

## Bruins claim first with an exclamation mark **THE POLICE BEAT**

by Roger Varley

It was not the nail-biter the fans had expected.

When the Uxbridge Bruins faced the Lakefield Chiefs at the arena last Friday, first place in the OHA Jr. C Central Division was on the line: only two points separated the Bruins from their Ottonabee River rivals.

At the end of the game, it was apparent no nail-biting was necessary as the Bruins thumped the Chiefs 8-2 to nail down the regular season title.

As the game began, the Bruins appeared a little slow to get started. The Chiefs jumped on an early mistake by the defence, intercepting a slow cross-ice pass in front of goalie Brandon Francey and scoring the first goal of the game. But in the second half of the period, the Bruins pressed much harder, gaining several good scoring chances. Tim Bierema evened the score in the closing minutes when he tipped in a pass from Corey Brand. Marco Mastrangelo recorded the other assist.

Early in the second period, Joey Vocino put the Bruins ahead with a power-play goal, assisted by defencemen Andrew Liboiron and Callum Lynch. Almost 10 minutes later, Vocino scored again, this time assisted by Jarrett Smith and Michael Spataro. It was a small but important play by Vocino that led to the Bruins third goal 24 seconds later. Vocino body-checked a Lakefield player in the corner to the right of the Chiefs' net, freeing up the puck for Jarrett Smith, who passed to Matt Allen for the score.

Lakefield scored a couple of minutes later with a long, high shot that beat Francey cleanly. But Francey redeemed himself just before the buzzer with a great save on a Lakefield three-on-one rush.

With Bierema serving a four-minute penalty for spearing at the start of the third, the Bruins killed the penalty excellently, with Mastrangelo having two good scoring chances. Then the roof fell in on the Chiefs. Steve Douitsis made the score 5-2, assisted by Keegan Cairns and Lynch, followed seconds later by Allen's second of the night, once again assisted by Jarrett Smith and Vocino. A minute-and-half later, Patrick Morgan scored an unassisted marker after stealing the puck off a Lakefield

defender's stick right in front of the Chiefs' net. With just under six minutes left in the third period, Lynch took advantage of Lakefield having two men in the penalty box to make the score 8-2, assisted by Morgan.

The Bruins and the Chiefs now have to stay sharp and focused while waiting for the first round of the playoffs to play out. The Clarington Eagles visit the Georgina Ice tomorrow night and Port Perry MoJacks travel to Little Britain to face the Merchants on Saturday. Both series are best-of-five affairs and are slated to end Feb. 17 if they go the distance. At this writing, it is not known whether the Bruins will face the winner of the Eagles-Ice match-up or the Merchants-MoJacks series.

**Bruins pause:** Defenceman Justin Bean (see photo below by Peter Ovens) was awarded the Percy Macklin Memorial Trophy by League Convenor Liz Bassinger at the arena Friday after being named the Central Division's Rookie of the Year. Bean was the third highest scoring Bruin during the season - and 12th overall in the league - with eight goals and 24 assists for 32 points.

Almost 400 people were on hand to watch Friday's game, one of the biggest crowds of the year.



### OLD MILITARY BOMB FOUND IN UXBRIDGE SHED

While cleaning out a rented residence near Zephyr on Saturday, January 26, workers found what they believed to be a percussion bomb along with other military paraphernalia. The workers were not immediately concerned and placed the old military shell in a car with the other items. When the tenant arrived back at the home yesterday, he immediately called 911.

As a safety precaution, officers created a perimeter on Hollingers Road and stayed at the top of the home's long driveway. Canadian Forces specialists were called in for safe removal and disposal.

If you find a suspicious item that you believe to be an explosive, do not handle the item and call police immediately for assistance.

### K-9 TRACKS ASSAULT SUSPECT THROUGH SUB ZERO TEMPERATURES

A 25-year-old Uxbridge man was tracked seven kilometers in sub zero temperatures and arrested by a K-9 unit after fleeing the scene of a domestic assault incident.

On Sunday February 3 at approximately 4 a.m. North Division officers responded to a domestic-related assault incident at a residence on the York Durham Line. Police received a 911 call from the female victim who sustained minor injuries and received immediate medical attention. No weapons were involved. Officers arrived to the residence where several other persons were in attendance, but the suspect had fled the scene on foot.

A K-9 unit assisted patrol officers with the search for the suspect and tracked over seven kilometers, in sub zero temperatures, of forested terrain, along railway tracks and through a gravel pit to Highway 47 to where the accused was located. The accused sustained a minor bite wound from the K-9 unit upon arrest and was transported to a local hospital for medical treatment.

A 25-year-old Uxbridge male is charged with Assault and was held for a bail hearing.

## Best-selling thriller writer hits Uxbridge

by Shelagh Damus

Blue Heron Books has a healthy tradition of bringing authors to town just as they are about to break into the big leagues, or just after they have taken home one of the top literary prizes in the country or internationally. Timing is everything and this time Blue Heron Books has conspired to bring James Rollins to the Blue Heron Studio on Sunday, February 10th, just as his new novel, *The Blood Gospel*, has landed on the *Globe and Mail's* Bestseller's List. Rollins is a high-octane thriller writer in the same league as James Patterson, Tom Clancy, and Michael Crichton, to name a few. This is one of only two stops James Rollins is making in Canada!

Rollins' Sigma Force series has been deemed a "top crowd pleaser" by the *New York Times*. He is an imaginative and original author that navigates his high speed adventures and scientific plot twists accurately and convincingly. Historical locations and events are interwoven with technological advancements to create situations that both challenge the protagonist physically as well as morally. His novels, whether part of a series or stand alone books, are the

definition of page-turning, can't-put-it-down, won't-put-out-the-light, need-to-know-how-it-ends writing. Author and radio personality, Ted Barris will be on hand to interview Rollins' and lead the question and answer session.

The event is a coming together of a great author with a great cause. Uxbridge resident, Catherine Walker is part of a grassroots organization of "grateful grannies who want to make life better for African grandmothers who are raising a generation of AIDS orphans." The G-Moms as they are known raise funds to respond to the ongoing and growing crisis of African grandmothers.

"We not only raise funds but raise awareness about the situation in Africa," says Catherine Walker.

All money raised "goes straight to the Stephen Lewis Foundation (S.L.F.)" which now includes over 250 Grandmothers to Grandmothers fundraising chapters. As part of the S.L.F. the funds raised by the G-Moms supports both the immediate needs of African grandmothers including food, school fees, uniforms, health care, etc. -- and longer-term needs such as parenting and business skills, micro-credit

grants, bereavement counseling, HIV awareness training, counseling and testing and grandmother support groups.

The choice of Ted Barris as interviewer pleases Walker who says he is "one of the most precious resources that Uxbridge has." Shelley Macbeth of Blue Heron Books couldn't agree more. "Ted's unfailing enthusiasm for his town and everything he holds dear in it - the arts, sports, politics - makes him the most underappreciated arts patron/volunteer/advocate in this town."

There is moral compass alive in all of us. A guiding force that says we need to do something about the loss and devastation in Africa. The lesson the G-Moms have for us is that it doesn't have to be something big, and it can be something fun. By hosting events that are enjoyable we can continue to raise awareness, as well as funds to support the cause. This event provides the opportunity to stock up on a great novel, engage in an interesting dialogue, commune with like-minded individuals all the while offering monetary support to a very worthy cause.

Rollins will be in the Blue Heron Studio, Sun. February 10th at

10:00am. Tickets for the event are \$30 and include a \$15 voucher for a James Rollins book, refreshments at the event and a donation to the G-Mom's of Port Perry. Tickets are available at Blue Heron Books, 62 Brock St. W., Uxbridge, 905-852-4282.

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