

SPORTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2002

Pee wee soccer coach quits in 'utter disgust'

'[Kids] sucked really, really bad'

By JIM JIMBERSON

In a move shocking the sports world over, Newmarket Jackhammers' pee wee soccer coach John Roberts quit in a state of "utter disgust" yesterday.

Roberts, who had been coaching the team for three years, said he'd been planning the move for a number of months. Parents are quickly coming together in hopes of hiring a new person for the position.

"I mean, they just sucked really, really bad. The entire team would just chase the ball around the field like a swarm of bees, except they can't sting like bees can," explained Roberts, waving his arms to demonstrate how a bee stings.

Due to age restrictions of 12 years old, the lineup for pee wee soccer changes every year, as kids have their birthdays, and, for the most part, turn 13. Last year, Roberts led the Hammers to a county championship and with this year's line-up performing far below par, things got ugly, to say the least.

Parent Nancy McDonald said she had been questioning Roberts' coaching abilities since the second game of the year.

"One day, during half-time, he made the kids chant, 'We are truly horrible and not worth

playing for Coach Roberts,' before he allowed them to eat their orange slices.

"Oranges are a long-standing tradition in soccer, and these kids needed their vitamins," said MacDonald.

Newmarket Minor Soccer Association Commissioner, Gary Schott, made a press release yesterday afternoon in an attempt to calm public concern.

"We're doing all we can to ratify this situation. These kids, even if they're terrible, need good coaching," Schott stated.

Several of the 'Hammers' players were available for comment.

"He's a mean ka-ka head, and I don't think I like him anymore. He's my ex-favorite soccer coach," stated Billy Thomas.

Pausing, he added, "Can I have some ice cream now?"

With the departure of Roberts, team captain Ted Kunnell seemed next in line for the position.

"I guess I'm the coach now, and I'll beat up any of the kids who tell on me," exclaimed Kunnell before being slapped, bare-bottom, by his mother Deborah. Kunnell then proceeded to cry.

Coach Roberts was seen packing luggage into his 87 Pinto hatchback late last night.

When approached by *Post* reporters he screeched, "I'm so mad I could spit," before storming off in his car, tires squealing.

Hey kids! Colour the soccer bear!



EXTREME CURLING STARTS SEASON

EXPLOSIONS TO BE COMMON

New sport to attract new fans, nuts

By HARRY SCOTT

Thanks to both the Winter Olympics and the success of Canadian movie *Men With Brooms*, there has been a resurgence in popularity in curling. Yet the sport is still perceived as slow-moving and

even slightly dull by many people, which has resulted in the creation of the Extreme Curling League.

The League's inaugural season is just about to start, with twelve teams located from one side of Canada to the other. Franchises include the Moncton Maniacs, the Halifax Hooligans, the Toronto Trash and the Vancouver Vandals. But this isn't your parent's curling, as the League's creator Doug McMaple explains.

"We decided to make the sport a lot more exciting and, dare I

say it - extreme," elaborated McMaple. "After all, any sport would be better with explosions."

The explosions he talks of are one of the integral parts of the new rules. Every rock used in the league has been fitted with a device that monitors the speed at which it is thrown. If that speed is below ten kilometres per hour, the rock will explode.

"I got the idea from watching *Speed* with that hunky Keanu Reeves," stated McMaple. "It makes sure that the action is always fast-paced."

However, the explosions don't stop there, as the ice has four landmines embedded into it and as the curlers move around, there's a chance they might set them off.

"Don't worry though, because the mines are very low power -

just enough to blow them off their feet," reassured McMaple. "They also leave a nice big crater in the ice that the players must maneuver around for the remaining ends."

Other amendments to the rules now allow for trash-talking and heckling of the opposition. As well, the broom can now be used as an offensive weapon.

Not surprisingly, some people are unhappy with the new direction the sport has taken.

"It makes a mockery of curling's heritage and it just isn't right," said one old guy with a grumpy look on his face.

Nevertheless, the groundswell of interest in the new venture has meant that it looks like its success is merely a formality and the Extreme Curling League will be with us for some time to come.

Scooters will never be cool: study

WE MEAN THE LITTLE ONES

Bullies now conduct studies in coolness

By JIM JIMBERSON

Studies performed by the National Institute of Cool Enjoyment (NICE) have released a report confirming what many have long suspected: scooters will never be cool.

The scooters, which blew up on the spot several years ago, have been a hit for people of all ages. The small, metallic vehicles are in an entirely different league than motorized scooters of old, such as the vespa scooter.

NICE Chief Joe Shoemaker made the clear distinction of motorized scooters (which are sat upon and are able to go to speeds reaching 150 km/h) and the scooters in the study, which weigh about 30 pounds and are pushed.

"The motorized ones have long since been known to be extremely cool, these other ones, however, suck," explained Shoemaker in a strong British accent.

The study came to an end last week after seven months spent researching the lifestyles of those who "scoot."

"Most of them were the same kids whose asses I kicked a lot in elementary school. Once a loser, always a loser," noted Shoemaker.

Lately Shoemaker has noticed

the scooter community is trying to beefen up its image with sports such as xtreme scooting, which Shoemaker feels "still blows." Xtreme scooting involves scooterers riding down steep terrain and jumping up on curbs and such.

In skateparks all across the nation, scooterers have been seen scooting in pools and up halfpipe walls. Shoemaker said they often, "Just ride over stuff, they don't even jump."

"These dudes are always trying to look cool, which in fact is pretty uncool. They just don't get it," said Shoemaker, whose little brother got a scooter for his birthday last year.

There has been discussion within NICE about how the scooter could become cool.

"Well, they could take the handle bar off, make them have four wheels, and a nose and tail, but then they would just have a skateboard," noted Joe.

NICE, which has been in operation since 1997, is based out of the Regent Mall in Fredericton. Their office in the food court is composed of about a dozen members who come in throughout the day. Shoemaker gained the presidential position after he beat someone up outside, making him the coolest person in the mall.

Also on the list of things which will never be cool are: Dungeons and Dragons, modem Internet connections, rollerblades, and parents, who, "Just don't understand."



Prime Minister Jean Chretien, showing off during a recent business trip.

Extreme
Curling
live
in
action



Shame of the media hit it big, each other

By STEFAN ROBAKTOSHORE

Ever dream of your childhood pop culture stars doing battle in the ring? Sure you have!

FOX's newest hit series, *Celebrity Boxing*, will allow you to relive those dreams, as fallen stars will again compete for the limelight.

That's right: Vanilla Ice, Willis from *Diff'rent Strokes*, Paula Jones, Tonya Harding, Greg Brady and Danny Partridge have gone blows with each other and FOX, home of embarrassments like *Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire* and any other TV special they do. The question is, will season two be around the corner?

If the answer is yes, there are plenty of celebrities who want to join, simply because they need to eat.

Word on the street is that Corey Haim and Corey Feldman will do battle in a fight that seems pretty equal. One fight/nostalgia expert/complete loser commented: "Both Coreys have shown equal talent. There can be no real winner in this fight, for everyone shall lose."

Another highly anticipated fight is the Bill Pullman/Bill Paxton fight, which may prove the long held theory that they are in fact two different people. Also expect a battle between director Joel "the Goat" Schumacher (*Batman and Robin*) and screenwriter Joe "Hideous man-beast" Eszterhas (*Showgirls*), both of whom have made audiences physically and mentally uncomfortable for years. Many hope this battle will finally destroy both of them for good.