine to 17-Declared 20-Danish island 23-Cooled lava 24-Note of scale 25-Force 27-Body of water 30-Weird 32-Cries like cow 35-Periods of year 37-Beer ingredient 38-Floats in air</p>	<p>39-Come into view 41-Decorate 43-Argue 44-A state (abbr.) 46-Conjunction 48-Evaporates 51-Black</p>	<p>53-Girl's name 57-Staff 58-Babylonian deity 60-Worm 62-French article 64-Symbol for calcium</p>
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SOLUTION