

Omagh Blanks I.G.A. 6-0 In Dull Playoff Opener

The frustrating part of the Inter-county Fastball League playoff opener for Acton I.G.A. was their inability to hit pitcher Ken Nixon as they went down to a 6-0 whitewash at the hands of Omagh Friday night. Nixon's slams were no puzzle throughout the season. Dark rimmed spectacles, a mixture of changeups and fastballs at the grocers that kept them off balance through nine innings of a dull spectacle which drew neither much enthusiasm or many fans. The Acton club seemed to lack the desire and spirit to make it much of a contest for a playoff opener. All the Omagh runs were

used a long single for the only other Acton safety. Afield the grocers lacked the chatter and drive which usually mark a team which finishes first through the season. Part of the reason was a shortage of players which forced manager Harry Lawson to juggle his lineup.

In Defense's Seat

He nominated Carl (Tex) Leybourne to start tossing and Tex was in the driver's seat for three innings. Then he promptly got himself in hot water by walking Bill Currie and yielding a hit to Don Currie which ultimately resulted in two runs for the visitors in the fourth when a couple of passed balls were thrown in.

The fifth was almost a repeat of the previous inning's ineptitude. Leybourne walked Eves, fumbled Nixon's hard grounder to put two men on base. Then he

hit G. Gillies with a pitch to load the sacks.

With one out Tex bore down to strike out Bill Currie but Jim Jarvis' sharp grounder took a bad hop and Peter Lawson fumbled. Eves scored and the bases stayed full. Don Currie doubled scoring two runners but Jarvis was thrown out at home to end the inning with three runs. They got another in the eighth when Don

Currie took a ticket and scored as Ross Cunningham dragged a bunt.

Fortunately for the grocers it was just the first game of a best-of-seven series. Second contest was slated for Wednesday (last night) in Omagh.

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Grocers One Up In League Finals

Surprise team of the town league softball marbles. I.G.A. rang defending champion Legionnaires up in their cash registers Tuesday night like a can of tomato juice or a head of cabbage with a bit of Bologna thrown in. The 11-4 victory, accomplished with one shorthanded club against the other, stretched the grocers' playoff win streak to four and put them one up in the best-of-seven final.

Only thing missing from the opener was a big helping of rhu barb which must have been out of season. The umpires, all three of them, tried to raise the stuff with some highly questionable decisions but both squads seemed determined to laugh it off rather than lap it up.

sides dispatched four runners home, the grocers on three hits, a pass and a pair of errors. Legion scored theirs on a double, three walks and another pair of fat, juicy errors.

Catcher Freddy Thompson slammed a shot down the right field line in the fifth with Brian McCristall on board that went for a homer and Legionnaires were in front 6-0. The grocers tied it at the top of the sixth when Jeff Fryer took a pass, George Maltby singled to left, Jeff and scored himself as Dick Willie fled out to centre.

I.G.A. went ahead in the seventh to stay with three runs off a many hits and walks to boot. Harold (Doc) DeForest, a player who barely played all season, started it off with a single to right, Bruce McArthur doubled, Denis Gibbons singled, Bruce Cargill walked and runs were forced in as Jeff Fryer and George Maltby also took tickets.

Grocers added two more in the eighth when DeForest and McArthur walked, Gibbons, Cargill and Fryer singled.

Legion got two back in their half when John Leatherland singled and scored when Gary Masales lifted a tremendous shot back in the twilight zone in left field. One more try in the ninth netted the Legion another run as Bullough arrived safe on the shortstop's error and Don Price slammed one through the hole.

George Maltby unloaded three hits to pace the winners, Gibbons and Fryer had two apiece, Brian McCristall and Fred Thompson had two apiece for the losers.

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This attitude provoked a let's wait and see attitude on the part of fans who stayed away in droves for the initial encounter. According to the script Legionnaires should have waited away with the series in four straight games. It was obvious the grocers neglected to read either the script or paid much attention to past performances. They were full value for the wait.

Both sides used a pair of pitchers since ace tossers Daley and Salmon were busy at making a living and flinging elsewhere respectively. Rookie Ken Maltby started for the winners and he left for the garden when player-pitcher-coach Bruce Cargill decided the time was ripe for him to step up on the rubber. Between them Legionnaires were able to collect nine safeties and wangle seven tickets to first.

Young Mike Tchorsowski was given the Legion hill assignment and he went out in favor of Gary Masales around about the seventh. I.G.A. belted 12 hits from their assortment and walked 11 times.

Four for Each

The very first inning forecast lots of base runners when both

'Burgers Win

Willsburg downed Glen Williams 10-4 Tuesday night to take a one game lead in the best-of-seven Inter-County softball final. Alan Little started for the 'Burgers.

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FOR THE FIRST TIME in many years the town league softball final has a change of personnel. Instead of Legionnaires and Firefighters it's Legionnaires and I.G.A. in the final set. And it's possible a new champion may be proclaimed if you take the first game as a sample of what could happen. The grocers extended a three game semi-final sweep by knocking the defending champions off 11-0 in the opener Tuesday night.

Both sides were missing ace pitchers. I.G.A. lacked veteran Frank Daley, Legionnaires missed John Salmon. They've been key figures in finals the past three seasons. If they hook up in the remaining contests the final will be almost a duplicate of previous runs for the marbles.

Legion disposed of Georgetown Domtar in four games, the fourth of which was described by one Legion fan as a credit to neither team. In that series Domtar won the first game by a handy margin which makes you wonder if the same thing couldn't happen in the current cup hunt.

The grocers, however, could turn out to be the Cinderella team of the town league. They finished in fourth place behind the Legion, Station Hotel and Domtar in that order. It would be stretching things to say they were any better than a fourth place team but they've demonstrated in the semi-finals that they want their names engraved on the cup. And who's to say they won't.

MEAT BITS ... Don't forget to attend the softball tournament this weekend ... Fergus made a clean sweep of their Senior 'B' lacrosse final with Oshawa Warriors in front of over 1,500 fans who jam-packed thisbeburg arena Friday night by downing the Iadlers 11-5. Thistles meet the south-western Ontario winners next, probably Windsor and then take on Cornwall in the Eastern final. Winner will be sent to the west coast for a Canadian final. Acton's Barry Innes is the only player on the Thistles who does not live in Fergus or learn his lacrosse there.

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GRAND SLAMMER TIES UP SERIES

A grand slam home run in the ninth inning buried the Campbellville Merchants' hopes for a two game sweep in their Ontario Baseball Association Intermediate "C" series with Cannifton. The Villagers who copped the opening game of the series, had a 2-2 tie going into the bottom of the ninth inning in Cannifton on Saturday but had to settle for a 6-2 loss.

With the bases loaded Don Forsythe blasted a long home run to give the Cannifton squad the victory.

Salmon Tosses Two Hitter

Nineteen Domtar batters were mowed down as strikes by John Salmon as he hurled Legionnaires to the town league softball finals Thursday night with a stingy two hitter.

Fourth game of the best-of-five semi-final, the defending champs took a one-sided 11-1 decision over the Georgetown papermakers who won only the first game of the series. Legionnaires swept the next three, the first by a scanty 17-14 margin.

Legion Eliminates Domtar From Town League Playoffs

Outside of the final game, both clubs seemed shaky and unsure of themselves.

Clark Ejected

A rhabarb between umpire Earl Walker and second baseman Clark Holmes in which Holmes was consigned to the sidelines for his part almost spoiled the good humor of the series. Hand

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shakes all around after Salmon struck out the entire side, for the third time, in the ninth, testified to the sportsmanship of the Georgetown team.

Their second year in the Acton league it's the first time in the playoffs for Domtar. They finished third this season in a close race after a cellar finish last year.

Hit Parade

Top man in Thursday's hit parade was Don (Bucky) Price who slammed out three hits for Legionnaires. Centre fielder Wayne Marshall, left fielder Don Anderson and shortstop Gary Masales all doubled and John Leatherland and Fred Thompson singled.

Jim Golden was the only papermaker to hit away safely for Domtar. His single was joined by a hunt Dave Cunningham laid down for the two Georgetown hits.

Rockwood Tourney Champs Defeat Glen 7-1 in Finals

Rockwood Firemen took home the laurels from the Labor Day softball tournament in Hillsburgh, defeating Glen Williams 7-1 in the finals behind Jack Salmon's brawling fastball.

First game of the tourney was a 14 inning marathon which Brampton won 4-3 over Hillsburgh. Glen Williams knocked off Omagh 6-2 in the other preliminary. Then the Glen eliminated Acton I.G.A. 5-2 to make the finals against Rockwood.

Salmon whiffed 15 of the hard hitting Glen batters in the final as Rockwood cake walked to the title with a 7-1 decision.

Strong Pitcher

Both teams received strong pitching performances in the contest. Campbellville righthander Harry Hamilton and veteran Village infielder Elmer Dredge cleared the mound duties for the losers with Dredge being picked for the grand slam home run. Hamilton buried six and two-third innings and allowed two runs and five hits while walking six and striking out three. Elmer Dredge chucked an inning and one-third and gave up four runs and three hits while fanning one and walking one.

Villagers Open Semi-Final Set

Campbellville Merchants will be looking for a tight battle on Sunday afternoon when they open a best of three O.B.A. Intermediate "C" series against their old rivals - Corunna.

First game of the series will be in Campbellville at 2:30 on Sunday with the second game slated for Corunna on Saturday, August 18. The location of the third game if necessary will be decided later but September 19 has been set aside for the game.

This will be the fourth time Campbellville has battled Corunna and each of the first three times the Villagers won - but it took the full three games each time.

Either lefty Jack Roberts or righthander Harry Hamilton will start the Sunday game.

Villagers Victorious Advance in O.B.A. Play

Campbellville Merchants advanced to the next round. The crafty southpaw wasn't at his sharpest for the contest, but still managed to get out of trouble whenever it was necessary. In the third and deciding game of a best of three playoff series.

The Merchant bats, kept silent during the first two games of the series, responded to the challenge in Oshawa on Monday and topped two Cannifton pitchers for 13 base hits including a double by Al Wingrove and a long triple by Earl Cairns. The third game was played in neutral territory at the request of Cannifton.

Veteran village lefty Jack Roberts hurled the victory, which

gives the Merchants the right to advance to the next round. The crafty southpaw wasn't at his sharpest for the contest, but still managed to get out of trouble whenever it was necessary. In the third and deciding game of a best of three playoff series.

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