

Pounding the Sports Beat



CHANCES of Acton being represented soon by an intermediate hockey team may not be so dim after all.

Observers who have been watching the Industrial League all start—a fancy handle for players from the Tuesday scrims—imagine in their exhibitions with Erin Intermediate have been impressed. Although they've been beaten on both occasions the All Stars, with finish around the net, could easily have skated off with a win in the last meeting.

Bob Marshall, who's been directing the club from the bench, declares that with some conditioning the All Stars could take Erin every time.

What's so special about that? Nothing, if you discount the fact that Erin, along with Vergara, finished on top of their Western Ontario Intermediate circuit.

WITH DON GREEN in goal and the present players, who include veteran Ben Bayliss on defense, Bob Marshall declares the Acton club would not be out of place in an intermediate league of this calibre.

It's too late to file an entry this year but the fellows on the club feel they'd like to enter in the league next season. Some of the clubs in the group have artificial ice facilities and the league gets off to an early start. Like Acton minor teams, the All Stars would have to buy ice time out of town early in the season.

Certainly the calibre of the hockey is not on a par with play in the C.O.H.L., which includes our nearest neighbors, Milton and Georgetown. However, there's a difference in league policy.

Most of the hockey players in the Western Ontario circuit are "home grown". The C.O.H.L. is riddled with high priced imports.

IF ACTON is to be represented again in the intermediate puck wars it probably will be forced to rely on homers. And what's the matter with that?

In 1959 thisburgh, in a much smaller town than, won the O.H.A. Intermediate B crown with a team of homers. Not many clubs in this neck of the woods have equalled that feat. Georgetown has won the title several times but only with imported players playing their own roles.

An intermediate team here

would get plenty of support from the fans. This was always a good hockey town. It must still be a hotbed of enthusiasm. We can't ignore the TV games beamed in this direction.

Fans here will endorse any real attempt to get intermediate hockey functioning here again. Perhaps an executive formed this season to look after next year's possibilities will fill a big vacancy in the Acton sports scene.

A COLLECTIVE sliver went down the necks of the populace of Guelph last week. New York Rangers, battling for an N.H.L. playoff spot, called up three players from their farm, Guelph Royals, and according to Muzz Patrick, G.M. of the Rangers, they might stay.

Riddled with injuries and sickness, the Royals could ill afford the loss of three of their best. The playoffs a week away, Patrick's rash statement raised the hackles on Guelph fans.

They've supported the Royals handsomely this season, packing the rink for key games, sometimes with S.R.O. (sold right out) signs.

Then with Guelph finishing on top of the best junior loop in the world, Rangers decide they might need some of them in the N.H.L. Patrick was quoted as saying that if Rangers felt the players helped them to make the playoffs they would stay.

Further developments have practically assured the return of the trip to Royals but a state of apprehension prevailed in Guelph for several days. It showed some of the fans how mercenary the pros are when it comes to dollars and cents.

If Rotelle, Cunningham and Lebrun had finished the season with Rangers instead of Royals it would also have finished junior hockey in Guelph.

BEAT NICKS... Acton has an entry in a novice hockey tournament in Guelph next week. Other clubs entered include Milton, Guelph, Preston, Georgetown, Killbuck, Brampton and Newmarket.

Milton Merchants are behind three games to one in their Intermediate A series with Barrie Lakeview. Milton took the second game of the set 7-3 last Saturday, but dropped Monday's game to Barrie and snuffed last night. Fifth game is slated for Barrie on Friday.



A Tribal Wedding Dance in Africa

Hunting Big Game on African Safari

(Continued from Page One)

Soon the safari entered leopard country, the land of the most feared beast in Africa, and camp was set up for a few days stay. The main camp comprised tents for the natives and supplies, with two separate tents further along. Chuck and I slept in one and Clay and Ivan bunked down in the other.

Because I belonged to a revolver club, I was allowed to carry my revolver with me into Africa, but only after procuring a special licence. The penalty for losing a revolver or allowing it to be stolen is five years' imprisonment! The natives, although ardent workers "for a price" are not allowed to carry guns and on occasion can become quite dangerous if under the influence of home-made hooch and in possession of a firearm.

Soon after arriving in leopard country, our camp was raided one evening and all the fresh meat supply devoured. Next evening, the much feared beast of the jungle returned for a second course and this time, stuck his head inside the tent containing the native boys, letting out a ferocious growl.

This annoyed us, so we set up bait and two days later, Chuck and I were placed right on top of a single shot. The animal, measuring eight feet, four inches, is

believed to be of record size. As most of the hunting was done early in the morning, a fly camp was set up about 10 miles from the base camp. It was from the fly camp that we set out early to stalk the game.

On one occasion, Clay Squeelch and one of the guides were surprised by a large rhino charging at them. Unable to get a shot in, they headed for a large tree and sat safely at a good height until the snorting animal got tired of the game he was playing and left.

On New Year's Day the four of us, along with chief guide John Lawrence, were out exploring when we came across a car sideways across the road and three natives loaded with hooch blocking our pathway. When they became very unruly, John borrowed my revolver and headed towards them, talking all the time in Swahili. Whether he threatened to shoot them or not is questionable, but they soon cleared out of the way and we continued safely.

Vehicle Maintenance Although maintenance of the vehicles was not a big problem, every day we encountered that tires as the large thorns would penetrate the rubber. The only major catastrophe was when one truck struck a large hole and broke a main spring. Parts were

carried by the "Panga" knife tripped by the natives. With a mere cleft of the sharp blade, they cut down the heavy underbrush and vines.

Although we didn't sustain any injuries or mishaps during the journey, Ivan Flatman had an unfortunate experience while we stayed at a hotel in Voi. His trunk containing his money, clothes and miles of film was stolen and never recovered. Fortunately, his guns and ammunition had been left behind and were not touched. Poor Ivan finished the balance of the trip in the clothes he had on and was glad to reach civilization and obtain fresh clothes.

Rhino Charges Have you ever pictured yourself in a land rover calmly taking moving pictures of a herd of rhinoceros when suddenly one comes charging at you? On one occasion, our party was in the truck and stopped to take pictures when this happened. Before the guide got the truck moving swiftly, the rhino's horn was within two feet of the tailboard.

Bait to attract wild game was no problem on the safari as the wildebeest, quite common in the plains country, could be shot and the meat, not used for human consumption, was used to attract other game. One of the mainstays in the fresh meat line on the dinner table was the Thompson Gazelle. This delicious tender meat was enjoyed quite often by the group.

Giraffe Protected The giraffe is one of the most protected animals in Africa. Hunters are not allowed to shoot them under any circumstance. The ostrich can be shot only with a special licence but hunters claim they make a better subject for a camera than a gun.

The only animal that must be cleaned and skinned within an hour after being shot, if the hide is to be tanned, is the zebra. While this is going on, vultures wipe clean the insides shortly after they are tossed away.

Hesitating to tell of his personal experiences, Mr. Long finally relented and spoke of dropping a leopard with a single shot by the hunters. Other game shot by him were the zebra, impalla, Thompson gazelle, kongoni

and wildebeest. Although his licence did not permit him to shoot the larger game, he accompanied the others into big game territory as official photographer.

Other animals shot by his companions include elephants, rhinoceros, lions, kudu, water and bush bucks and cape buffalo. Tanned, dried and longing to see their native land, the four some returned to Canada, Wednesday, February 8 and have been busy ever since developing pictures, showing movies and telling stories of their trip.

The month-long safari was very successful. Each hunter bagged his share of big game. As soon as heads are mounted and hides tanned, the trophies will be shipped to their homes and will adorn trophy rooms.

Small but precious is one trophy brought back by Mr. Long. He retrieved two floating bones from the shoulder of the leopard he shot. These floating bones, found only in leopards and lions, are not attached to anything, are small in nature and are believed to be descended from the animals' predecessors, who had wings thousands of years ago.

In conclusion, Mr. Long gives a few hints to hunters wishing to travel to Africa in search of big game. Only two shots are allowed at any of the following animals: buffalo, rhinoceros, elephant, lion or leopard. Why? A hunter must be within 30 yards of his prey before shooting and two shots are the most that can be fired before the animal is upon you.

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Blanked 4-0, All Stars Enjoy Margin on Play

Acton Industrial League all stars were blanked 4-0 in a return exhibition with Erin Intermediate last Thursday night in Erin.

Erin, tied with Vergara for first place in their Western Ontario hockey circuit, scored one goal in the first period, another in the

second and two more in the third in front of the home crowd, to give them the margin.

Acton had a wide margin in play in the first two periods but poor condition coupled with a lack of finish around the net enabled Jackie Marshall, in the Erin net, to fashion a shutout.

Don Lindsay Leads Cagers To League Title

Don Lindsay, an ace member of Acton high school's champion ship basketball quintet, was one of the three top scorers of the North Halton cage circuit this season.

The tall, blonde marksman led the Acton cage crew to the title of the three team league with a total of 49 points, composed of 20 baskets and nine foul shots. He finished third behind Dumstra of Milton with 30 points, on 26 baskets and eight foul shots, and Frank Carter of Georgetown, who racked up 51 points on 21 baskets and nine fouls.

Acton high school won the title by defeating Georgetown 39-27 in the final contest. Georgetown eliminated Milton handsily but were headed off by the final by the strong Acton squad.

The Acton quintet was eliminated from the Ontario playoffs, however, by Meaford high school who chalked up a 28 point margin in the first game of a two game total point series. The clubs tied 38-38 in the second meeting in the Acton gym.

Don Green, in the Acton cage, played another stellar game kicking out shots from every direction especially in the final frame when the Erin club carried the play.

The first two periods that eluded him were placed right on Erin sticks from wayward passes and he had no chance on them.

Acton manager, Bob Marshall is confident the Acton club could take Erin if they could get in condition. The all stars are hoping several more exhibition games can be arranged before the season closes.

ACTON—Don Green, Paul Lawson, John Cunningham, Ben Bayliss, Herb Job, defense, Barry Inscoc, Emerson, Baxter, Bob Bink, Harold Mansley, Phil McCrystal, Ed Phillips, Stu McDonald.

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A typographical error in last week's Free Press showed that hydro commission employees and local contractors had been offered a \$55 bonus for each flat rate installation sold by the employee or contractor. This should have read "\$5 bonus." Sorry.

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