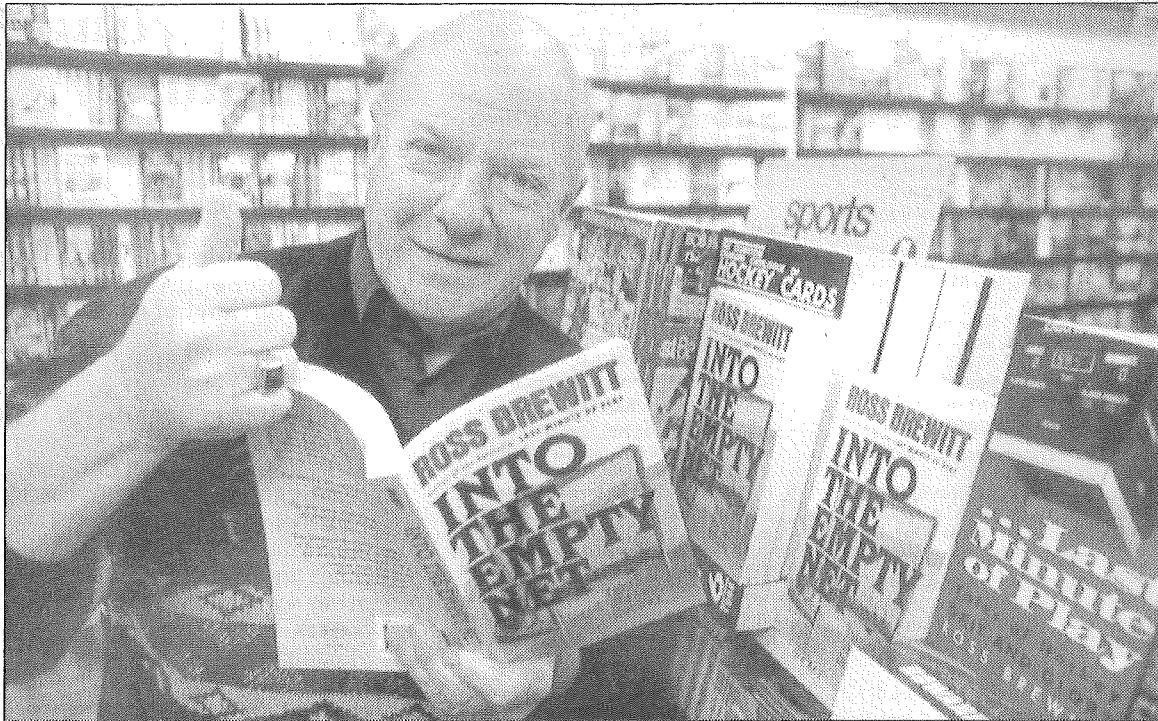


PEEL BIOGRAPHY: BREWITT: ROSS

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Staff photo by Fred Loek

With the help of hockey legends, Mississauga author Ross Brewitt recently held a book launch at Tom Alley's Boot Bar and Grill to promote his latest book, *Into The Empty Net*, an up-close look at hockey greats. Here Brewitt admires the finished product at a local book store.

# Brewitt's book a real winner

By IRENE GENTLE  
Special

Mississauga's Ross Brewitt may have never fired a single shot at the net in the hockey big leagues, but he's sure scoring big with his third and latest hockey book, *Into The Empty Net*.

"My second book was a bestseller in six weeks and this one went best-seller in five weeks. I wish I knew what I was doing right, but it must be something," said the jocular Brewitt, who began his hockey career as a coach and quickly moved into the business end of the sport.

Not that Brewitt is completely in the dark about the reasons for his

said Brewitt. "I've always been able to walk the line between the management side and the players' side, and I don't know why."

One reason might be the obvious admiration Brewitt holds for his famous subjects.

"I like their hardiness. I like that they're resilient. It's like they say 'Hey, that check hurt and I wasn't feeling so good, but I feel OK now.' They expect to get hit and hurt. They expect it as part of the job," said Brewitt, who manages to make the players sound heroic and glamorous even as he attempts to downsize them to the status of mere mortals.

"They face all this adversity and

they face it with a sense of humor. The players know when they talk to me that I'm a writer, but they also know that when they go a little too far that I won't get them in trouble. They feel comfortable with me," he said.

At least one who repaid that feeling of comfort with personal anecdotes for the book was Dennis Hull.

"I think what he's doing is great," said a cheerful Hull, stationed at the bar of Tom Alleys when not occupied with signing books. "I loved the first book and I wasn't even in it. I think it's because he writes exactly the way things are. He (Ross) knows how the guys feel.

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