

# The Snapshot

## South Shore Women's Hockey

### National Tournament Faces Controversy—

*A petition to be passed around league*

**"A** debacle" is how those who know describe last year's nationals. Apparently other states--such as Michigan--sent teams to the Senior B level that actually belonged as A teams. In the end two South Shore teams (Hobomock and Nighthawks A) ended up playing each other for the A championship while Massachusetts' legitimate B teams (Springfield) faced A level competition.

Carl Gray, the coach for the Assabet A team and 5th Vice President for USA Hockey, said USA hockey has come up with the *Parziale Solution*, named after its inventor. The idea attempts to keep such unfair tactics from happening in the future but in essence keeps legitimate B teams from participating.

Gray said that Massachusetts will probably be able to send only one team to the Nationals. There they will play in a round-robin style tournament. Their success in that round-robin will determine if the team plays for the A or B title.

Since Massachusetts can only send one team it has discouraged the state's legitimate B teams from participating in the states. Teams like Quincy, for example, would have a very difficult time unseating a Hobomock or the Nighthawks to represent the state.

At November's state meeting with Registrar Al Martin it was decided that the state would run an A and B tournament anyway. The winner of the A side would then play the winner of the B side. However, Nighthawk coach Nick Cardinale expressed concern at that meeting that Massachusetts might inadvertently do what other states seemed to have done purposefully--send a non A level team to the nationals. "What if the A team has one bad game and loses?" he proposed. He felt that if the state can only send one team they should send their best.

The meeting then considered having the winner of the A play the winner of the B in a game that would have no meaning. Even if by some outside chance the B team beat the A team, A will still go to the tournament. The B team would have no chance to participate in the Nationals.

Because Massachusetts does have legitimate A and B level competition Cardinale composed a letter to USA hockey protesting the *Parziale Solution*. The South Shore League voted to back the letter at December's meeting. To give the letter more impact Cardinale said a petition will be passed around the league in the next couple of weeks for players to sign.

### Marlboro Pro Shop Opens Dec. 26

By Val Hamton

**O**n December 26 players will be able to get their skates sharpened at the rink. The Pro Shop will be opened on a limited basis for skate work and supply goods such as sticks and tape. Wes Tuttle, New England Sports Center's General Manager said. The second floor, which has a concession stand and a viewing area into all four rinks, will also open that day.

A one-hundred plus seat restaurant is due to open by the All-Star game in January. Also expect to see a national donut chain opening up inside the building. "We are negotiating with two big name shops," Tuttle said. "Everything you find in a donut shop will be available here."

Coming in mid-February there will be a fitness center, complete with a dance and aerobic studio. Just outside the fitness center will be pool tables, air hockey and Ping-Pong tables.

The last rink to open will have seating for over 1500. It will be the official practice rink for the Worcester Ice Cats. "We are negotiating with four pro teams to hold their training camps here," Tuttle said. "In the near future we will be hosting the Special Olympics."

Teams will also have another interesting feature available to them at the new rink. On the way to the locker rooms players can stop at the vending machines and buy black or white tape for about two bucks.

On Back

- 1 Hornets "Sting"
- 2 Division News

## Hornets Like to Sting Seniors

Coach Barbara Doran said the thing her midgets like best about playing in the South Shore League is, "beating the older women. They are really psyched about that."

The Hornets were a traveling Pee Wee team last year. But some of Doran's skaters were moving in on their 16th birthday; too old to skate for a Pee Wee team. "So that's when I decided to start a Midget team," Doran said. "And there was so much interest that we have two teams." The Pee Wee team is still together but they are now coached by Terry Mansfield of Quincy and Robin Duffy of

**"The parents were really apprehensive. So was I."  
-Coach Barbara Doran on Hornets move to the South Shore League**

Springfield.

The midget team kept the Hornets name because,

"The kids can keep their old jackets," Doran said.

Playing with a regular schedule in the South Shore League is very different from traveling miles to play as the kids did last year. Doran said the driving parents were happy about that. But their daughters would be playing with older and more experienced players which made some of them nervous.

"The parents were really apprehensive. So was I," she said. But after their strong showing at the end of the first round everybody became more confident.

Whether they win or lose Doran said the girls enjoy the recognition they get from the older players. "At the end of the game they always say, 'good game,' or 'great positioning.'"

Last round they beat Randolph 4-1. In the first game of the second round the youthful Hornets beat older Boston 2-0. Doran said she owes some of her success to her goaltending. 14-year-old Jennifer Huggan is a very successful forward for the Pee Wee team and a fantastic goalie for the midgets. Doran also has sixteen-year-old Nina Lynch. Lynch splits her time in net between the midgets and a prep-school.

"We're doing great," Doran said. "We have a 4-3-2 record. And if you look at how the divisions were made we have the best record in the Bronze." Doran said her players are very excited to be playing in the league.

That's because they know if they can keep "stinging" the older women they'll get the Bronze trophy at the end of the year.

### The Snapshot

Designed to give a "Snapshot" of South Shore Women's Hockey.

Editor: Tanya Willow  
24 Spruce Tree Lane  
Norton, MA 02766-1035  
508-226-8966  
Contributing Writer:  
Val Hamton

## Teams Find Gold Tough as Brass

Mass Bay was the last team to make the grade in the Gold Division. They have one win over top seated Chelmsford of the Silver Division. And, in their first game of this second round, Mass Bay lost to Assabet A 5-0.

"We were solid for two and a half periods," Mass Bay coach Allen Pecararo said. "But we have mental breakdowns," he said, "and in the upper division they capitalize on it." He sighted the defense pinching the boards at the wrong time as an example of the team making mental errors that cost. "We have positional breakdowns. We'll play like a team for three shifts in a row and then we'll have a let down."

Last year Pecararo said his team made a real run in the Gold Division. "We got second place," he said. But this year he said they haven't come together as a team.

"People miss practices and the lines aren't together," Pecararo said, making a common coach's complaint. His team will have an opportunity to redeem themselves this week. They have a second chance to take on Assabet, only this week it will be the midget version.

Mass Bay is not the only formally successful team having trouble this year with the difficult competition in the Gold Division.

Needham has had problems as well. Their record as of December 4 was 4-4-1. They lost to the Nighthawks last week 6-0 dropping them below .500.

Springfield tumbled down hard to the Silver Division with a 0-9-0 record in the Gold. Though Springfield once viewed themselves as a "struggling" Gold team, coach David Baker warned his troops not to take the Silver Division lightly.

Springfield skated to a 0-0 tie with the Rhode Island Seniors in last week's opening game in Round Two. But the Seniors, like many of the teams that did well in the Silver Division last year, is only doing moderately well so far this year. They ended Round One with a 5-2-2 record which just barely placed them in the Silver Division.

Baker said this week's game against Quincy may be a greater challenge. Quincy ended Round One with a 6-2-1 record. "We have just got to start putting the puck in the net," Baker said of his team that has only managed to score 10 goals this year. Though he feels his defense has improved he said his team cannot win without scoring goals.

### Canton Rink January 1, 1995

4:50 PM R.I Seniors	V. Nighthawks B
6:00 PM R I Midgets	V. Boston
7:10 PM Asabet M	V. Nighthawks A
8:20 PM Quincy	V. Chelmsford

### Marlboro Rink

1:00 PM Stoneham B	V. Springfield
2:10 PM Asabet A	V. Needham
3:30 PM South Shore	V. Randolph
4:30 PM Mass Bay	V. North Shore
5:40 PM Framingham	V. Storm