



SPORTS SHORTS
BY JIM THOMAS

F. L. BUTTON, Q.C.
There was a vacant seat in the Arena on Tuesday night. A seat that can never be filled. With the passing of Mr. F. L. Button, Q.C., Stouffville has lost its most prominent sports promoter. Whether it was hockey, baseball, curling or bowling, Mr. Button was always one of the chief supporters. On hearing the news of Mr. Button's passing early Monday evening, a member of the Clipper hockey team spoke for all Stouffville when he said "this town has lost its finest fan."

ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH
One would think that the frigid atmosphere of an arena would be a deterrent to sleep but not so in the Woodville rink. While attending an O.R.H.A. game there on Saturday night, both players and spectators were heard to remark on the unusually poor condition of the ice surface. Finally it was learned that the man in charge of flooding operations on the previous night had fallen asleep at the switch and too much water was pumped through the hose. A passer-by happened to drop into the arena and awakened the slumbering manager. By this time however, the damage had been done. When the excess water finally froze it left an ice surface covered with air pockets thus hampering considerably the efforts of the players. We understand the manager has since purchased an extra supply of "no-nod" pills. Truth is stranger than fiction.

ON TOP AGAIN
Winning scoring championships is all part of a season's work for lanky Ken Sinclair. For the past three years and perhaps more, the fast-skating forward has walked off with scoring honours in three separate leagues. Two winters back while playing with Leaside, he topped the group in the goals and assists department and was part of a combination comprising two other speedsters, Russ Brankston and Gord Boniface. Last season, Sinclair tried out with the Clippers, but the team here couldn't cope with his desired salary so he moved to his home town of Newmarket where he once again paced the club and the league. This winter he is with Orillia and appears to be the mainstay of the Pontiacs. He finished the regular schedule with 43 goals and 16 assists for 59 points, one better than another well-known performer, Andy Grant, formerly with Owen Sound and now with Durham. Sinclair will receive the Labatt Trophy, emblematic of the Georgian Bay scoring championship. Only 24 years old, Ken Sinclair has some good seasons ahead of him yet to deal out plenty of punishment to defending goaltenders.

BACKS TO THE WALL
The Clippers are facing elimination. After winning the first game against Georgetown quite handily 10-5, Stouffville has suffered three straight setbacks and are now behind the eight ball. They must now win the next three remaining games in order to pull the series out of the fire and continue on into further playoff competition. It would be foolish to say that it can't be done. They proved this fact against Oakville when down two games to none they rallied to sweep the next three. Georgetown plays a different type of hockey however. Although not as smooth as the Meteors they are a hard checking club and are backed by good goaltending. "Dusty" Rhodes, like Norm Stunden can be really tough if his team can give him a two or three goal advantage. On Tuesday night, the Clippers dropped an important 5-2 decision, a game they should have won. The homesters seemed to lack the drive they showed in some of their previous games and aside from two or three players who worked hard, ten others didn't appear to be giving their best. Well here we are again, down but not out. They clash again on Friday night at Georgetown and should the Clippers salvage a victory, they will move back here on Tuesday.

O. R. H. A.
Although teams from this district who enter the Ontario Rural Hockey Association may be considered to be of the "bush league" variety this is certainly not the case in every community. Last week, your reporter journeyed to Woodville, a small village north-west of Lindsay boasting a population of some 350 residents. Here, the best hockey played in their natural ice arena is "rural" hockey and the fans really go for it in a big way. On a Saturday night which is their big hockey night in Woodville, spectators from miles around come to see the games and attendance has been recorded at close to the one thousand mark on a number of occasions. Here in Stouffville, a team of this kind would do well to break even and Saturday night hockey here is a thing of the past since the mass introduction of television. This is not the case however with our neighbors to the north, Woodville, coached by a former Stouffvilleite, Vince Baker, have been drawing good crowds all season as have all the other clubs in the group, including Keswick, Sutton and Cannington. Why will Stouffville fans not accept Community League hockey? The one main reason is that local spectators have been spoiled by seeing teams of Int. "A" and Senior "B" while this brand of competition is unknown in the small communities to the north. The nearness of our town to Toronto where one can see pro and Jr. "A" hockey may also be a deterrent to competition on a smaller scale. While other teams in Senior "B", Intermediate "A" and Junior ranks fight to keep on the right side of the ledger, rural hockey clubs in Woodville, Cannington and Keswick, playing on natural ice, attract crowds by the hundreds even on Saturday nights.

TOP GOAL-SCORERS IN LIONS LEAGUE
Although goals haven't been scored so rapidly this season as in past years, a number of players both in the PeeWee and Bantam groups have done exceptionally well. In the PeeWee department, Frank Taylor of the Red Wings is tops in his class with a total of 12 goals and one assist for 13 points. Roger Forsyth, previously with Boston and now moved up into Bantam ranks, has also scored 12 goals, ten while in PeeWee and two in Bantam. Other top PeeWee marksmen are Barry McLean of the Bruins, Ken Alda of the Red Wings, Garry Gall and Bill Sheridan of the Rangers, Murray Painter, Colin Stewart and Garry Yates of the Black Hawks.

In the Bantam group, Murray Ferguson of the Leafs has notched nine goals. Grant Foreman and Bill Ratcliff have scored seven and six goals respectively. For the Canadiens, Bill Hoover is top man, with seven goals, while Larry McMullen has five. For Buffalo, Ken Maye has fired 8 goals and has picked up two assists while Warren Hendricks has notched 5 tallies and assisted on two others. Keith Stewart has two goals and three assists. For Pittsburg, Ron James heads the list with 4 goals and 3 assists, while Don Malloy has 5 goals to his credit. Joe Harold ranks number three for the Hornets, with 4 goals and one assist. The following scoring summary is for the regular schedule only, and does not include the playoff games that started on Monday night of this week.

Clippers Jolted 5-2 by Georgetown, Must Now Win Three in a Row

A hard-skating Georgetown team and a solid little net-minder named "Dusty" Rhodes racked up a 5-2 victory over the Clippers on Tuesday night here to take a decisive three to one lead in a best four-out-of-seven game series. The teams move back to Georgetown on Friday. Should Stouffville extend the series with a victory in the 5th game, the two clubs will swing back here for a game on Tuesday night of next week.

Raider goalie "Dusty" Rhodes was superb in the Georgetown nets on Tuesday as he has been in the other pair of victories chalked up by his club. Aside from single tallies fired from the sticks of Geo. Stark and Chick Webster, "Dusty" held the Clippers off the score sheet on all other scoring attempts. Don McIntosh, dashing Stouffville rearguard, had the best opportunity to put the Clippers back in the game in the second period when he broke through alone with only Rhodes to beat, but the crew-cut puckstopper held his ground and the disk bounced harmlessly out of danger. Geo. Stark, by far the Clippers' best on the night's play, also had a good chance to blink the light midway through the final frame, but once again Rhodes came to the rescue and batted his shot aside.

Early in the contest it appeared to be Stouffville's game as the Clippers jumped into a 1-0 lead. With Harold Hodgson sitting in the penalty box, Chick Webster broke up a Georgetown play and sifted in alone to fire a shot into the short side of the Raider net. Midway through the frame, however, the visitors forged back and the period ended with the Raiders holding a 2-1 edge.

Georgetown added a single tally in the second session and outscored the Clippers 2-1 in the final frame. Stouffville seemed resigned to their fate in the last period and couldn't get any dangerous scoring attacks organized. The Raiders beat them to the puck on nearly every play and checked the homesters off their feet when inside their own blueline. Geo. Stark fired Stouffville's second and final goal at 9:28 of the last period with assists going to Gord Lewis and Bud Lehman.

Dave Voyce, the Raiders' big defenceman, notched a pair of goals for the visitors. Ron Dixon, Pete Bradkin and Ken Nash fired singles. There were 13 penalties in the game, six to Stouffville and seven to Georgetown. The Clippers were placed at a disadvantage in the third period when two of their defencemen, Don McIntosh and Ronnie Bell were banished within minutes of each other. Hardly had the puck been dropped when Dave Voyce blinked the light from about ten feet out. From now on, it's do or die with every game "a must" for Stouffville. With "Dusty" Rhodes' apparently back in form it would appear to be a tough assignment for the Clippers to salvage the next three games and the group honours.

PEACH'S OUT ORHA PLAYOFFS IN THREE STRAIGHT GAMES
Peach's A.C. bowed out of the ORHA playoffs on Saturday night when they were defeated by Woodville 6-5. It was the third straight victory for the northern crew who chalked up scores of 12-4, 10-5 and 6-3. One game was played at Bobcaygeon while the others were played in the Woodville arena on natural ice.

In the second encounter at Woodville on Thursday night, the winners grabbed an early five goal lead and coasted to a 10-5 verdict. Harry Lewis was the top performer for Peach's, notching a pair of goals and turning in a stone-wall effort on defence. Joe Lewis, John Reesor and Jim Thomas potted singles. Hugh Cameron, centre star on the Woodville team, paced his club's attack through the entire series. John Reesor fired the nicest tally for the homesters, breaking in alone over the Woodville line and

RHODES, STUMBLING BLOCK IN CLIPPER, GEORGETOWN FINALS
Ex-Clipper netminder, Jack "Dusty" Rhodes is proving to be a real stumbling block in the path of Stouffville's offensive attack. Last week, the local squad dropped two games to Georgetown 8-2 on Thursday night here and 4-3 on Saturday night at Georgetown.

In Thursday night's game it just wasn't the Clipper's contest. Although they battled the Raiders on even terms in the first period, they faded badly in the second frame and were trailing 6-1 going into the final period of play. The Raiders counted two more in the third period while Stouffville could score only one. Bud Lehman notched both Clipper tallies. Ingles and Shapelle each fired a pair for the Raiders with Beaumont, Chard, Ferri and Varey notching singles. Stouffville appeared to be somewhat disorganized especially in the second period, and provided sub-netminder Bruce Middleton with little protection.

On Saturday night, "Dusty" Rhodes came up with his finest performance of the season to give his Raiders a close decision. Gord Lewis, Andy Closs and Harold Hodgson were the marksmen for Stouffville. In spite of the loss, Stouffville outshot their rivals on the night's play.

lifting the puck into the top corner of the Woodville cage. Peach's were minus two of their best players, Murray Lewis and Don Thomas.

In the third and final game on Saturday night, played before some 400 fans, Peach's jumped into an early 1-0 lead but (Continued on page 14)

IMPORTANT PLAYOFF GAMES OPEN IN PEEWEE LEAGUE

The round-robin playoffs commenced in the Stouffville Lions PeeWee League on Monday night. Although the nearness of Easter examinations prevented a number of players from attending their respective games, there were a good number of boys out and all the contests resulted in very close scores. In the PeeWee group, Boston blanked Black Hawks 3-0 on goals by Barry McLean, Campbell Storrey and Billy Payne. In the other game, the Red Wings squeezed out a close 2-1 win over the Rangers. Norm Tindall and Brian Madill were the Detroit marksmen. Garry Gall, one of the best performers in the league, fired the lone tally for New York. The Bruins and Wings are now deadlocked at the top of the heap, each with two points. They are scheduled to meet in the first game next Monday evening to decide the first place position.

In the Bantam department, Canadiens pulled a surprise win by upsetting the powerful Pittsburg team 3-1. Billy Hoover, Larry McMullen and Clifford Reynolds were the goal-getters for the winners. Paul Evans notched the lone goal game, there was a goodly number of boys out and all the contests resulted in very close scores. In the PeeWee group, Boston blanked Black Hawks 3-0 on goals by Barry McLean, Campbell Storrey and Billy Payne. In the other game, the Red Wings squeezed out a close 2-1 win over the Rangers. Norm Tindall and Brian Madill were the Detroit marksmen. Garry Gall, one of the best performers in the league, fired the lone tally for New York. The Bruins and Wings are now deadlocked at the top of the heap, each with two points. They are scheduled to meet in the first game next Monday evening to decide the first place position.

On Monday, March 26th, the final playoff games will be held at the annual Young Canada Night. Tickets are now on sale and may be obtained from any of the players. The Alf Mole Memorial Trophy and the Jim Austin Trophy will be presented to the winning teams on this occasion.

Jr. Basketball Team Wins Georgian Bay Championship



Although basketball is a rather novel sport here in Stouffville, having been introduced since the erection of the new High School, the Junior Girls team has already won a Championship. On Tuesday, March 6th, in a game played at Orillia, Stouffville's Junior Girls team edged Bracebridge 20-18 to capture the Georgian Bay Championship. Their victory over the Northern Ontario team earned them the right to enter into competition for the All-Ontario Championship. The girls are pictured above. From left to right — Joan Elson, Shirley Fosdick, Laura-Mae Brubacher, Miss Holt (instructress). Front row — Ann Dickinson, Muriel Byer, Mary Cole (Capt.), Dianne Kennedy and Judy Johnstone.

PICKERING, SAND HILL TIED IN WEIRD SERIES

In probably one of the weirdest series in the history of the O.R.H.A. Pickering and Sand Hill find themselves deadlocked at two games apiece in a best of five series. The final contest is scheduled for the Nobleton Arena Thursday night of this week.

Every game has been won by lop-sided scores. Sand Hill took the opener 13-8 but Pickering came back strong to even the series at Scarboro with a one-sided 17-1 victory. In the third game at Brampton, Sand Hill upset the favored Pickering squad 12-8 but Pickering forced a fifth and deciding game by trouncing their rivals 12-6 on Monday night in the Bowmanville Arena.

The series is made even more weird, aside from the unusual one-sided scores, since both teams, Pickering and Sand Hill are clubs without a home. Pickering have played their games in Scarboro and Bowmanville, while Sand Hill have used the Bolton and Brampton rinks. The fifth game is scheduled for another foreign arena, Nobleton.

TEA for CANADA WEEK MARCH 12TH - MARCH 17TH

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This Friday Night

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