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# The Tribune

Wednesday, May 11, 1983

Third Section

FORD

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## Editor's Mail

Dear Jim,  
 It would seem that when an article appears in your paper for tryouts on a ladies slowpitch team that everyone is welcome. Not necessarily so!

Having played in Stouffville for nine years, and on this particular team last year, I assumed I was still considered a team member.

With not being contacted by anyone this season regarding practices, team jackets, or meetings, I had a hunch something was wrong.

After going to the tryouts on May 5 and working out with the team, I was informed I was not longer needed. It appears it is not my playing ability but a personality problem. No explanation was given; only that a vote was taken and that I could not play.

Even then I would not quit, but I was overruled. The coach and team captain are also players on the team, so I didn't have a leg to stand on. That shouldn't have surprised me though, because the coaches, last year, were also voted off the team.

In future, when ads for tryouts are printed in The Tribune, please ask if there is any exception.

Be the article should have said that a personality test must be passed and Terri Surman is not welcome.

Yours sincerely,  
 Terri Surman

## Soccer sideline

The Whitchurch-Stouffville soccer club girls' division will be participating in several events during the upcoming Canada Day Festival.

Several matches between girls teams taking part in the Robbie International Soccer Tournament will be hosted by the local club at the high school.

In addition, the Stouffville club will play a number of exhibition games against the visiting Robbie teams.

The girls' division is also considering sponsoring an entrant in the Miss Stouffville contest, providing sufficient interest is shown by members. Those interested should call May King at 640-4785.

For those who missed the boot exchange, there is still a quantity of various sizes still available for purchase. These can be obtained from Kevin Lewis at 75 Thicketwood Blvd or at the opening day celebrations at the high school on May 28.

# AHL awards night ends good season

Maintaining their reputation as great party givers, members of the Stouffville amateur hockey league held their fifth annual awards night on Friday evening.

Having outgrown most of the local banqueting spots, this year the league decided to move the event away from the Ballantrae community centre, where it had been held for the last two years, to Cedar Beach.

The special occasion saw close to a full turnout of members, wives and friends for one of the biggest social events of the year in local hockey circles.

Heading up the proceedings as master of ceremonies was Tribune sport editor Jim Holt, who has been closely allied with the league since its inception. Along with league president Ken Smurthwaite and vice-

president Steve Upton the awards ceremony went smoothly. While the speeches of acceptance were not always short, they were, to say the least, sincere.

Probably the most disappointed man in the league was Canadian Tire goaltender Gerry Ratcliff. Gerry, who was nominated as the league's top goalie of the year, was busily transporting his wife to hospital for the expected arrival of a new baby and could not attend the dinner. Unfortunately, the baby decided not to turn up either, so it was back home for wife Maureen and Gerry, but too late for them to make the awards.

The league's premier shooter last season was "Long" John Blair, John was the recipient of the Top

Scorer award presented by league secretary Rich Hughes.

A new award, nominated by the referees society, was made by Wayne Nugent "to the player who best exemplified good sportsmanship and the spirit of the league as a whole." The winner was Ken Chupa, and, if the applause was anything to go by, it was a very popular choice.

A very special award, a beautiful silver beer stein, was made on behalf of the league to Bill Upton. Bill, who has been a stalwart coach with various teams within the league, has had to retire due to poor health. Unfortunately he could not be present, but the award was accepted on his behalf by son Steve.

The Pro-Hardware award, to the top league finishers, was made by

past-president Eric Scaife and accepted by coach Dave Kuniman and Mike Jones.

The 'A' division playoff champions, Stouffville Travel Flyers, were represented by Ron Arends who accepted the award on behalf of the team.

Final award of the evening was made by Gerry Cole to the "B" division playoff champions, the Len Powell-Ken May North Stars, represented by Peter Mabley.

Members of both playoff championship teams received medallions in commemoration of their win. In closing, league president Ken Smurthwaite thanked the executive for all their hard work throughout the year, making special mention of the dedication and support of member's wives and hoping that next season will be as successful as last year.



One of the highlights of the amateur hockey league awards night was the presentation of the "A" division playoff championship trophy. Receiving it from league president Ken Smurthwaite (left) is Ron Arends of the Stouffville Travel Flyers

## Junior 'C' club reshuffle

The Stouffville junior 'C' Clippers are alive and well and will be operating in 1983-84.

At a meeting of the junior 'C' executive last month, it was agreed to continue to provide junior level hockey in Stouffville for the forth-

coming season. It was also agreed that some changes were required within the junior 'C' program in order to attract local hockey talent into the organization.

Some of the changes to be implemented are: Games

will alternate between Saturday and Wednesday nights, with every fourth game played on a Wednesday, giving players and management a chance to socialize once a month. This will leave a vacant Saturday night slot available for

Oldtimer leagues or other organizations and will be negotiated as soon as the junior schedule is known.

The 50-50 draw will take on a new look and will be spearheaded by the Ways and Means committee under the direction of Maurice Hamilton. He will bring a lot of new ideas for special evenings and door prizes to help attract more people to the arena.

Murray Sinclair has resigned as team coach, but will remain in the organization in an advisory capacity. Murray has contributed many hours to the development of junior hockey and his talent and dedication will be a continued asset to the club.

The juvenile team will not function as in the past. It is hoped that a team will be registered, but it will not participate in group play. They will, however, select a team from within the house league and be eligible to play in group play-offs. This, in turn, will strengthen both the junior 'C' club and house league respectively.

The minor hockey executive has approved the junior clubs' new look and is backing the executive's efforts in continuing to provide a junior hockey program in Stouffville.

The club executive has given deep thought and much discussion to the problems arising in retaining a junior 'C' team for next season. They also realize that to be successful the team needs the wholehearted support of the community. It is to be hoped that the support will be forthcoming.

## In my opinion

By Jim Holt  
 Sports Editor



It would seem that we are to be presented with a fait accompli with regards to the new arena complex. Despite recommendations that we have two ice surfaces at the proposed site, Council has made up its mind on the matter. There will be one pad only.

The decision, according to inside information, is purely political. It matters not what we want, but rather what the powers-that-be decide is good for us.

The short-sighted decision does not take into consideration future housing development and community growth, but is based purely on present financial considerations, along, of course, with a little bit of political infighting between rural and urban council members who have their own personal axe to grind; one member wants a library at Vivian, and some bright character even suggested the second ice pad be erected in Ballantrae, but then nothing should surprise us any more.

It is obvious that initial cost considerations and political expediency - rather than long term planning - are the basis for the decision and, unfortunately, there is nothing anyone can do about it.

The decision merely reflects the inability of our elected masters to make bold, decisive decisions that could in the long run benefit us all. Instead, they have proven themselves a bunch of jelly-kneed, nervous Nellies who are afraid to commit themselves in case the citizenry get upset at spending too much money.

The extra cost of two pads would be \$800,000, but without it we shall be running two arenas for a long time to come. Imagine how much that will cost!

**Fund raising**  
 At least someone on Council has the courage to take some action over fund-raising. The "Positive Thinkers", all ladies by the way, are going ahead with their own campaign.

Council member Fran Sainsbury is one of the

organizers of the group and, according to her, it has Eldred the Unready's blessing.

The facts, as they have been relayed to me, would seem to be much nearer the truth. Eldred, so I am told, was furious when he heard about it, and gave her a right old dressing down in his office for daring to go over his head. He even suggested that perhaps she did not have enough work to do and should increase her workload in Council. Makes you wonder if we would all not be better off living in a banana republic, at least we would know who's side the dictator was on. Ah well! so much for leadership.

The sheer uncertainty as to what is going on in the mini corridors of power is infuriating a large number of people. I understand that both recreation and steering committees have come close to calling off their honeymoon with Council and, furthermore, are completely disenchanted over the whole matter of agreement as to who wants what, why and when.

Underlining everyone's concern is the fact that our so-called leaders have more or less decided what we want. Yet there has been no move to form a users' committee, something that any democratic organization would have done long ago. The sheer reluctance to set up a fund-raising committee is just another small irritation that makes me wonder if, perhaps, we should either drop the whole idea until such time as we get some elected officials who know what they are doing or, better still, move to another town.

**Good thinking**  
 It comes as somewhat of a relief to find that the minor hockey association and junior 'C' Clipper executive have got their heads together. In contrast to the chaotic thinking that seems to flourish over our new Complex, members of the executive have spent a lot of time over the last few months trying to give the fans a better deal.

## Tennis time

Bestir those winter-weary limbs and get ready for tennis.

The Ballantrae Tennis Club opens the season next Saturday with an afternoon of fun and games for all age groups and abilities.

Check your racquet and replace that can of bounce-

less balls you hung onto right up until the last game of '82, they will not "serve" you well.

The club is always on the lookout for new members, so come along and bring a friend, or two, or three. All are welcome, particularly non-members.

"Serve" time is 1 p.m., with Sunday, May 15, as the rain date.

Tennis anyone!

## New coach

Next season will see a new face on the junior 'C' Clipper bench. The appointment of Jack Watson as the new team coach might well be the turning point in the Clipper fortunes.

Jack successfully guided the juvenile hockey squad to an All Ontario win in 1976, staying with them when they moved into the junior division the following year.

His credentials are excellent, bringing with him a wealth of experience and a desire to put Stouffville back in contention within the junior 'C' circuit.

## Trojan rugger

The Town rugger team has come out of winter hibernation and is once again in training.

Under the watchful eye of coach Kevin Lewis, the Trojans will continue outdoor practice at the high school next Tuesday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m.

A Sunday evening game has been arranged for Sunday, May 29 against G.W. Williams' high school senior team, giving the visiting younger players a chance of gaining experience against a seasoned side. The game will be held at SDSS and will start at around 6 p.m.



The Referees Award, made to the player who best exemplifies good sportsmanship and the spirit of the amateur hockey league, was made to Ken Chupa (left) by Wayne Nugent. The choice is made annually by the referees society and was introduced into the awards list for the time this year.