

Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

WHEN THIS FUZZY-CHEEKED scribbler was a nipper in knickerbockers he had an unshakable belief in the invincibility of the Acton Tanners. In those days one of the best intermediate hockey teams in the province. Only one other team shared that pedestal — the Toronto Maple Leafs.

In common with most of the other boys in town (the only real acquaintance we had with the Leafs was the picture we got out of the NHL. They showed the stars of that era, fellows like Joe Primeau, Gordie Drillon, Chetlin Conacher, Red Heron, King Clancy, Red Horner and George Hainsworth, against a big white star background.

Then we turned, in our Saturday nights, which really was bath night in those days (in a rapid galvanized tub) to listen to Foster Hewitt describe the action at Maple Leaf Gardens. Television was only being dreamt of around then so our knowledge of the Leafs was scanty compared to what the kids know nowadays and are expected to.

That didn't make us any less a fan. Like I said, I had two idols — the Tanners and the Leafs.

One day the idea snapped into my mind that it'd be nice to see these two clubs play one another for the championship of the world. I asked my father if he thought he could arrange a series. His answer shook me up. If these two teams ever met, he said in effect, it would be like murder incorporated and it would be the Acton team on the receiving end.

My world turned upside down — for almost a minute. Then my faith returned. With a sickly grin I threw the gambler's right as my dad's feet with the words — "I don't believe it!" Nothing could shake my belief that the Acton team could be beaten in a fair series, even by the Toronto Maple Leafs.

THAT PARTICULAR BELIEF persisted until I reached the age of reason. Then rather than think about it I shoved it back in some dusty cranny of the mind to be forgotten.

It all came back to me with vivid force last Friday night when the N.H.L. Old Timers played the current edition of the Tanners as part of the Burn the Mortgage night.

I'm glad the old man never had enough pull to arrange such a series. I would have been a cynic the rest of my life.

It has occurred to me since that there possibly was a gap between good intermediate hockey and the N.H.L. but it was never so evident as on Friday night that it is a wide, deep canyon.

The NHL Old Timers are a long way from being the players they were in their prime but they had no trouble disposing of the Tanners. They could score a goal almost as easily as the proverbial falling-off-a-log. And "Long John" Henderson never a real star when he was with the Boston Bruins, could stop pucks like no one I saw in intermediate hockey — except maybe Bob Bindernagel, once a star with Fergus Thistles.

Any one of the players on the NHL Old Timers could still step into intermediate hockey and be a scourge of the league. Fortunately few find it lucrative enough to bother.

SOME OF THE IMPRESSIONS I'll retain of Friday night's entertainment:

- Jack Kentner, his head to one side, chewing gum, still wearing his hockey cap. Sixty-one years have gone under the bridge for "Dang" but he can still tug a puck and throw a pass.
- Pat Patterson, on top of the hate parade for hockey fans here, giving a 10-second misconduct to Wally Stanowski, former whirling dervish of the Leafs. Not quite his style.
- Tod (Slinker) Sloan and Syd Smith sitting in on goal. They looked like they could step back into the NHL any old time.
- The look on the faces of the "dirty dozen" who along with recreation director Jim Casburn arranged the evening. They were the real stars of the evening. Their achievement in having the community centre all paid for except for a few hundred bucks is one most towns would like to emulate.

BEAT BITS — A win last night against Orillia would give Georgetown Middle the O.M.H.A. championship. The Georgetown club lost the first engagement at home in the best-of-five series, 7-2, but rebounded back with two wins in Orillia 4-1 and 5-1. Del Belmont coaches the club. North Hutton Kart Club, situated on the 5th Line a mile below Limehouse, will open for rental of karts on Sunday, April 21 this year. Racing starts in mid-May. Bigger than ever, go-karters are installing lights at their establishment and will have night racing all summer. Sunday is reserved for rental of karts for the entire family. Those wishing to join the club may register on Sunday afternoon. Barry Innes has called a meeting of the Lions junior hockey club last Sunday at the Community Centre. Midway eliminated Cheltenham and wrapped up the W.O.A.A. Int. C title with a 4-3 overtime win. Fergus Flyers dropped the first game of the Int. C major finals to Port Elgin 6-2. Second game went last night in Fergus. And those perennial Int. D. title holders, Hillsburgh Intermediates, added another one to their list by beating Garric in straight games in the final.

PEERING OVER THE Hog Line WITH Acton Curlers



This week wrote fairs to the curling in Acton for the season and curlers can now soak their brooms in water wrap an elastic band around the bristles and store them away for the summer.

On Monday evening the four-way final was completed and Andy Nolan's team with Dolores Tyler, Gwen Tyler and Dr. Brian Moore captured the Jack Red trophy when they defeated Walter Dubus' team. Vying for the Walker trophy, Brydon Hunter and his team of Peg Coon, Steve Brewster and Brian Zajac defeated Louis Bonnet's team.

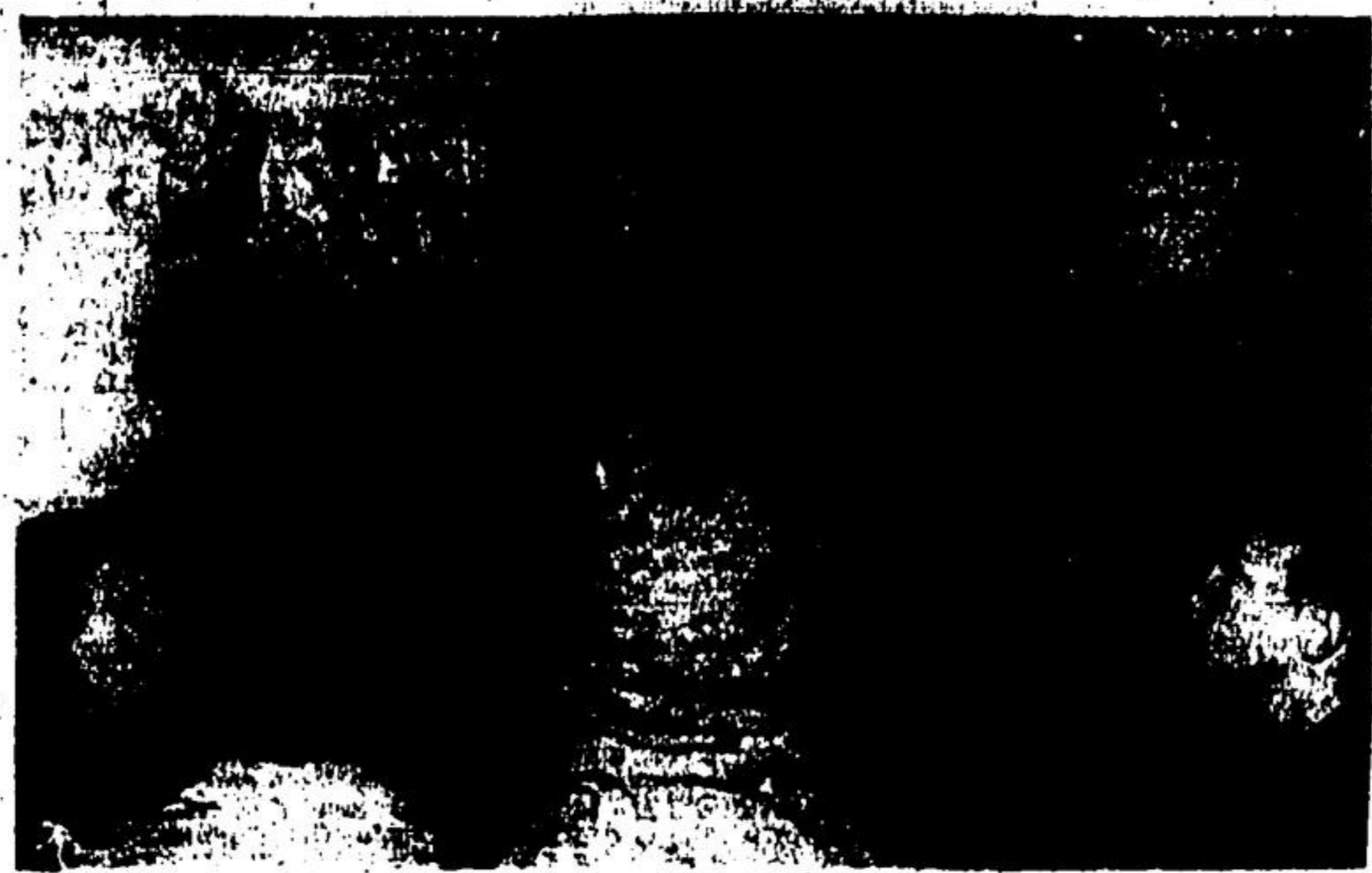
Also Monday the four-way tie which developed in the last draw of the men's league was played off and during the 29 play, Dr. Buchanan's rink defeated Cliff Bradley's and Rev. A. H. McKenzie downed Doug Widdis. In the finals the Rev. end came up with the championship with a win over the doctor's team.

In the semi-finals Monday night in the regular play of the mixed league, Bill Coon received a bye and waited for John Go to go down to defeat at the hands of the Bern VanFleet team. Bern bounced back Tuesday night in the finals and captured the championship with a win over the Coon team and received the Adams trophy.

Also on Tuesday in the men's semi-finals, Walter Dubus received a bye and Bill MacKay defeated Rev. McKenzie's team. During the finals Walter Dubus came out champion with a win over the MacKay squad to win another Adams trophy.

In the afternoon businessmen's league the Butchers captured the Thundering for the second year with total points.

The annual banquet is April 19 when trophies and prizes will be presented. Anyone who hasn't reserved a ticket can contact Ted Tyler Sr. Dining and dancing will highlight the evening.



WALLY STANOWSKI, former Leaf defenceman, was corralled by a group of Acton youngsters seeking his autograph. Before he could doff his hat and coat he was kept busy signing his name.

Hockey Greats Don Blades

(Continued from Page One) exhibition it looked like the Tanners might trounce the giants from the N.H.L. when Merv Marshall and Bud Haines put them into a 2-0 lead. But the visitors tied it up before the first 20 was over and really pulled out their stops before the good-humored crowd.

Whistling Puck While "Long John" Henderson clowning and traded places with Acton netminder Don Anderson when things got too hot for him at his end, the N.H.L. Old Timers whistled 14 more goals into the rigging before the contest was over. The Tanners replied with four, three from the stick of Harold Townsley and one from Jim Casburn.

Some of the N.H.L. stars were

only a few seasons out of pro hockey and they impressed spectators with their finesse around the net. Even some of the older players would be giants in intermediate hockey.

One penalty was assessed through the contest — one minute to Wally Stanowski for allegedly attacking referee Pat Patterson. He was aided and abetted by goalie "Long John" Henderson, who found time to stick handle up the ice several times, sit on top of the net, talk into the loudspeaker, insult the referees and stop an assortment of shots that would ordinarily be labelled.

With the exception of Frank Prouse, who has since moved from Acton, the entire fund-raising committee was on hand to watch John Gov hand over the community centre to the town between the second and third periods of the N.H.L. Old Timers-Tanners' game. They included Jim Ledger, Lorne Youngblut, Alec Johnson, Joe Hurst, Gord McCutcheon, Garnet McKenzie, Dave Dills, Frank Prouse, Gord Beatty and Bill MacKay.

Mr. Gov reported that \$1,600 proceeds were realized from the event of the \$2,500 still owing. "Mortgage is down to a point where we can handle it," he said. He hoped there would be many nights like Friday's when "the old timers will ring."

Autograph Hounds Mayor Duby in accepting the building on behalf of council and the people of Acton and district congratulated everyone concerned for a "tremendous effort" in putting the community centre drive over.

The crowd converged on the N.H.L. Old Timers for autographs when the event was officially over and all participants were feted at the legion hall afterwards at a social get-together.

Program for the evening was under the supervision of recreational director Jim Casburn.

'C' Company Top Keglers

April 7: For the third year in a row, "C" Company won the Acton Firefighters' Association bowling championship. From the first game when "C" company rolled up a 1169 score the issue was never in doubt. They tapered off somewhat in the second and third games with scores of 939 and 931 but these scores still overshadowed "A" and "B" Company's scores. The third game came to an abrupt halt halfway through the third game when the Firefighters dashed off to answer the fire alarm and a fight a bush fire that inadvertently broke out. This caused the final half of the game to be rolled off Monday night but the layoff did not affect the "C" company's bowling lineup. For the champion "C" Company was Scotty McCristall, Doug Mason, Ed McGiloway, Wayne Kelly, Harold Townsley, Bill Williams, Did Price and Bill Duval. Scotty McCristall 307, Ed McGiloway 263, Harold Townsley and Bern VanFleet 213 scored the individual high singles for the first, second and third games. Scotty McCristall took the triple honors with 716.

The Box Score

	A Co.	B Co.	C Co.
1st Game	942	859	1169
2nd Game	837	819	931
3rd Game	785	619	931
Total	2564	2327	3030

Casburn Looks Ahead To Summer Schedule

Last few formal scheduled events for the arena this year are over this week but ice will stay in a few days longer, depending on the weather. Crowds for public skating have been dwindling.

As soon as the arena season is over, the new recreation director, Jim Casburn, will start planning the first summer playground schedule in the park. He intends to have four leaders who will take a training course before they begin the holiday program with the children.

URGE BY-ELECTION

Now that the federal election is over, there are hopes of having a provincial by-election to name Halton's member to the Ontario government. The county has been without representation at Queen's Park since last August when the late member, Stanley Hall, died. All three nominated candidates — Conservative George Kerr, Liberal Owen Mullin, and New Democrat William Gillies, have supported a move to hold a by-election now if a general election is not held until 1964.

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WEEKDAY TOURNAMENTS
INVITED

TWO OVERTIME WINS

Cyclones New League Champs

Two overtime decisions, both by identical scores, won the Acton Industrial Hockey League championship for Cyclones this week.

Once deep in the league collar Cyclones worked their way up to the top of the ladder, and finished the schedule there. They never lost a playoff encounter, eliminating Town Oilers in the semi-finals and meeting Raiders in the finals.

Two 2-1 Wins
Cyclones edged Raiders 2-1 in the first game of the finals Sunday in overtime, John Cunningham firing the winning goal in a hectic contest.

Pee Wees Blank Winona 6-0 Sun.

Acton Businessmen's Pee Wees, the only local minor hockey club that can boast of a 70-game season continued their winning trek down the exhibition trail Sunday as they slammed the door on a visiting Winona Club 6-0. Fred Anthony, a newcomer to the local squad received credit for the shut-out.

"Doc" Harkley's kids slapped in three counters in the first stanza, one in the second and two in the third to win the match that was rough for minor hockey as referee-Innes and Marshall handed out a total of seventeen penalties, nine of them going to Winona.

Mike Vale, John Mason and David Dunbar notched the first period counters, assisted by Geo. Moody, K. Owen, John Mason and Bobby Andrews. In the second frame Ken Owen notched the fourth marker and George Moody and Casey Harkley completed the picture in the third on passes from M. Vale and Geo. Moody.

Last night (Wednesday) the teams were tied 1-1 again at the end of regulation time. Again was John Cunningham who scooped up the loose puck at his own blue line and rapped in the winning counter in overtime.

Kelth Martin potted Raiders' only counter on a breakaway. Bob Bruce rapping in Watson's pass for Cyclones' initial tally.

Six penalties were handed out, four of which went to the winners.

In Sunday's contest Bob Skidg more hit the target for Raiders while Thompson owned accounts for Cyclones.

Raiders — A. Williams, M. Shepherd, B. Shepherd, B. Skidg, K. Martin, Jim Bullough, G. DeBruyn, Gord Mason, Cyclones — D. Norton, D. Vickery, Bob Bruce, Fred Dunn, Thompson, Watson, Wayne Shep-

herd, M. Hunter, John Cunningham, Bruce Barber, Dick White.

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