

Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

HOCKEY FANS in Guelph were thunderstruck by the announcement from New York Rangers that they intended to move their O.H.A. Junior A franchise from the Royal City to Kitchener. Negotiations had been going on since the latter part of May with Rangers and Memorial Gardens commission and though repeated warnings emanated from these meetings of a possible move, few of either fans or hockey brass expected it would materialize.

When the blow fell it left Guelph ill prepared to sponsor any type of crowd-drawing hockey. Taxpayers could expect a noticeable drop in revenue from the operation of Memorial Gardens which in turn will likely have to be subsidized.

What hurt Guelph hockey circles most, however, was the direction the move took — Kitchener, graveyard for hockey clubs of all descriptions in the last decade. No team has been able to draw the numbers of Kitchener from their early days since the days of the last good Dutchmen senior teams. They've ignored Junior A, Senior, Junior B and last year let a nifty professional club play to an empty auditorium most of the season.

Guelph fans, on the other hand, have been faithful followers of the Blueshirts and their predecessors, the Royals, through good years and bad. Last year, even with a last place club, Guelph drew an average of 1200 fans a game. In Kitchener the same club would be lucky to draw 25.

WEARY promoters in New York, who must have some sharp business heads in the front office, to move their franchise to the city of studs?

A better financial arrangement with the huge Kitchener audience than they could get in Guelph, probably had something to do with it. Teams under professional auspices are primarily concerned with the buck. Guelph promoters say they offered Rangers a much better deal than they've ever been given before, however. Players? It makes no difference to them where they play. They're sold where to go and what to do. They're no more numerous in the Kitchener area than in Guelph and environs. Most, of course, are imported anyway.

Should the Royals catch the public fancy in Kitchener there are almost twice as many seats in the arena than there is in Guelph, something like 7,000. They could reap bounteous dividends — if they catch the public fancy, a sheer gamble.

Meanwhile hockey officials and fans in the Royal City see a similar and sadder lot. A last season's O.H.A. president Pat Patterson is coaxing Montreal Canadiens to shift their Junior B franchise to Guelph and with little enthusiasm. Canadiens are firmly ensconced in Peterborough and are not ready to move the baby from Montreal. Consequently, unless Guelph is saddled with some sort of pro team it will be a hard winter for hockey fans in John Galt's city.

BEAT BITS ... Three Fergus players potted six goals apiece as Thistles thoroughly drubbed Niagara Falls 2-0 in intermediate league Friday. One of the trio was Acton's Barry Inscoc. ... Ross Powless, in his heyday, was almost unanimously chosen as Canada's outstanding lacrosse player. An Indian from the Oshweken reserve near Brantford, also the home of the Lone Ranger's TV sidekick, Tonto. Powless is still playing the old Indian game as coach of the Brantford Warriors. His club leads the intermediate circuit.

Fans here will remember the crafty warrior when he first left the senior circuit and organized the Brantford club. Acton Rams were one of the better clubs in the box lacrosse at the time but were unable to defeat the Indians in four attempts. ... Another slugfest in the town softball league last Thursday wound up with Ray West's Legionnaires trimming the slipping Dominion Hotelers 15-10. The game further pointed out the need for a scoreboard for the benefit of fans who haven't enough fingers to keep tab of the count.

Every Monday night four teams of Tykes play baseball in the park under the auspices of the Legion major sports program. Gord James, is convener. ... Your team playing baseball, softball or rounders? This newspaper would appreciate the chance to print the results of all games in this district. Score cards may be procured gratis for this purpose either by the Free Press or contacting us by phone. ... Still hitting a blistering .666 for Georgetown Midlets, Danny Arbic has 18 hits in 27 times at bat, many of them extra base knocks. The Acton youngster also hurled a three hitter for the hometowners against Milton. ... Ian Riddell is also hitting well for Georgetown with seven hits in 21 appearances for a .328 average. ... Barry Inscoc potted a pair of goals as Fergus Thistles defeated Brantford Warriors 10-7 Tuesday.

Win Pair

Jack Roberts started his first game of the year in Hamilton Thursday night and it turned out to be a masterpiece. Roberts hurled a one-hitter as his team won their 16th game of the regular schedule by a score of 7-1. The veteran Campbellville south paw struck out six and didn't walk a batter.

Campbellville journeyed to Midland Saturday to play the Midland Indians an exhibition.

R. H. E.
Camp. 000 001 116 9 16 1
Midland 000 002 000 2 4 1

Extend Softball Schedule Till August 25

Following is the balance of the town league softball schedule which resumes where the first part ends. There is no change in the week night dates but doubleheaders will be played on Sunday afternoons during August.

July 30, 31, Aug. 1. — For rescheduled games.

Balance of Schedule

Tuesday, Aug. 6 — Fire Fighters vs. Dominion.

Wednesday, Aug. 7 — I.G.A. vs. Legion.

Thursday, Aug. 8 — U.P.W.A. Tanners vs. Station Hotel.

Friday, Aug. 9 — Double header. First game 1:30, Fire Fighters vs. Legion. Second game 3:00, Dominion vs. Station Hotel.

Tuesday, Aug. 13 — I.G.A. vs. U.P.W.A. Tanners.

Wednesday, Aug. 14 — Station Hotel vs. Fire Fighters.

Thursday, Aug. 15 — Legion vs. U.P.W.A. Tanners.

Sunday, Aug. 18 — Double header. First game 1:30, Dominion vs. I.G.A.; second game 3:00, U.P.W.A. Tanners vs. Fire Fighters.

Tuesday, Aug. 20 — Dominion vs. Legion.

Wednesday, Aug. 21 — Station Hotel vs. I.G.A.

Thursday, Aug. 22 — U.P.W.A. Tanners vs. Dominion.

Sunday, Aug. 25 — Double header. First game 1:30, I.G.A. vs. Fire Fighters. Second game 3:00, Legion vs. Station Hotel.

Legion Eclipses Dominions 15-10

Rae West's youthful Legionnaires moved back onto the victory trail Thursday after indifferent performances in their last two town softball contests to register a decisive 15-10 over slipping Dominion Hotel.

Trailing 4-3 as the teams went into the sixth the Legion club plated three in the top of the sixth and went on a seven-run rampage in the seventh to win going away.

Keith Martin made his debut on the mound for the winners and his bases-loaded homer in the seventh played a big part in the win. On the mound he twirled an eight hitter.

Fred Archibald hurled for Dominions and he was tagged for 14 safeties including five circuit smashes.

Perry and Peveha also smashed round trippers for the losers.

R. H. E.
Legion 011 103 720 — 15 14
Dom. Hotel 402 110 020 — 10 8

Four Straight Wins Firefighters Knock on First Place

Firefighters, playing a tight defensive game behind the five hit pitching of Frank (Strike-out) Wiley, picked up their fourth straight and sixth victory of the town league softball season last night (Wednesday) at the expense of I.G.A.'s smooth fielding crew. Score was 6-1.

Belling out 10 hits, the host tilters plated all their runs in the first two frames while I.G.A. got their only one in the first inning. The last seven innings went scoreless.

Both teams played a smart brand of ball after the first two frames with infield and outfield gobbling up drives with few defensive lapses. Bill Shannon, Bill Williams, and Scotty McCristall shone in the garden.

Howie Leader, pitching for I.G.A. seemed to settle down after the first frame when he was nicked for four hits and six runs. He allowed 10 hits, struck out six and walked four. His opponent on the hill, Daley, scattered five safeties, struck out eight and walked one.

Shannon scores

Bill Shannon hit safely for I.G.A. in the top of the first and Andy Williams landed safely on an error. Jim Casburn's single scored Shannon to give I.G.A. their sole run.

Bill (Scotty) McCristall took a pass to start Firefighters on their way and when Townsley and Daley and then Jim Lindsay and Herb Dodds collected back-to-back hits, the score read 4-1.

Firefighters added a pair in the second when Bill Williams walked. Scotty McCristall singled, Townsley singled and Wilf Duval poked a bingle between first and second.

From that point it was one of the best defensive games of the season, neither team making much of a bid to score and whipping the ball around smartly.

Harold Townsley, Frank Daley, Wilf Duval and Jim Lindsay, three, four, five and six in the Firefighters' batting order, led their assault with two hits apiece. McCristall and Herb Dodds had one apiece.

Shortstop Jim Casburn collected a pair of safeties for the losers, Bill Shannon, B. McArthur and Bruce Cargill getting one each.

R. H. E.
I.G.A. 100 000 000 — 1 5 2
Firefighters 420 000 00x — 6 10 2

I.G.A. — H. Deforest rf, B. Shannon cf, A. Williams lf, J. Casburn ss, A. Robinson if, McArthur 3b, B. Dawkins c, H. Leader p.

Firefighters — P. McCristall cf, M. Holmes 2b, H. Townsley ss, F. Daley p, W. Duval 3b, J. Lindsay lf, H. Dodds c, F. Spielvogel 1b, B. Williams rf.

Umpire — E. Phillips, plate; Norm Morton, bases.

"Now Listen Here, Ump...!"



"HEY RUBER!" seems to start nearly every argument with an umpire. Generally speaking, umpires get tossed out of the game. Tuesday evening Acton Legion defeated Station Hotel 7-3 in the softball loop. Shown posing a typical big league scene are Doug Vickery and Mel Shepherd of the Hotelers as umpire Jim Casburn gives them the heave ho.

Pitchers' Duel Legion Nips Improved Hotelers, 7-3

Station Hotel's winless wonders put another mark in the debit side of the town softball league ledger Tuesday night when Legionnaires marched to a 7-3 victory in a vigorous twilight contest. It was the innkeeper's ninth straight defeat.

Neither club could score again until the ninth when the Legion put the game on ice with a pair of runs. An error at third on Don (Bucky) Price's drive put him on the sack. Wayne Marshall singled to left to score him and Brian McCristall doubled to right scoring Marshall.

Salmon kept his hits scattered a little better than Vickery's as despite four errors thrown into the contest by his mates he was never in serious trouble.

Salmon in Hot Water?

The only inning Salmon did get into hot water was the fifth when the hotelers scored all three of their runs on a pair of hits, three walks and a play hit by the pitcher.

Legionnaires started their frontal assault on Doug Vickery, a much improved chucker, in the second frame when Wayne Marshall was hit by a pitched ball. Brian McCristall, next batter, was given a ticket as was Al Hayward who followed him to the plate.

Salmon, next up, poked a clutch single through the line of Shepherds to help win his own game and he was followed by Gary Masales who turned the same trick. It gave the Legion a 4-0 lead.

The fourth of the fourth saw the winners make it 5-0 when Hayward singled advanced to second when Terry Waterhouse was hit by a pitched ball and scooted home as Salmon grounded out.

Mel (The Big M) Shepherd tied his brothers in the bottom of the fifth by facing a single into the outfield. W. Shepherd took

Two bobbles in the bottom of the ninth that put two on gave the innkeepers a glimmer of hope but the last batter fled out to centre field.

Gary Masales was the only Legionnaire to garner more than one hit from Doug Vickery. He smote two singles while D. Arbic, M. Marshall, B. McCristall, A. Hayward and Salmon got one hit apiece.

For the losers Turk Shepherd and Johnny Dunn each collected two bingles. M. Ball and Mel Shepherd one apiece.

Winning pitcher J. Salmon allowed six hits, struck out one and walked five. Loser Doug Vickery was nicked for seven hits, he whiffed two and issued five bases on balls.

R. H. E.
Legion 040 100 002 — 7 7 4
Sta. Hotel 000 030 000 — 3 6 1

Legion — G. Masales ss, D. Arbic 3b, D. Price lf, Thompson c, K. Martin (5), W. Marshall cf, B. McCristall 2b, in 5th, A. Hayward rf, 2b in 5th, T. Waterhouse lf, J. Salmon p.

Station Hotel — M. Ball 3b, C. Shepherd lf, R. Shepherd ss, T. Shepherd c, F. Dunn rf, M. Shepherd 2b, W. Shepherd cf, J. Dunn 1b, D. Vickery p.

12 Clubs Enter Hornby Tourney

Plans are now underway for the annual Hornby Softball Tournament, to be played on August 10 in Hornby Park. Twelve teams have entered in the tournament, and will vie for first prize money of \$90. Second place money is \$25 and third place money is \$15.

The 12 teams entered in the tournament are Milton Texans, Acton All-Stars, Guelph Dairies, Queens, Parkland of Burlington, International Harvester of Burlington, Omagh Seniors, Palermo, Badenoch, Aurora, Newmarket, Glen-Williams and Hornby.

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Ray Mason Returned as Proxy Acton Tanners' Hockey Club

The entire executive of Acton Tanners' intermediate hockey club agreed to serve another season in their present capacity at a meeting in the community centre Monday night.

Ray Mason was returned as president, Bob Marshall and Ross Bullentine, vice-presidents, Rae West, treasurer, George Haggitt, secretary and Hartley Cole, publicity director.

The season of 1962-63 was reviewed and the executive felt it was successful both financially and on the ice. The team met all its obligations, purchased jackets and left enough in the bank to start the season of 1963-64.

Same Sponsor

President Ray Mason assured the meeting Beathmore and Co. would sponsor the team next season and secretary Rae West reported equipment was in good shape. Only new hockey socks will be needed to start the season. It's likely the club will retain its position as the "best dressed team in the league."

Arrangements were made to see the arena board to arrange home dates for the coming season with possible changes in practice times.

Among other items discussed was the signing of a new coach to replace Irv Mazza who resigned at the end of last season and ways-and-means-of-improving the club.

W.O.A.A. convener Bob Marshall told the meeting the season would likely start earlier this year with the possibility of some new teams in the group.

Another meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 15, when more details would be available.

Peewees Win

John Mason smashed a long three bagger to drive in the tying and winning runs at Acton Peewees defeated Brampton 15-14 Tuesday night.

Casey Hartley and Mike Vale were on the sacks when the young Acton catcher tagged the ball for three bases. When they scored it ended a win for the Peewees.

Righthander Mike Vale went all the way on the mound for Acton fanning nine Brampton batters and restricting the visitors to six hits. Roy Findley, toting the rubber for Brampton was tagged for 10 hits. He whiffed four.

Acton's hit parade was sparked by Mike Vale who slawered a two-bagger and a pair of singles. Paul Cooper and Bryan Dunn tripled and singled. Casey Hartley contributed two singles and Porky Vale and Doug Casburn rapped out one each.

The line-up included Doug Casburn, Casey Hartley, Bryan Dunn, Mike Vale, John Mason, Craig Perkins, Bob Andrews, Paul Cooper and Porky Vale.

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