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# Coach's equal system works

By Keith Bolender  
It's always refreshing to see a new and different way to do things, and it's even better to see that it works. That's how it is with the Gord Lewis, who had a fair amount of success in his difficult task of coaching a boys' hockey team this past season.



Gord Lewis coached this year's Bantam B Hockey team, with a system that allowed every player equal ice time, and no superstars.

Gord, who lives on Kennedy Road and 18th Avenue, coached this year's edition of the Bantam B's and his way of coaching the boys is certainly different from most others.

For Gord is one of the ever increasing number of coaches who feel that their players should have all else be having fun, and that they should all be playing equally, with no boy set out for special status.

However, on the other hand Gord, like any coach, would like to see his boys win. The thing is, they do. The Bantams had a quite successful year, winning about 60 per cent of their games. Although they didn't win any championships they came close.

Gord seems to be trying to return minor hockey back to its roots; when the boys played for fun, and not the high powered professional type pressures and competition that is rampant in the sport today.

One reason that might explain Gord's rather unique approach to coaching is that this is his first year behind the bench, that he had no previous pattern to follow.

However, a more likely explanation might be that Gord, who owns a farm, is a man of his convictions.

As he explained, "I laid it on the boys right off; there would be no swearing, or carrying on in out-of-town rinks. I showed them that I respected them, and they gave me respect back. And I made it clear that every boy would play, there would be no special privileges for anyone. And that meant: through the regular season and the playoffs."

Gord's decision to coach that way comes from his own playing days, which spanned 13 years in the Stouffville leagues.

"That's the way I was taught how to play, and I figure it's still good enough now."

Gord admitted there was a bit of trouble at the start, but "nothing serious." Once the boys realized he meant what he said, and that they all would play regularly, he commented that the boys quickly developed a strong team spirit.

In fact, Gord pointed out that one boy walked from Altona twice just to get to practice.

Apparently the system found favour with the parents. If parents don't like the way their boy is being played they'll let the coach know, either on or off the ice. Gord, however, claims not one parent came to him to complain.

And concerning the competitive aspects, Gord said "sure, we all like to win, but if the team lost and it was a close game the boys accepted it, with no griping. Our schedule was mainly against A towns, and we're a B town, but we pulled off a few upsets, and it was just through the hard work of the players."

A lot said if we want to win we have to play or best, well, we don't have a best, there're all the best."

As to the sport in the minor sense, Gord agrees it has become much too competitive, "there's too much pressure on us and on the kids, hell, let them have fun, that's the way it should be."



Figure skaters from all parts of Ontario and Quebec competed at the Scarborough Skate held at the Scarborough Centennial complex last weekend. Pamela Collier of the Unionville club proudly examines the award she won for placing second in the Juvenile Ladies A final.



David Peacock was one of several figure skaters to win honours in the finals at the Scarborough Skate competitions. David, a member of the Unionville Skating Club, came in first in the pre-novice men's A division. Here he is doing a 'shoot the duck' to celebrate his victory.

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## Uxbridge arena construction soon

UXBRIDGE — Work on the new Uxbridge arena should be underway this week, according to property and parks committee chairman Sandy Ewen.

Mr. Ewen said at last week's council meeting that it is hoped Con-Dign Limited of Waterloo will be able to move onto the site next week for the start of construction.

The Ontario Municipal Board has given its approval to the site and now the proposal will go to the Department of Labour for its comments.

Con-Dign Limited was awarded the contract to construct the new arena and community hall last month, ending a lengthy discussion on the subject which has stalled the project for a few months.

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The Regional Municipality Of York  
**Notice of Road Closure**  
Regional Rd. No. 25 (Maple Rd. 17th Ave.) from Regional Rd. No. 8 (Woodbine Ave.) to Highway 48 will be closed to through traffic commencing approximately June 1, 1978, to permit reconstruction of the road.

During the construction period, traffic will be detoured via 16th Avenue, 1 1/4 miles south of Road 25 (17th Avenue, Maple Rd.).

When grading and gravelling has been completed in any one concession, that concession will be opened to through traffic.

The Contractor will be required to keep the local residents informed of the changing access routes to their properties and the access to all properties will be maintained at all times.

R. S. Hookings, P. Eng.  
Construction Engineer

## Second year Ladies fun league

The Stouffville ladies softball fun league is preparing for its second year of operation.

The league is for women too old for Stouffville's other teams, but who still want to play a little ball. The league is organized to the extent it has a set schedule, all star team and tournaments, but it is not under any baseball association and tries to keep away from the high pressure situations of those leagues.

If anyone is interested in playing, there will be a practice and registration next Tuesday, May 9th at 7 p.m. in the town park.

The league is hoping to field four Stouffville teams and there are a number of openings still available.

Linda Prever, one of the organizers of the league, commented that there was such a good response last year, "we hope to expand this season, we have the sponsors lined up and we're hoping to field four teams in Stouffville, and two in Ballantrae."

She said the all-star team, made up of the four town teams, will compete in tournaments in Aurora, Richmond Hill and Newmarket.

Linda emphasized that the league "is for fun, just to get out and play. There won't be any pressure on the players, nobody is going to jump on anyone's back if they make a mistake."

There is a \$5 registration fee and the games will be played Tuesday nights at 7 p.m., with one game a week.

Bob Stevens and Harry Burdett will coach the all star team and there has yet been no decision as to age, although most of the players were over 20 years of age in last year's league.

## Local named MVP

STOUFFVILLE — Colleen Kamps of Stouffville has been named The Most Valuable Player in women's basketball at

**+ Blood Donor Clinic +**  
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**9th Line N. Stouffville**  
**Thurs., May 11th**  
**2:00-8:30 p.m.**

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**NOTICE**  
**HALF LOAD REGULATIONS**

"Half load regulations will be extended to May 8, 1978 on all Regional Roads north of and including Regional Road No. 4 (Taunton Road). Full loads will be permitted on Regional Road 1 from Highway 401 to Highway 47.

W. A. Twelvetrees, P. Eng.  
Commissioner of Works  
Regional Municipality of Durham

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN FOUNDATION Presents  
**"SEMINAR FOR PARENTS"**  
8:00 P.M. — WED., MAY 10, 1978  
TOWN HALL — ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE  
27 Front Street East, Toronto

Subject: LEARNING DISABILITIES IN CHILDREN  
SPEAKERS:  
Dr. John Stobo Prichard — Head, Neurology Department, Tom Humphries, Psychologist — Child Development Clinic of The Hospital for Sick Children and Ruth Baumann, Special Education Teacher — Toronto Board of Education.

Discussion Period To Follow Presentations  
Coffee will be served — Admission Free