

Sports

MIKE TOTH
Sports Editor



PCO's fit to be tied

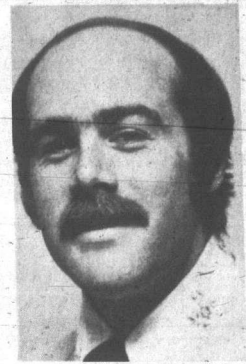
BY JOHN KERNAGHAN
Screenwriters couldn't have set the scene more aptly. Boyhood chums Larry Comeau and Wayne Copeland, coaches respectively for Mississauga PCO's and Etobicoke PCO's, the two top teams in the Junior A lacrosse circuit, see their teams fight to a 14-14 overtime draw Monday night.

The teams, with identical three win-one tie records, collide for a rematch tonight (Wednesday). Winner gets the initial toehold at the loop's pinnacle. The loser reaps little but some friendly scorn from his rival. Copeland, sports buffs may remember, was the guru who mysticized about Mississauga's road to the Minto Cup last year during the intoxication of the pre-season.

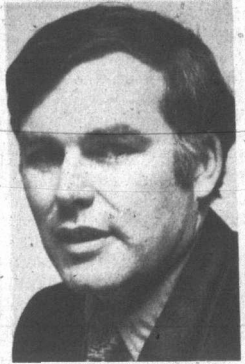
The club went nowhere, of course, and it took a mid-season managerial blow-up and the selection of Comeau to salvage a playoff contender. At the same time Copeland jettisoned for Toronto Shooting Stars, spend an uneventful half season there, and was eventually fired. He ended up directing a ban-tam squad.

So it will be a sweet moment tonight at Huron Park if he can take the league leadership in his old stomping grounds. Comeau, on the other hand, would like to preserve the perfect PCO record with a win. After an initial win versus Oshawa Green Gaels last week, Mississauga edged Rexdale Warriors 9-8 and dropped St. Catharines Legionaires 20-15 Sunday to get off to their best start in years.

The end to end contest at Etobicoke Monday produced a 12-12 deadlock at the end of 60 minutes and in the 10 minute overtime both sides counted twice. After the first frame Mississauga fell behind 4-3 but despite a second period playing mostly shorthanded rallied for an 8-7 lead.



DAVE CRICHTON



MIKE LAVELLE

EXCITING PLANS

Erindale College to build major basketball team

By MIKE TOTH

Erindale College is all set to shed its low-key approach to competitive athletics and embark on an ambitious sports program to bring Ontario Universities Athletic Association events to the Mississauga Road campus. First glance at the Erindale College athletic facelift came this week with the announcement of a major expansion in the basketball program, slated to start in the fall.

Teacher and coach Mike Lavelle and Dave Crichton, Erindale's director of athletics, are planning to begin building an OUA-calibre basketball team. The game was marred by a freak second period collision in which Legionnaire Les Bartley was rendered unconscious by a Gregg MacDonald check. Bartley was off balance when he was hit. Club officials believe he suffered a concussion.

The gala Friday night opener that attracted 1600 for lacrosse, beer and the Metro Stompers was the most auspicious sporting kickoff in memory here. PCO's won on two goals by Cross and singles by Gemmell, Gray, Tom Douglav and John Chandler. George Chandler contributed a pair as well.

Tonight's game is at 8:30 at Huron Park. NOTES: Mississauga has appointed George Chandler as head scout for the association's three entries. He will scout the minors and also report on other A teams. Chandler brought PCO's to town in 1965 when he was general manager.

University. Crichton played for him one season then moved up to help coach in 1970-71. What has, immediately become a dynamic duo, brought a last-place basketball team within two points and a few seconds of the all-Ontario championships at Windsor.

Lavelle moved to Erindale College in the summer of 1971 and for the last two seasons has been Bill Fowler's assistant coach at McMaster University in Hamilton, in addition to his work at Erindale.

Crichton, who plays a bit of competitive basketball in the Mississauga Men's League, went to Althouse at Western before joining the staff of Erindale last fall as athletic director.

His participation in undergraduate athletics at both Waterloo and Althouse has been considerable: four years of basketball and a couple of years of football in inter-collegiate competition.

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Both men feel that new facilities in the almost completed main building (scheduled for occupancy within a few weeks) will help their ambitious plans.

The new multi-purpose gym, complete with classy tartan floor and the first electronically-operated scoreboard in the province, will comfortably seat 600 spectators.

"We may be able to accommodate up to 1,000 fans if necessary," remarked Crichton. He expects "at least doubling of participation in sports programs generally." The basketball facelift is expected to be followed by a similarly ambitious football project.

Lavelle and Crichton hope that among the 2,500 students expected at the Erindale College campus this fall, there will be some avid basketball enthusiasts.

"We want to develop a tradition of excellence at Erindale and want to start with the present basketball team, keeping that aim in view," said Lavelle, a man with an established coaching reputation. "It will take a lot of hard work and dedication on the part of the players who commit themselves, but we hope to develop one of the better teams in the province of Ontario."

At the present the OUA circuit — top competitive collegiate setup in the province — consists of the universities of Windsor, Western, Waterloo, Waterloo Lutheran, Guelph, Hamilton, McMaster, York, Toronto, St. Catharines, Brock, Peterborough's Trent, Queens in Kingston, Ottawa, Carlton, Laurentian of Sudbury and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute.

"The most interesting thing about our basketball team is that we are starting fresh with a philosophy that sports can serve the students as an outstanding educational experience," commented Lavelle.

Crichton and Lavelle have worked together before. Between 1969 and 1971, Lavelle was head basketball coach and assistant football mentor at Waterloo



Rexdale goalkeeper Glen Little comes up with a big save on Mississauga PCO's George Chandler (20) during Friday night's junior A lacrosse league home opener at Huron Park Arena. Brian Ennis (7) looks on. PCO's delighted huge crowds with 9-8 victory and a beer fest. (Times photo by Ray Saitz).

It's never a joyous moment when the taxman cometh, but when he dipeth his greedy fingers into humble money pouches of shoe-string amateur sports organizations, it's as noble as taking candy from a bawling baby.

As far as Marion Coxhead, a tireless volunteer fund-raiser for a Mississauga lacrosse group, is concerned, the champion lollipop snatcher of them all is Ontario treasurer John White.

Mrs. Coxhead is upset over the "sneaky, low-down and underhanded way" in which the Scrooge of Queens Park buried in the provincial budget last month an item which puts some aspects of amateur sports organizations fund raising right behind the eight ball.

The hidden items concerns special occasion permits which organizers of dances where alcoholic beverages are consumed must obtain from the Ontario Liquor Control Board. Under the provision, organizers must cough up a special levy (an average of \$1 on a normal bottle of booze) at the time they purchase their supplies of wine, liquor and beer.

This new wrath of White is enough in itself to rob a poor amateur sports group which relies heavily on revenues from dances and sales of "fire water" for its annual operating budget.

But the real crunch is that this newly-introduced tax will not be returned on any unconsumed supplies taken back to the Liquor store for refund.

And that can hurt the pocketbook, especially if attendance at a fund-raising dance is low and the amount of left-over booze is high.

"This hidden levy was just a small item in a million words on the budget," said Mrs. Coxhead.

"It probably went in one ear and out of the other without too much notice at first." Don't be surprised to see White get a black eye over this and get the non refundable clause thrown out.

Last year the ladies auxiliary of the Lorne Park Lacrosse Association — in which Mrs. Coxhead, a mother of two boxla-happy kids, is a queen-pin — raised some \$1,700 to provide for some of the accepted necessities, such as keeping registration fees low, paying arena rentals, referees fees, expenses of a lacrosse field day.

"This year we have some 400 boys in the Lorne Park organization," said Mrs. Coxhead. "Our budget is \$2,200, but we will have to raise at least \$2,500, to pay for the hidden taxes."

On sure, they can probably raise the extra money, but as far as Mrs. Coxhead is concerned it's "the principle of it."

She has already contacted several sports organizations in an attempt to launch a united-front complaint to Queens Park.

"Every snow ball has to have the first snow flake," she says, hoping that the flake will grow into a ball and, eventually, an avalanche.

"If we get together and complain loud enough, we may even get somewhere," she says wistfully.

TOTH-SOME MORSELS — Toronto Argo assistant coach Greg Barton, who coached Jay-Hawks to the mini peewee Gray Cup of the Mississauga Football League last fall, is a featured lecturer at the Ontario Amateur Football Association's first annual coaches' clinic at the University of Guelph.

The "Hawk" will hold the centre stage of the three-day affair Saturday, May 26 with a discussion on the mechanics of quarterbacking. Naturally . . .

Atom Bombs defused

Dixie Atom Bombs failed to explode as the Mississauga Association Soccer League kicked off its hectic 1973 campaign with an opening day slate of 13 games Saturday.

A total of 26 games in atom, minor mosquito, peewee and bantam age-divisions saw action on the first day. Playing at Fleetwood Park, the Dixie atom crew simply didn't have the arsenal to equal the power of Malton Gunners and came out buried deep under a 5-1 score.

"Chief Gunner" Steve Robinson hit for three goals while Ian Brown and Andy Hay added solo tallies. Dixie's lone reply came from Robbie Cherles' shot. John Chadala accounted for two-thirds of Streetsville Rovers' scoring power in a hard-fought 3-2 conquest of West Acres. Howie Rigby had one for the winners. West Acres' retaliated through Steve Park and Jay Coutts.

St. Johnston and Cawthra Webbers settled for a scoreless stalemate. **MINOR MOSQUITO** Tom Di Marco was simply Continued on Page 13

Marie Watts electrifying effort does it

By MIKE TOTH
There they marched, the Winstonette armada, a seemingly endless trek of talented young girls from the ranks of the powerful Scarborough club who turned the 1973 Ontario gymnastic age-division tyro finals ceremonies into a purple-uniformed spectacle.

There was only one yellow jersey among the best six tyros on the victory stand, belonging to a Mississauga girl who ruined Winstonette dreams of a clean sweep of top laurels.

Blonde, pig-tailed Marie Watts, a 13-year-old AA Martin Senior Public School student displayed electrifying form to be crowned queen of the under-14 year-old division at the provincial championship finals at Toronto's Monarch Park Saturday.

"I just can't believe it," exclaimed the Mississauga gymnast. "It's so wonderful and I'm very happy."

Marie, who finished ninth in the provincial finals a year ago, earned top marks for her bars and vault routine, then added a fourth place on floor to go with a so-so effort on the beam in accumulating a triumphant total of 32.20 points, 0.30 percentage points more than runner-up Judy Wilson of Winstonettes.

"The bars marks surprised me," said Marie. "I didn't think it was my best event."

Of course, she didn't turn down the golden gift of 8.15 points. En route to the vaulting crown, she earned 8.35 points — an excellent mark, considering that nobody on the panel of sharp-eyed judges exhibited Santa Claus tendencies in the labour-and-reward stakes. Only one other girl in the field of 25 argos managed to get past the magic 8-point mark.

Marie, who credits Mississauga Gym Club's head coach and "fairy god mother" Susan Harris for her rapid rise to the top of the elite group, experienced problems only on the balance beam. But it wasn't enough to come between her and final glory.

"We wanted so much to do well that we all worked twice as hard," said Marie, explaining that the Missy contingent put in an average of seven hours each of practice a week in preparing for the task of the provincial finals.

How far for Marie Watts? "I would like to make the Olympics," she said. Maybe not the next cavalcade of amateur sports in Montreal in 1976, but the one four years later as "a gift for my 21st birthday."

The newly-crowned tyro queen and her Mississauga mates are expected to continue with their regular training sessions twice a week during the summer months — something that has not happened before, but becomes necessary to stay abreast with the ever-increasing demands of gymnastic competitions.

Mississauga had three other entries among the finalists.

Smashing McLarnon

Clarkson's Dan McLarnon smashed the county midget discus record and also won the shotput at the Peel boys high school athletic finals Monday.

McLarnon fell down and was almost disqualified for going out of the circle on his record breaking throw of 43.69 metres (143 1/2 feet) in the discus. McLarnon was the only competitor to score a double by adding the shotput crown.



The shotput, javelin and discus events were held at Port Credit Secondary School.

In the midget javelin, Baker of Cawthra Park was the winner.

Northern schools in the county dominated the junior ranks, taking all three titles.

In the senior javelin, Dave Frittenburg of Port Credit threw 46.58 metres (153 feet)

to beat Lorne Park's Gary McKibbin who was second with 149 feet. Len Brydon of Mayfield won the shotput.

The overall senior champion was Brampton Centennial's Bernie Niermann who was entered in all three events.

In the girls competition Cheryl Gregory of Lorne Park set the only county record. She threw the discus 29.50 metres (almost 97 feet) in the senior competition. The old record was 28.89 metres.

The three field events were held Monday at Port Credit rather than at the CNE yesterday with the rest of the Peel athletic finals because the Toronto stadium wanted \$200 to set up the competition areas for those events. Peel officials considered the charge exorbitant.

Port Credit senior runner Diane Sheridan was a three-event winner at the Peel eastern girls track meet. For results, see page 16.

The argo division had 27 qualifiers. The provincial finals were limited to the most successful gymnasts of two previous preliminary sessions.

The younger argo age division (12 years and under) saw Trudy MacNeill (fifth on vault) and Karen Bollinger representing the club. Trudy accumulated 28.95 points, 0.30 ahead of team-mate Helen Gschwendtner and

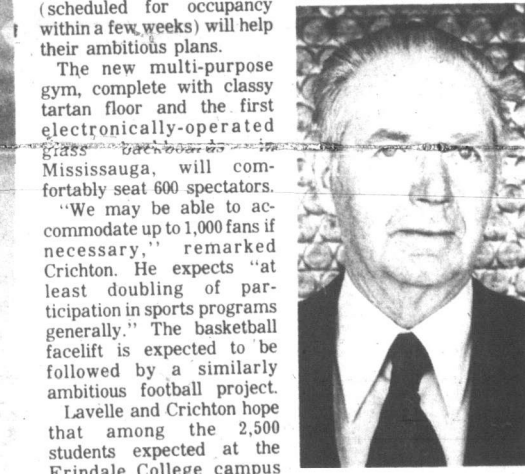
Karen Bollinger, but well behind Ottawa winner Sandra Parmelee's 33.05.

Mississauga gymnast Marie Watts show faultless form on bars. (Times photo by Ray Saitz).

Nancy Norris earned a bronze medal on the beam with a solid 8.35-point effort, adding a fifth-place ribbon on vault (7.60). In the overall stakes, she finished a close seventh, missing the last rank of the victory stand by a fraction.

Brenda Bollinger showed promise.

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Calling it quits

Leonard Bluet, a familiar figure around the Mississauga Golf and Country Club for the past 27 years, has called it quits.

Familiarly known to at least two generations of golf buffs as "Bill", the 70-year-old Bluet, superintendent of ground and buildings, has officially retired on April 30.

A certified golf course superintendent, Bluet was responsible for getting the famous Mississauga course "green shape" for Canadian Opens in 1951 and 1965.

During the long service he had seen the most colourful figures of the golf world come and go, earning the respect of such glittering stars as Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Sam Snead, Julius Boros, Stan Leonard and George Knudson.

A member of the board of directors for the Ontario Golf Course Superintendents Association, Bluet also held the president's position at one time.

As a fitting tribute for contributing "so much to golf", Mississauga held a testimonial dinner for the man who joined the club April 1, 1946.

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