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SERVING TERRACE BAY, SCHREIBER, ROSSPORT & JACKFISH LAKE

Club in desperate financial situation

By Dave Chmara

The Schreiber Curling Club Executive, the first full committee the club has ever had, last week made a plea to Schreiber Council for financial assistance.

The club is heavily in debt, and without financial support, is

in danger of losing the club to creditors.

John Desjardins, president of the Schreiber Curling Club, said decreased memberships forced the club to cancel league play for the 1989-90 season.

Desjardins submitted two pro-

posals to council. First, he asked if council would take over the curling club due to its financial status and the club would then lease the club back from the town over the winter.

The second proposal was for council to donate money to help

pay off the club's current short term debts, and the club would perform various activities to raise money to pay off the bank loan.

Currently, the Schreiber Curling Club is in debt to the Bank of Montreal in the amount of \$9,400 and also owes other

creditors a total of \$10,500.

This March, the bank is demanding payment of half the outstanding debt on their loan with the other half payable the following March.

Because the club owes Hydro money, it is unsure whether any artificial ice will be put on the rink surface this winter. Payment was due Dec. 2.

Council declined to support the club as it felt it is not in a position to take over the running of the club. They don't want to see the club closed, but don't want to take on the almost \$20,000 in debt either.

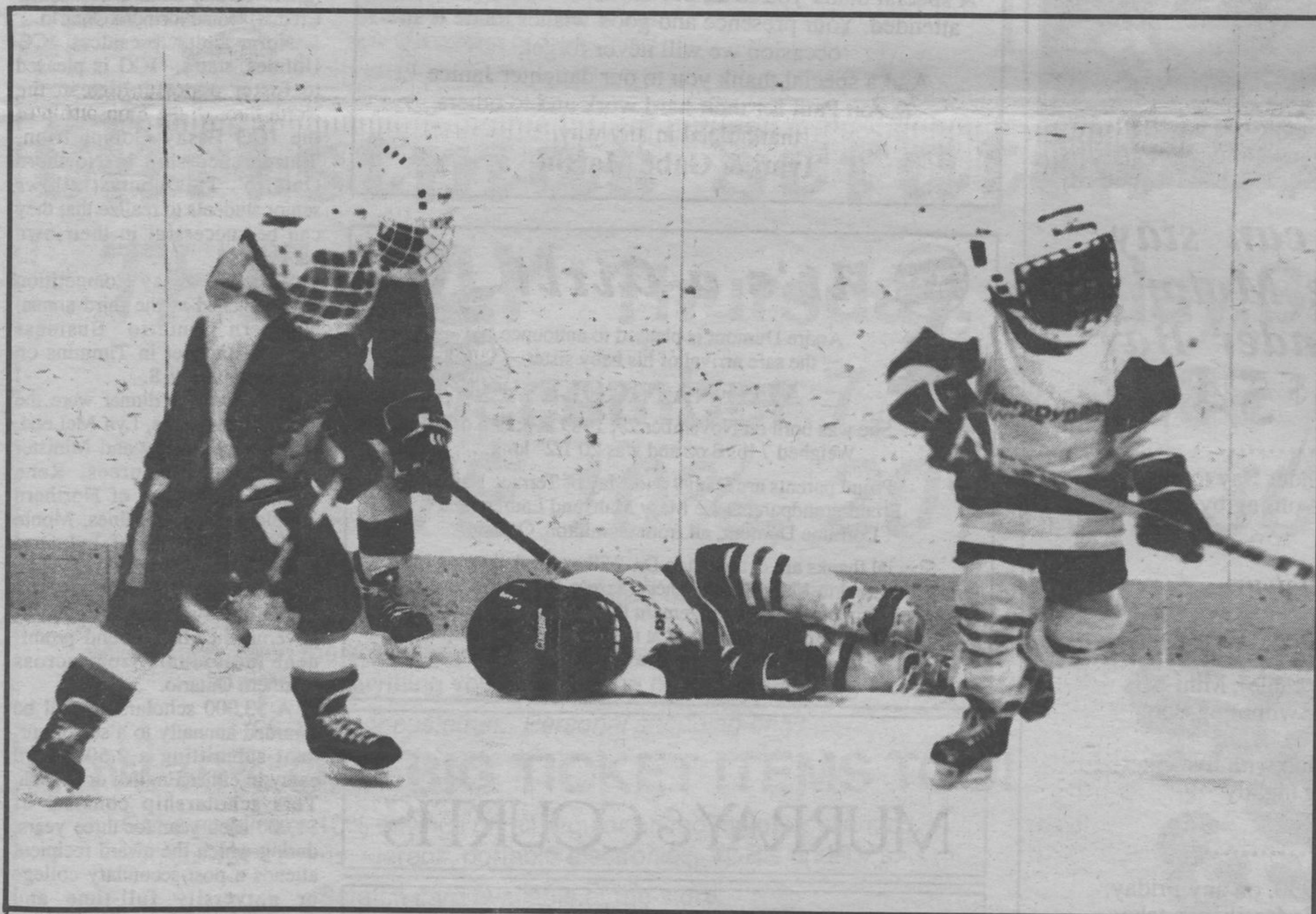
However, council did decide to hold off on demanding payment of the \$6,900 in taxes the club owes the town and will ensure the club will receive sewer and water.

They also asked the club keep council informed about its financial status during the winter, and wants a meeting with the club before the banks March 31 deadline. This way, council can consider options which will prevent the club from closing down.

Council members suggested the curling club executive ask Hydro for additional time to pay the money owing.

If the club can still keep the electricity flowing, it has bookings from several organizations until Christmas. At the moment, Hydro is the only creditor that is really putting pressure on the club for payment.

Another suggestion was made for the club to consider putting in natural ice instead of artificial. The Hydro bill for keeping artificial ice costs the club about \$1,000 per month. Council felt with natural ice, the club could at least raise some money over the winter to help pay off debts.



The Terrace Bay Mites hosted a hockey tournament last weekend with teams from Terrace Bay, Schreiber, Marathon and Geraldton taking part. The four to seven-year-olds are just beginning to learn the game as was displayed when one coach, explaining the fundamentals of the game, told his goalie "when they shoot at you, try to stop the puck." At times, the referee had to line up the players for the face offs and one coach telling a player to line up said "on the other side of the ice. See where your goal is?" Even so, the games were exciting and one game, between Schreiber and the Terrace Bay Flames saw a 3 on 0 rush that was broken up at the last second by a Schreiber player. As seen above, many of the players spent a considerable amount of time on the ice.

Photo by Dave Chmara



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