

Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

THE NOT SO OLD N.H.L. Old-Timers pay what amounts to be their annual visit to the community centre Friday night in a bid to enjoy minor hockey in Acton. True, not all the "hot" goes toward the minors. Some goes into the pockets of the visitors but it's hardly a profitable night for the former pros, who are accustomed to a wage scale far beyond the average scale.

The Old-Timers usually size up the situation before they go into a town for an evening. If the opposition is young and tough they bring their youngest and toughest. If it's a patsy, most of the older players make the trip. It's been a successful system. Name me a team that's beaten the old pros? Can't think of one, can you?

Star of the previous visits to Acton has been cage custodian Long John Henderson. Like a typical clown Long John masks a terrific amount of ability behind his antics which have run the gamut between twisting at centre ice with a girl from the audience, to scoring on the opposing goal, pads and all.

So Friday night you'll have a chance to size up some of the N.H.L.'s greatest for yourself. Remember the buck you pay to get in will help finance the minor hockey program in Acton, both the Legion league and Tri-County teams.

NOTHING WAS SETTLED in this writing but all indications point to a second place finish for the Tanners in the six team W.O.A.A. circuit. Victories over Cheltenham and Elora only needed a win over Fergus, here, last night to sew up the second slot.

In the event the Tanners got the crucial win they'll meet Cheltenham in the best of three group semi-finals. The first four teams are in the group playoffs with second and fourth place clubs meeting in one series, first and third in the other.

Orangeville, in the event they finish up third, will meet first place Elmira in their semi-final. For these two teams it's like a life or death struggle. Winner advances into the group final. Loser is out for the season since both are "B" teams.

That's why the Orangeville club was concerned about finishing up third. They'd far rather finish up second and meet Cheltenham in the semi-final while Acton and Elmira were battling each other in the other round.

Outside of the honors the group playoffs offer, the Tanners will still advance into the W.O.A.A. playoffs, win or lose. They're the only team classified as "C" major. Orangeville, Elmira and Fergus are classified "B". Cheltenham and Elora "C".

Playoffs should start next week in both semi-final series. If the Tanners can eliminate Cheltenham they'll have their hands full with either Elmira or Orangeville in the final. But they've got to hurdle the first obstacle first and if it's the Harvesters you can discount last Friday's slugfest as a preview of the marble run. Scripts are thrown away for playoffs.

THERE'S ALSO TALK of an O.H.A. series for the winner of an Orangeville-Elmira-Walkerton round robin providing such a series does not interfere with the Tri-County W.O.A.A. commitments. Winner would go into the O.H.A. Int. "B" final.

The O.H.A. is mighty short of intermediate teams in this part of the province so this is an effort on their part to drum up interest. Understand all three clubs are interested in participating in a round robin but it seems senseless to this fussy checked fellow for them to eliminate each other in W.O.A.A. competition and then repeat it again for the O.H.A.'s benefit.

It's hardly likely to draw fans. Most would suspect the duplication of playoffs as a poorly conceived attempt to add to their and the O.H.A.'s coffers.

A rift still exists between the W.O.A.A. and O.H.A. so it's hardly likely the W.O.A.A. will be furthering such a series. Who's the W.O.A.A.?

THE WESTERN ONTARIO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, formed at the conclusion of World War II, is the brainchild of W. T. "Doc" Cruekshank, President of CKNX Radio and Television, Wingham. "Doc" Cruekshank always had and still has the interest of youth at heart, and while the older athletes of the region had plenty of competition in hockey, baseball, softball and allied sports, he felt something should be done for the younger generation.

To help him with a plan for minor sport, he contacted M. E. "Tony" Gregg of Kincardine, who had many years experience in different lines of sport. To bring the entire district into the picture, B. L. H. Bamford, C. F. "Cully" Rocher, and W. M. "Mac" Pratt of Listowel — centre for many years of the former Northern Hockey League — were contacted and plans were made for an Association whereby the children of the smaller communities would have a chance at organized sport.

From this beginning, the Organization has grown — until today it includes centres from the Bruce Peninsula in the North, to the St. Marys area in the South; Sarnia district in the West, and Orangeville in the East. Two of the many off-shoots of the W.O.A.A., sanctioned and helped by the parent body, are the annual Young Canada Pee Wee Baseball Tournament at Listowel — and of course, the annual Young Canada Hockey Week for Pee Wee players, at Goderich.

THE W.O.A.A., from a small beginning in 1945, has grown into one of the largest sport organizations in the province. In its initial year, the first year, the W.O.A.A. comprised 10 teams. In 1944, the number of participating teams included 143 in hockey, 47 in baseball, 182 in men's softball, and 22 in girls' softball.

BEAT BITS — Defenceman Gerry Inglis is away in Jamaica for a two week holiday, so he'll miss part of the group playoffs. Milton Juniors clinched a playoff spot by winning two crucial games the past week. Bantams meet Hespeler in the group semi-finals here, tonight (Thursday), go to Hespeler Friday and return here Sunday if a third game is necessary in the best-of-three series. Winner meets Milton. That's the only Acton Tri-County club to survive the first round of the playoffs.

Harvesters Advance to Finals
Oust Acton From Loop Playoffs

Milton Harvesters battled back on Sunday to down Acton Juniors 4-1 and on the right to advance to the Tri-County "B" final. The Milton club won a decisive 6-1 victory in the first game of the series but Fred Kentner's Acton club came back strong to take the second game of the set 3-2 Wednesday last.

The two teams battled through a scorching first period on Sunday and early in the second stanza, John Zoppas banged in a Ken Thompson relay to give Milton a 1-0 lead. Ian John's goal at the 12:00 minute mark of the final frame tied the score on a pass from Barry Elliott. A minute and 30 seconds later, Tom Ramshaw finished off a sharp passing play from John Zoppas and Don Christensen, to put Milton in front once again. Barry Fletcher's unassisted tally at 15:40 put the game out of reach for the Tanners' towners and Alan Jones finished the scoring late in the afternoon at 17:40, scoring on passes from Steve Gervais and John Zoppas.

Last Wednesday, here, the Acton club led throughout the game to post the 3-2 win. Dan Arbie's goal in the first period and Kevin Hall's marker on a pass from Ian Johnson gave Acton a 2-0 lead.

Harvester captain Ken Thompson put Milton on the score sheet, scoring on a pass from John Zoppas, but Gary Taillefer's unassisted goal gave Acton a two goal lead once again. In the final stanza, Thompson scored from Zoppas, to make it 3-2, and although the tally came early in the period, Milton was unable, to tie the count.

Acton's other Tri-County clubs, the Midgets, Pee Wees and Novices, can have their backs as far as the O.M.H.A. is concerned. The Midgets were ousted by Orangeville, the Pee Wees by Orangeville and the Novices by Hespeler. Midgets lost 1-0 here on Wednesday, a real thriller, and then took a 4-1 pasting in Orangeville on Saturday in a game which wound up with one late Acton falter, chasing an official.

Tanners Capture 10-5 Victory In Penalty Punctuated Contest

In a sequel to the Chuvale-Patterson bout the same week, Tanners and their guests, the fourth place Cheltenham Harvesters, staged a five fight card in the community centre Friday night at what was billed as a W.O.A.A. senior hockey contest.

Contagious, the fight fever even spread to the stands, where a few of the 300 or more paying customers indulged in another downpour which was only quelled by the intervention of the town's penitaries.

Pleasant Feature
Upshot of the liveliest, penalty punctuated contest of the current campaign was an easy 10-5 win for the Tanners over the Harvesters, about the only pleasant feature of the entire proceedings. It was their 12th victory in 17 games.

Thirty-four penitents were sent either to the penalty box or the showers in the 60 minute playing span. Most of them in the first 40 minutes. Total penalty time which included four majors for fighting and four game misconducts for the same offense, amounted to 177 minutes, a record for a game here.

Referees Barney Reed and Jim Welsh, a shabby pair of officials, let the game get out of hand by imposing many cheap penalties in the first two periods. The game eventually erupted into a brawl. One late fan threw a rule book on the ice at officials with instructions for them to use it.

Incensed by slashing from the stick of Jack Judge, Fred Kentner turned on him in the first period with some well delivered punches.

First Shut-Out
In Jim Welsh's case, in the Acton nets it was the first shut-out of the season and the diminutive number deserved most of the credit for preserving it. He stopped the Rocks dead on the occasions, when they penetrated the Tanners' defense, weakened by the loss of Max Stafford and Gary Inglis, for the game.

A few leather lunged Acton fans made the trip to cheer the Tanners on. They resolved their biggest cheer for rookie John Dunn when he pulled the trigger in the last minute of the second period. Every Acton player but the goalie shared in the scoring.

Juggled Line
Coach Junior Beaumont, a three goal, one assist scorer in the game, juggled the line up to get the most use of the 12 players dressed. He moved Harold Townsley and Bill Wheeler back to the defense, platoon alongside regulars Fred Kentner and Bob Marshall, which left two complete lines and an alternate on the forward string.

Besides Junior's hat trick pivot Blake Inglis had a pair and three assists. Fred Kentner posted two and collected two assists, and Emerson Baxter lit the lamp twice, collecting one bracket.

Don McKenzie, Ugo Bolzon, Jim Farrelly, Harold Townsley and John Dunn fired a goal apiece with McKenzie also earning four assists, Bolzon three, Farrelly two and Townsley one. Blue liners Bob Marshall and Bill Wheeler also each registered an assist.

It started with Blake Inglis and Glen Judge and spread until there were four pairs of combatants swinging at each other. The original pair each got a five minute major plus two minutes for high sticking. Blake also had a two minute roughing sentence tacked on him.

Four of the other pugilists were given game misconducts. They included Max Stafford and Junior Beaumont of the Tanners and Robinson and Sacket of Cheltenham, Beaumont insisting he was only holding the other fellow from joining the fray.

After the snafu of battle had cleared a disturbance broke out in the stands just as the game ended. The long arm of the law was called and participants, an official from Cheltenham and a pair of Acton fans, were broken up but not before plenty of up-riar.

When it came to playing the key the Tanners were head and shoulders above the visitors who were never really in the game until the final minutes of the second and most of the third period. The Acton club built up a 5-1 lead in the first period and made it 9-1 before Cheltenham got another goal late in the second. Score at the end of the second was 9-3.

Cheltenham bagged two more in the third, one apiece by the Judge brothers, but the Tanners posted number 10 half a minute before the final buzzer, courtesy of Ugo Bolzon.

Other Acton Marksmen were Jim Farrelly, Max Stafford and Junior Beaumont who contributed two goals apiece to the victory. Harold Townsley, Don McKenzie, Gerry Inglis and Bolzon registered one apiece.

Hogarth, Cheltenham's beleaguered cage custodian, in spite of the 10 pucks that went past him, played a commendable game. He stopped at least three Acton break aways with no defense in front of him and turned aside countless other labelled shots.

Match Goals
In the first game Cardinals and Flyers matched goals in the first, second and third periods to tie the knot. There were 15 penalties imposed by referees Harold Townsley and Ches Pechar, including a 10 minute misconduct Wayne Sheppard and Ken Tuck drilled a brace apiece to pace the league leader. Noah Russell chipped a single Assist were registered by Don Lindsay (2), Wayne Sheppard, Gord Mason and Dave Papillon.

Howard Dwyer scored two for Cards, Gary Ritchie, Bob Bruce and Jim McDonald fired one apiece. Assists went to Charlie Phillips, Keith Allen and Bruce Barber.

The league's two top scorers, Gord Mason and Keith Allen, were held to a single assist each in the game.

Raiders and Ridiculous each

Juggled Tanners Whitewash Rocks

Mired in the cellar with only one win to their credit this season, Elora Rocks were victims of a 1-0 beating at the hands of a short-handed but determined crew of Tanners Monday evening in the George Phoebe rink in the town of Acton.

The Acton Club's drive for a second place finish in the six team W.O.A.A. senior circuit was given further impetus by the victory, their 13th in 18 starts. They led 7-0 at the end of the first period, 11-0 at the end of the second and drilled three more in the final stanza for the biggest margin they've amassed this season.

The Rocks never quit trying but they were no match for the heavier and more experienced Tanners.

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Oust Fergus Bants Meet Hespeler

Acton Firefighter Bantams edged Elora Rocks 2-1 Thursday night in the second game of their best of three Tri-County "B" playoff series, and the one goal margin proved to be the series winner. The clubs tied in overtime in the first game at Fergus and played to another full tie here Saturday night.

The only Acton Tri-County team to survive the first round of the playoffs, the Bants now meet Hespeler in a best of three group semi-final. Winner will meet Milton, who have a bye.

First game with Hespeler in Acton tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock. The series resumes in Hespeler Friday and if a third game is necessary, it will be played in Acton Sunday between 4 and 5 p.m. in the afternoon.

Coach Harold Townsley and manager Herb Dadds are confident their club will oust Hespeler. The locals took Hespeler twice through the season.

Casey Harkley sank the winning goal here Thursday in the Firefighters' 2-1 win, as well as assisting on the club's first marker from the stick of John Mason, who in turn helped out on the winning goal.

Dave Dunbar, John Mason and Jim Barden each sank a goal for Acton in Saturday's deadlock, which like the first game of the set, went into overtime. Bob Andrews, Casey Harkley and Mike Cooper collected an assist apiece.

Playoffs Start Friday Feb. 19th

Convener Bob Marshall indicated Wednesday group playoffs would definitely start next week in the W.O.A.A. senior series. If Acton beat Fergus last night (Wednesday), first game of the best-of-three group semi-finals against Cheltenham will be here a week from Friday.

This could all be changed, however, if Fergus upsets the Tanners. The Acton club still has a postponed game with the Flyers in Fergus and it will be necessary to wait for the outcome before second place is sewed up in the event Fergus won here.

Otherwise, it's likely first place Elmira and Orangeville will meet in one semi-final, Acton and Cheltenham in the other. Winners will meet in the finals, a three-out-of-five series.

Single Goal Margin of Victory In Four of Six Minor Contests

One goal was the margin of victory in four of the six Legion town league hockey games Saturday afternoon. First game was a scoreless tie while the wind-up was the only decisive win of the afternoon.

Goalies Mike Luty and Robin Inscue were unbeatable in the Acton opener which Brampton and Weston played to a scoreless tie. Both netminders were tested but made the right moves at the right time to blank the league sharpshooters.

In the Novice opener Howard Coultrup scored the goal and drew the only penalty as Hamilton whitewashed St. Catharines 1-0.

Falls Nudged
Oshawa edged Niagara Falls 3-2 in the second Novice contest thanks to a pair of goals from the stick of Carl Reed. Randy Coker notched the first counter. Glen McKenzie potted one and David Braida scored the second Niagara tally from Glen McKenzie who also picked up the sole penalty of the contest.

Pee Wee Action
Dave Cunningham and Dave Kennedy each rapped in a counter as Baltimore beat Cleveland 2-1 in Pee Wee action. Charlie Giddon scored the Baron's goal, unassisted, as were the two Bal-

Flyers Top Industrial Statistics

Last year's scoring champion, Bob Coon with 36 total points in sixteen games, has been exceeded in 12 games this year.

This year the teams are more offensive than before. Reason? — younger and faster legs.

Top Goalkeeping Average
Bob Sheppard, Flyers, is the most popular man in the ice box is John Cunningham with 61 minutes in penalties.

Ed Phillips, Official scorer

Thank You!

FRIENDS; after long-deliberation (and much consultation) I find that I must relinquish my Auction Service, a most honourable and pleasant rewarding profession, due to a restriction of the Ontario Government, Real Estate Branch. Therefore I wish to acknowledge the kindness and confidence placed in me by my many friends for whom I have conducted Auction Sales:

To Mr. Roy Hindley of Everton, a proven Auctioneer of 50 years for his assistance and advice.

To Mr. Frank Petch of Georgetown, another 50 year auctioneer, for his support and assistance.

And of course, to my Auctioneering partner, Mr. Jack Elliott of Milton for his patience and perseverance and without whose guiding assistance I could not have enjoyed the great pleasure from Auctioneering.

To these people my grateful thanks.

JACK HOLMES, Auctioneer

MOTHERS GRANDMOTHERS TINY TOTS SKATING AT THE ARENA

2 - 3 P.M. THURSDAYS

Flyers, Cards Tie Knot Raiders Down Ridics In Sunday's Twin Bill

There was little to choose between the Industrial Hockey League's two top teams, Flyers and Cardinals, as they battled to a 5-5 stalemate in the first game of Sunday's doubleheader. It was the second successive tie between the two clubs. Last time out the Flyers won 2-2.

Raiders continued their mastery over tail end Ridiculous in the nights up by coming from behind to snaffle the victory 8-7 in a clean, five penalty match. Fresh from their win over the front running Flyers, forgot to backcheck Sunday and thus contributed to their loss as well as the fine performance of Andy Williams in the Raider net.

Match Goals
In the first game Cardinals and Flyers matched goals in the first, second and third periods to tie the knot. There were 15 penalties imposed by referees Harold Townsley and Ches Pechar, including a 10 minute misconduct Wayne Sheppard and Ken Tuck drilled a brace apiece to pace the league leader. Noah Russell chipped a single Assist were registered by Don Lindsay (2), Wayne Sheppard, Gord Mason and Dave Papillon.

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CURLING

Monday afternoon: Margaret Toth 8, Willa Hewitt 6, Anne Moore 2, Eve Cooper 0.
Tuesday afternoon (two of games in brackets): Mar Dumarsch 4 (3), Ethel Holmes 4 (3), Donna Krapek 4 (3), Gwen Tyler 2 (3), Pat McCutcheon 2 (4).

Men's Curling
Monday afternoon: Holy Rollers (A McKenzie) 14, Truckers (Tyler's) 14, Butchers (C. Bradley) 12, Stone Distributors (B. Wood) 8, Elbow Benders (Bill Toth) 2, Legion (Bunk Holmes) 2.
Tuesday, 8:15 to 10: Alex Zbehtnoff 5, Cliff Bradley 4, Bunk Holmes 4, Dr. Alan Buchanan 3, John Hufnagel 2, Walter Dubois 0.

SCHEDULE ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12
2:30-4:00 P.M. Figure Skating
8:30 Tanners vs. N.H.L. Old-Timers

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
8:00 Figure Skating
10:12 Public Skating
12:30-6:00 Legion House League
8:10 Public Skating

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14
1:30-3:30 Family Skating
7:10 Industrial Hockey

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Curling

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Curling

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
6:00-8:00 Hockey School
7:00 Legion House League
8:10 Tri-County Hockey

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
6:30 Tri-County Hockey

OTHER EVENTS
FIGURE SKATING CLUB — Join now and be in the folios.
COUPLES SQUARE DANCE CLUB 4th Saturday — Instructions for all

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