

Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

IN SPITE OF a lengthy list of titles after their name, Fergus Flyers are not appreciated by the burghers of Fergus. They've shown their lack of interest by staying away from Flyers' home games in droves. Dwindling attendance has even put thoughts of leaving Fergus next season for a place more appreciative of their talents.

Last season Flyers captured just about every title the W.O.A.A. had up for grabs including the Intermediate 'B' championship and the most sought after gem of all, the W.O.A.A.'s grand championship. Practically the same team ended up in third place in the seven team group this season, losing only nine games of 22.

Flyers and Tanners started a best-of-seven series for the Intermediate C-major group title last Friday in Fergus. The game was well advertised. Who showed up? As many if not more Acton fans than Fergus partisans!

Instead of the Flyers' executive was concerned, Friday's poor attendance was next to the last straw. They were talking of moving the entire series to Acton the last report we received.

WHAT HAPPENED to the Tanners in the first game of the series? Nothing that hasn't happened once before this season — in the previous playoff with Cheltenham.

For an important playoff contest like Friday's you'd expect the club would show up at full strength. Unfortunately four players didn't bother to show up and from what we heard from spectators it was lack of depth that contributed most to their defeat.

We aren't able to supply a first hand report of the game. We missed it. Those who were there reported the Acton club had more than their share of the play, stayed with the Flyers for two periods but faded in the last stanza, presumably from fatigue.

Providing the Tanners can field a club at full strength, say local scribes, they've got a good chance of taking this series. Paul Knox and Bob Dobbie will probably have a word or two to say about that prospect, however.

EASY VICTORIES in the first game of their best-of-seven Int. B-series with Goderich, Milton Charles are finding the playoff road a lot rockier now as the opposition improves. Charles shaded Goderich on their own half-ice 3-2 in the second game but last Sunday in Milton the much improved Goderich crew trounced them 9-3.

Goderich also won the toss for the extra game of the set which now promises to go the limit.

Meanwhile Hillsburgh played host to Atwood in the first round of the W.O.A.A. Int. D. playoffs and skated off with a 9-7 victory on their postage stamp sized ice cushion. Observers who saw the game figure Atwood will do much better on a bigger ice surface. They passed the puck well but the dimensions of the Hillsburgh arena bothered them.

Cheltenham and Elora started their series to decide which club advances into the W.O.A.A. Int. C. playoffs this week. Since Elora has only natural ice it's likely some of the home games will be played in Fergus.

BECAUSE Gravenhurst did not have their players' cards with them, officials of Acton Lions toyed with the idea of filing protests to the O.H.A. after last Wednesday's game here. Further thought on the matter made them decide against it.

"They beat us fair and square," said coach Barry Incoe. "They had a better team and a much older one. Some of our boys still have three and four years of junior left."

There are three or four of the Acton Juniors who would look good in an intermediate uniform now Lions are finished. They could help the club a lot if only to keep track of their checks. It might also make some of the Tanners more interested in playing hockey if there's competition for their position.

BEAT BITS . . . Orangeville Dufferins, picked out of the W.O.A.A. to compete in the C.I.A. playoffs, edged Forest 6-5 in the first game of the best-of-seven series. Dufferins subdued Cheltenham easily in the first game of the W.O.A.A. group-one-finals but the second contest of the best-of-three will not be played until Orangeville honors its O.H.A. commitments. . . **JERRY WHITE**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arlie White, Church St., an Acton boy who played his minor hockey here, is manager of St. Thomas Midgets, who play Georgetown in the first game of a playoff series in St. Thomas Friday night. Second game of the set could be played in Georgetown Saturday. The St. Thomas club dropped only a couple of games through the season and won the group championship handsily. . . Rumor is rife that Paul Lawson and Harold Townsley will line up with Georgetown Cottons in the coming intermediate baseball season. Both players made the Halton County All Stars last season and starred at bat with the All Stars in the annual classic played with senior inter-county teams. . . **Brian McCristall**, who doubles as sports columnist of the Milton Canadian Champion as well as playing net for Acton Lions, whimsically mentioned last week that Spring is the time a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of (g)love, hats and balls and things.



SMILING CHAMPIONS in the four-town tourney at Fergus recently, the Acton Pee Wees display their trophy. Front row left to right are Bob Andrews, Doug Casburn, Ken Owen, Fred Anthony, Casey Harkley, Pat Vale and Mike Vale. Second row left to right John Mason, Bob Waller, Paul Cooper, Mike Cooper and David Dunbar. Standing at the back are manager Doc Harkley and coach Pete Vale.

7-4 Victory Last Night

Tanners Tie Up Playoff Series

Powered by three consecutive goals from the blazing hot stick of Harold (Sonny) Townsley, within a four-minute span in the third period, Acton Tanners came roaring back to tie the best-of-seven W.O.A.A. Int. C. major series with Fergus Flyers last night by virtue of a 7-4 win.

The Tanners were full value for the victory in front of 300 mid-week fans who sat on their hands most of the first period through a 2-2 draw, got progressively warmer as the teams battled to a 3-3 second period tie, and were yelling for more in an action-packed last chapter.

It was the first Acton win over Fergus since the series resumed Friday night in Acton when it's possible the Acton club could take the lead in the series, providing they play as well as they did here last night.

Their big weakness seemed to be an inability to put the puck in when presented with open nets.

Blazing Shot — Harold Townsley's decision to use his blazing shot seemed to lift the club in the third stanza with the teams tied 3-3. Once the Tanners started shooting the puck, instead of carrying right in on Flyers' doorstep, it made all the difference and confused the opposition.

The visitors shot into a 1-0 lead in the first period when 'Jeans' cashed in Knox's rebound from directly in front. Both teams played it cautiously until 15:40 when Smith banged in Flyers' second goal from a loose puck in front of the net.

While Emmerson (Beaver) Baxter served a charging penalty, Landon's rebound shot went in off a skate to bring the margin to 6-4 but Normie Love batted his second goal of the night in 46 seconds later on an unassisted effort to regain Acton's three-goal margin.

Townsley with three goals and an assist led the Acton marksmen while Love potted two, Haines and Casburn one apiece.

Two Fergus goals were scored while the Tanners were short-

handed, Smith registering twice, Landon and Jeans once.

Ten penalties were assessed by referees Don Simpson and Jack McKinnon, the Tanners serving seven.

Jack Marshall played another outstanding game in the nets for the Tanners stopping Paul Knox on a breakaway at one point. He had no chance on the shots that included him. Prickett in the Fergus cage also scintillated.

First Period
F—Jeans (Knox, Dobbie) 6-4
F—Smith (Tippin, Jefferson) 15-40
A—Haines (Mellon, McLean) 14-00
A—Casburn (Townsley, Aubin) 19-50
Pens.—Denny.

Second Period
A—Love (McDonald) 11-56
F—Smith (Tippin, Knox) 17-47
Pens.—Mellon, Jeans, Stafford (2), Jefferson, Stafford, Baxter.

Third Period
A—Townsley (Dawkins, Barber) 8-02
A—Townsley (Aubin, Stafford) 9-26
F—Landon (Dobbie, Knox) 17-03
A—Love 17-49
Pens.—Dawkins, Baxter, Love.

Exhibition

Acton Midgets Inter-County team will play the Town League Midgets this Saturday, March 16, Game time 4 p.m.

WITH THE MINORS

UPSETS are common in any hockey league and a couple of dandies appeared this week as town league midgets and bantams squared off for the championship round. After the dust had settled and the final staves taken to and behold the underdogs in both divisions had come out on top.

In the bantam division the Buffalo Bisons, who had been pummeled mercilessly by the Pittsburgh Hornets throughout the season defeated their tormentors by a narrow 7-6 margin over the two game set and in the midget section the luckless boys in blue emulated their N.H.L. namesakes by trouncing their perennial enemies from New York 10-6 over the route.

In the novice division Guelph and St. Kitts won the first round and in the E.P.H.L. (Pee Wee), North Bay and Sudbury are the semi-final clumps. These four teams lock horns this Saturday in the first game of their two-

game, goal-to-count championship round.

Gord James, major domo of the Legion Minor Hockey program, informed this scribe that vacated ice time will be used up with exhibition games between house league all-star teams and local tri-county squads.

"Some of the boys have really improved over the season," stated Gord. "I think we could provide some tough competition for the Tri-County teams."

FACES SLIGHTLY red from a 10-0 clubbing at the hands of the Acton Businessmen Pee Wees, last Saturday at the Community Centre, Brampton officials promised manager "Doc" Harkley it would be a different story this weekend when they send up their All Star squad. The Flowertown team visiting here last week, though rated highly in Brampton house league circles, could not contain the hard-skating local All Stars.

Bow 6-2 to Fergus Friday

Fergus Flyers opened the W.O.A.A. Int. C. major playoffs with a 6-2 victory over Acton Tanners in a last, clean exhibition of hockey at Fergus Friday night.

The Acton club arrived short-handed and played without four regulars but still managed to keep the game close over the first two periods. Leading 3-2 at the end of the second, Flyers slipped three goals past Jack Marshall in the Acton net in the last chapter.

Outside of the final period the Tanners outplayed Fergus. Except for their reluctance to shoot they might have added a few markers.

Flyers opened the scoring on the first play of the game, slippery Paul Knox taking Harper's pass and blasting it home at the 37-second mark. Jim Casburn wasn't long in tying it up assisted by Harold Townsley and Ron Mellon at 2:25.

Harper put the Flyers ahead again at 5:17 from a scramble in front of the net. Dobbie and Knox drawing assists for the last goal each contributed an assist.

Ron Mellon cruised through at 4:10 of the middle stanza to tie it up for Acton but Dobbie's long-

rising shot put Flyers ahead to stay at 14:33.

Magwood scored two goals for Fergus in the last period, McCab'one, to give them their margin.

Thirteen penalties were called by officials, eight served by Acton.

Novice All-Stars Rap Aces 5-4

Quebec Aces of the Legion town league played a challenge match with Wally Kowall's Novice All Stars Sunday and found themselves on the short end of a 5-4 count when the smoke of battle cleared.

Doug Casburn fired a pair of markers for the victors while Roy Dawe, T. Gregson and Don Dunbar sniped one goal apiece. W. Vidovitch collecting an assist. For Bill Buchanan's crew Pete Vale drilled a pair, Mike Maroux and Ken Owen putting assists, Herman Tasmann and Bruce Sagaskie each contributed an assist.

Five penalties were assessed by referee Steve Gov, four of which went in the All-Stars' direction.

Falls, Wings, Aces, Dutchies Out Bisons, Leafs Town League Titlists

The day of reckoning was at hand for a good portion of the town league pucksters Saturday at the Community Centre, as semi-final playdowns were completed in the Junior 'A' and E.P.H.L. divisions while final saw-offs and the declaring of champions was the order of the day in the American League and N.H.L. divisions.

Junior 'A'
Guelph Royals won this league's opener and the round as they defeated Niagara Falls 5-2. Peter Morrison led the Guelphites to victory as he notched a hat trick a feat not uncommon to the youngster lately, followed with singles off the sticks of Dale Fisher and Brian Death. Brian Death also receiving credit for an assist.

Both Falls goals were notched by Dave Kennedy, rushing young defenseman for the cascade crew. In the second game, St. Kitts pulled the rabbit out of the hat, with one of the day's big surprises as they tied first-place Hamilton Red Wings, which was all they needed to take the round 2-1. St. Catharines goal was scored by Bobby Krul on a pass from Billy Barber while Timmy Coles and Randy Weidon combined for the Red Wing counter.

Guelph and St. Catharines meet this Saturday for the first game of the final series. The series will be a two-game, goal-to-count affair.

E.P.H.L.
North Bay and Sudbury came out the victors of this division's semi-final round by virtue of 4-3 and 4-0 wins over Quebec and Kitchener respectively. The two teams commence the championship round this week, also a two-game, goal-to-count series.

George Cook was the big gun for North Bay in the league opener as he rapped Eddie Two goals and the same number of assists. Brent Marshall was next with one of each, followed by Brian Given with one goal, Billy Fields a pair of one-pointers and Paul Braida and Mike Howe with an assist apiece.

"For Quebec Brian Dunn received all the laurels as he rapped in an unassisted hat trick in the American League and N.H.L. divisions.

In the Sudbury-Kitchener contest Roy Dawe once more led his teammates to victory as he blasted home a hat trick. R. Anderson notched the fourth counter and Buster O'Rourke and Gord Lasby got the assists.

The pressing Pittsburgh Hornets dropped the Buffalo Bisons 4-1 in Saturday's contest, but did not have enough to overcome the edge established by the Bisons a week earlier and the Buffaloonians took the championship by a narrow 7-6 margin over the two games.

Pittsburgh goals were scored by David Ryder, Harvey Taylor, Paul Turner and Jim Cooney. Ryder's goal was set up by Danny Harkley.

Charlie Milne, John Dowding and Steve Johnson notched the Buffalo markers, with Doug Alan, John McGeachie and John Dowding getting the assists.

N.H.L.
In probably the biggest upset of the season the underdog Toronto Maple Leafs proved their stretch-running ability by taking the New York Rangers 5-1 in Saturday's venture and the championship 10-6 over the two game round.

Dave Hilton led the laughing Leafs with two goals, followed by Stewart Johnson, Dave Garrett and Mike Ptasz with singles. Billy Fisher, Stuart Johnson, Gary Murr and Gerald Storratt assisted the twine tippers.

For the New Yorkers it was Steve Dubois, Robin Peacock and Milton Ball hitting paydirt on plays set up by Neil Franklin, Barry Wilson and Tom Ginger.

GARDEN PIN MONEY \$150.00 to \$300.00

Extra cash for summer holiday. New hardy very productive Blackberry (Thimbleberry) yields 5 to 8 pint boxes per plant. Long life. These big shiny berries are in great demand by stores and dealers everywhere. Over 25,000 acres grown in U.S.A. Almost none in eastern Canada.

Inter City is importing a limited quantity of selected plants from northern New York State where climate is similar to Ontario. Rows 8 feet apart, plants 3 feet apart. Grows in hills, heaping cases set back to 4 feet high. Easy to handle.

Extra heavy stock - 100 plants \$24.00; 50 for \$13.50. Charges prepaid if all cash with order. Must have 20% deposit on C.O.D. orders. Complete planting and after-care instructions. Free advisory service. This offer good only to March 31st. Subject to stock on hand.

INTER CITY BERRY CO. LIMITED
Box 438 Orillia, Ont.

ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

★ ★ ★

FRIDAY, MARCH 15
4 p.m. Boys' Hockey School
8:30 p.m. W.O.A.A. Int. C. Playoffs
Fergus vs. Acton

SATURDAY, MARCH 16
10-12 - Public Skating
1-6 - Minor Sports League Playoffs
8-10 - Public Skating

SUNDAY, MARCH 17
2-4 p.m. Family Skating
6-8 p.m. Industrial Hockey
8:30 p.m. Adult skating Club

MONDAY, MARCH 18
Curling

TUESDAY, MARCH 19
Curling

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20
4 p.m. Public Skating
Evening schedule to be posted at board at arena

THURSDAY, MARCH 21
2:30 - Figure Skating
4:30 - Acton H.S. Inter-Mural hockey
7-10 - Figure Skating

THOMPSON FUELS Ltd.

ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

A COMPLETELY NEW

B-A Home Heating Service

IS AVAILABLE

TO ALL "B-A SOLAR HEAT" HOME HEATING CUSTOMERS

AT NO ADDITIONAL COST

THIS NEW POLICY PROVIDES YOU WITH

- FREE—Burner Service Including Annual Conditioning
- FREE—Emergency Service During the Heating Season
- FREE—Mid-winter Inspection and Adjustment

Our B-A Home Heating Service Technicians are Fully Qualified and Experienced

ENJOY COMFORT, CONVENIENCE and ECONOMY with "B-A SOLAR HEAT" FUELS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND COMPLETE DETAILS PHONE

THOMPSON FUELS LTD.

853-2370 ACTON, ONT.

Your Local B-A Dealer Servicing Your Area Since 1946 With B-A Products