## May is speech and hearing month

For several years now the month of May has been designated as Speech and Hearing Month, a time to note the intrinsic importance of human communication and to draw public attention to the problems encountered by those who cannot hear and speak effectively. Bonnie Wray Breadner, Speech Pathologist with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit in Marathon noted that May is an excellent opportunity to inform the public of communication handicaps and the community facilities available to assess and treat people with speech and hearing disorders.

"Up to 10 per cent of the population suffers from some kind of speech or hearing disability," said Ms. Breadner. "Communicative disorders are our

## Winning...

continued from page 14 would likely be better off. The level of ability would be higher as more time could be spent on skills development and team playing. A team effort would likely be far superior to a one-man effort, but herein lies the main problem - winning - he who is the best, fastest, whatever. For years and years, you have been surrounded by the thought - nobody likes a loser. What is a loser? We all have our own definition. The dictionary states it very simply - to fail to win. Losers are not only people who lose at games, but those who fail school, don't succeed in business, people who fall on tough times. How unfair, it may not be problems they can con-

Through organizations such as Minor League Sports, Scouting, Boys' Clubs etc., a change is being seen. Sportsmanship and teamwork are becoming more important. The emphasis is shifting but it will be a slow shift. Parents must accept as well as players, that we all have our individual rate of development. The winning philosophy has been here for years and will not disappear overnight. All minor sports are set up after Major League sports and there, winning is what counts. Playoffs are a problem to deal with if you don't win -you don't play anymore. don't know the answer, the same as you likely don't, but the most important thing is that this should be a growing and a learning experience for you. We all can't be the best, but by being a good sportsman, you will be a winner because you will personally gain from these experiences.

You also must enjoy and have fun while being involved, otherwise, is it a learning and an enjoyable experience for you? number one handicapping disability, affecting one in every 10 Cana-

The Health Unit Speech Pathology Clinic offers services to help people including assessment and treatment of speech, language and hearing disorders for children and adults. Such disorders may in-

clude: stuttering, articulation problems, delayed language development, hearing impairment (with or without associated speech problems), cleft lip and palate, cerebral palsey speech, and aphasia (speech damage resulting from a stroke or other brain damage).

Speech Pathology ser-



vices are available to any individual in the Marathon area with a referral from a physic-

'Informing people about the importance of human communication and encouraging the speech and hearing impaired to seek assistance are the goals of our month-long effort," said

Ms. Breadner.

Various events are being planned for May including free hearing tests, weekly newspaper articles, distribution of pamphlets, posters and buttons and airing of radio spots. The pamphlets and buttons were purchased with funds donated by the Marathon Lioness

Cub. The button logo pictured was designed by Gerald Tuarau of Marathon. For more information about speech and hearing disorders and what services are available you are urged to contact the Thunder Bay District Health Unit in Marathon at 229-1820 or the Health Unit in Schreiber at 824-2413.

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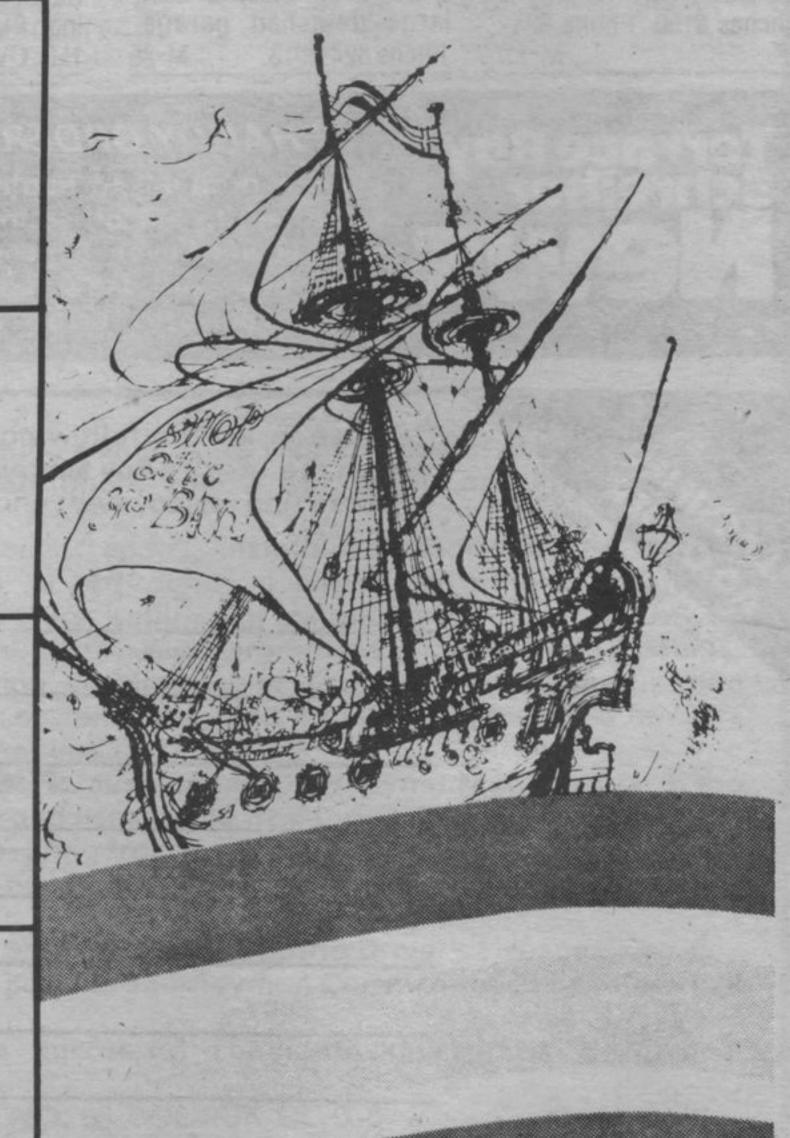
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