

Thought Of The Week
By Ted Ecclestone

As for doing good, that is one of the professions which are full.



Henry David Thoreau
Walden (1854). I. Economy

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Equal Billing - Part III First rehearsal - getting into it!

By Constance Scrafield-Danby
Freelance Contributor

It was Friday, November 6, 2009, at 9:45 a.m. The rehearsal hall was a combination of business and comfort. There was a fair-sized table with lots of chairs around it. Off to the side, were a couch and a couple of comfortable chairs.

There were a bowl of fruit, a kettle, a jar of coffee, a box or two of tea, a basin of sugar, some cups. A tin of cookies. In the small refrigerator was milk, somebody's yogurt, odds and ends that need to be kept cool. Soon, some elements of lunches will be installed in the refrigerator, with the owners' name carefully noted in ink on the outside of the packages.

On the floor, more or less in the centre of the room, were lines laid out in tape, marking spaces and obstacles. There was another, smaller table with

chairs around it in the midst of the lines.

Along one wall were desks, already beginning to collect paper piles, their chairs standing in readiness behind them. Here and there was equipment of various sorts that will deal with sound and mysteries. All told, the room struck the right balance between a work place and, almost, a home from home.

David Naim sat at the larger table, reading through the script of Theatre Orangeville's upcoming play for the Yule season, A Christmas Story. His thoughts were so intense that he nodded his head as they occurred. Every moment or so, he wrote notes in pencil on a page, excited by the inspiration that birthed them.

Kate Brown, the stage manager, walked the taped lines with a clipboard on which were lists she checked frequently as she inspected the lines.

The door opened and the actors began to arrive. It is one of the laws of the theatre to arrive on time. Only real disaster can be offered as a reason for tardiness. They came in, chatting and laughing with each other. They greeted David and Kate with

enthusiasm, chiding in jest, kidding.

There is a place for them to hang their coats. The adults gave the children a hand with the hangers. They assembled around the table, with some giggling. Susie Burnet cracked a joke with

one of the children and there was a brief moment of hilarity.

Although she was standing behind them, they both knew Kate was looking at her watch. Kate is a stickler for time. Every minute counts. It is quite likely she knows

how many minutes are left until the moment of the first line of opening night. This is one of her many important virtues as Stage Manager.

However, for this first true read through of the script, with all the actors, young and old, participat-

ing, there were a great many other people invited and expected.

The flesh and bones of the production: the people back stage, not just the light and sound techies, but the costume, set and props designers, the publicists, the box office crew — everyone who has anything to do with the finished product of the stage presentation of A Christmas Story attended this morning.

Because of the children taking part, their parents were also invited to sit in on the first reading in the morning half the day's work. So, all those people had come on time too, filtering into the hall, perhaps a little less boisterous, but still packing the atmosphere with their excitement about being involved.

They were all there to hear the whole story of the play revealed. Thus informed, they are able to talk about it — up to a

point and without revealing the whole plot. The box office staff can outline the play to callers thinking about buying tickets; the parents can enthuse to everyone they know. The designers make final decisions about how all the characters should look. Each person gets a better grip on the play in order to do his/her job of preparing it or selling it easier.

It was clear from the outset, as David called the entire company to order, that he intended to treat all the actors on the same level, as he had said he would. After the preliminary introductions, each person taking it in turn to tell his/her name and connection with the production, David briefed them on the format the morning would take.

They began to read through the script, each of them reading his/her lines, laughing with the jokes, testing early reactions to

•Continued pg B2



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Muskies derail 81's then down 'Hawks

By MIKE MALONEY
Sports Editor

The Shelburne Muskies are well on their way in proving they are the team to beat this season, posting back-to-back wins in Palmerston on Saturday night and again Sunday afternoon in Port Elgin.

Heading into Palmerston on Saturday night, the Fish were looking to extend their record to 3-0 with a win over the 81's before heading off to meet the Winterhawks the next afternoon.

Wasting no time,

Derek Smith pulled a loose puck from a scramble at the side of Palmerston's goal and laced it between the post and 81's starting goalie Scott Walls to open the scoring less than two minutes into the game.

Palmerston wasn't long in getting that one back, however, catching the Fish out of position on a bad line change.

It allowed Kevin Beimes to race in down the left side, take a pass from Scott Cook and snap one to the wide side that Shelburne cager Rob Senay stood

no chance in stopping.

Keeping on the pressure, the Muskies again found the range, this time with Luke Downey doing the honours. He made a pass from the side of the net which ended up deflecting off the goalie and into the net at the four-minute mark.

Second effort on the part of Sean Connor broke up a Palmerston clearing attempt to keep the puck in the 81's zone 62 seconds later with Connor dumping the puck onto the stick of Sean Thompson who back handed one up and over Walls to make it 3-

1 for Shelburne.

Muskies netminders Senay and Mike Tardiff currently lead the league in both goals against and save percentages and Senay proved why he is up there by robbing a Palmerston shooter on a shorthanded breakaway late in the period.

Skating even through the balance of two, Kevin Tuckey teamed up with Smith to set up Zac Duerden for his first goal of the game before Duerden set up Warren Sly, who cranked a laser trough traffic from the blueline to make it 5-1 to end the second period.

Despite giving up two more goals to the 81's in the third, Shelburne continued to press Palmerston at every opportunity and were rewarded with four more goals for their efforts.

Chris Greer lead the third period assault for

Shelburne with a pair back to back at 17:57 and 12:31.

Matt Louheed would add his second of the season, a power-play marker at 10:21, before Zac Duerden wrapped up the scoring with his second of the night to seal off the scoresheet at 9-3 in favour of Shelburne.

Sunday, it was on the bus west to Port Elgin for the long awaited rematch of last years Northern Division finalists.

Both sides took to the ice with depleted line-ups and penalties only exacerbated the situation for Saugeen, who found themselves falling victim to the Muskies power-play on a goal by Tuckey from Jeff Birr and Josh Duerden at 8:40 of the first period.

Through the second, both teams looked like they would only trade

•Continued pg B2



ODSS BEARS opened their 2009-10 campaign in style on Tuesday afternoon. Playing host to the JF Ross Celtics, Orangeville controlled the game from start to finish, shutting out Ross 3-0 in District 4/10 Boys hockey action at the Tony Rose Memorial Sport Complex. Photo/MIKE MALONEY



Photo/MIKE MALONEY

UP IN THE AIR. The indoor soccer season is officially underway for teams of the Orangeville Storm Soccer. On Sunday evening, TJ'S was unable to hold off a determined Boston Pizza squad, falling 2-0 in Women's Division league play.

Crushers halt slide, edge Dixie 2-1

Orangeville Crushers finally had a little sweetness injected into the sting of a four game slide, edging the Dixie Beehives in Etobicoke on Sunday night 2-1 in Central Canadian Hockey League action.

It had been a rough haul for the Crushers over the last two weeks. After giving up a heart-breaker to St Michaels in a shootout the week before, Orangeville had been looking for a strong showing against league leading Newmarket to lift back into the win column on the road last Thursday night.

Coming on like gangbusters from the

opening draw, the Crushers outshot the Hurricanes almost 2-1 through the entire game but the league's leading goaltender, Jimmy Sarjent, was up to the challenge for Newmarket as he turned away 42 of 43 shots unleashed by the Crushers.

Orangeville's lone goal came in the second period, scored by Beni Berisha, with assists from Daniel Percukljevic and Nick Quinn, while Newmarket would tally for two in the first and three in the third to give them a 5-1 win for the record books.

Looking to stop the

skid at home Friday night, Orangeville played host to the Toronto Junior Canadiens.

Coming out flat in

the first proved costly for the Crushers, who found themselves up against a determined Canadiens squad that made the most of its

first period chances by putting two past Talon Dorazio, who was making his first start in net before the hometown

•Continued pg B2

Mono Nordic Open House

The Mono Nordic Ski Club will be marking the approaching anniversary of their 25th year of operation with an Open House and Registration Day this Sunday, November 15th at their Monora Park facility.

Among the featured activities will be a myriad of kids activities, as well as a pro shop and a ski swap where used

equipment can be sold or exchanged.

In addition Mono Nordic is offering a reduced membership rate for Town of Mono residents. This year the rates will drop from \$35 for individuals and \$70 for families for non-resident members to \$28 for individuals and \$56 for families (a 20-percent reduction) for Mono residents.

Joanne Bleasdale, President of Mono Nordic Ski Club notes, "Mono residents have been very supportive of this club", adding, "as such, we feel they should be able to benefit from lower rates as the club continues to grow."

Mono Nordic offers over 14km of groomed trails. The facility

•Continued pg B2

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