

Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

SUNDAY AFTERNOON at 1.30 the town softball league leaves the starting gate for a 30 game schedule which winds up on Sunday, August 7.

The league has shrunk from last year's six entries to four, including a brand new club called Herb's Delivery which might possibly bear a close resemblance to the Firefighter teams of past seasons. Firefighters, Dominion Hotel and Georgetown Dumar are the squads which called it quits after last season with the Dumar team opting out in order to form an Intercounty entry out of Georgetown.

Firefighters evidently figured they had enough to do without sponsoring a ball team this season. Lack of interest and players played a part in Dominion Hotel's withdrawal.

That leaves last year's champion Ledger's IGA, Station Hotel, Legion and Herb's Delivery to fight it out for league honors with Herb Dadds bankrolling the new team.

Reduction from six to four entries may not seem like a good omen for the league but it should certainly improve the calibre of the softball. There has been some opinion in other seasons that in six and even five teams the league was over-extending itself. Critics said there weren't enough good players around to keep five clubs staffed.

The answer was that the league wasn't really interested in quality but in giving everyone who wanted to, a chance to play. This year's performance, with only four teams involved, will give observers a chance to compare notes with previous seasons. Most fans will agree, I think, that the calibre of play last season did not match its two predecessors, but it was partly due to the weather, often more conducive for football than mshball.

League president Harold Townsley says cutting the league to four teams created a playoff problem. It was customary to award playoff spots to the first four clubs with two being knocked off. This season all four teams will make the playoffs but the executive has introduced a new wrinkle in the form of prize money for the top three to make it more competitive.

First place finisher will receive \$30, the second place team will get \$20 and the third place club \$10. Last place will not benefit but they'll have a chance to win the championship pot of \$40. Playoffs will involve the first and third and second and fourth place finishers in a two out of three semi-final. The final series will be a three out of five.

Chester Anderson has been appointed umpire in chief and the league hopes to arrange a suitable array of arbiters from player personnel. An effort is also being made to have a league statistician. He'll probably be named this week.

There has been the usual pre-season scramble for players with pitchers being the most sought-after. The only way you'll be able to gauge the strength of each club is to be in the bleachers when the league opens Sunday. Only admission charge will be the usual silver collection.

THE BIRTHPLACE OF HOCKEY, subject of a long-standing, often acrimonious dispute which has involved Montreal, Kingston and Halifax has been settled according to the Halifax Mail-Star. The Nova Scotia Journal of Education published an article on the subject last year by Dr. Bruce Fergusson, provincial archivist, which concluded "well documented research serves to corroborate Menke's opinion that hockey originated at Halifax and confirms the place of J. G. A. Creighton, C.M.G., K.C., in its development in Montreal."

Dr. Fergusson, member of a prominent Cape Breton family which excels in athletics as well as scholarship, claims Kingston merely imported the rules of "true" ice hockey from Halifax for a game there March 3, 1875. The Nova Scotia Journal of Education, an east coast journal, says Dr. Fergusson makes reference to games of wicket (hockey) being played at the head of the North West Arm (in Halifax).

Frank Menke, an American sports historian wrote in the 1940's that in his opinion hockey originated in Halifax, developed into the modern game in Montreal and was played a short time later in Kingston. Menke says J. G. A. Creighton, a student at McGill University in Montreal, first suggested the college obtain hockey sticks from Halifax and take up the game.

Creighton evidently was born in Halifax and played wicket (hockey) there, the author surmises. Graduating from Dalhousie University in 1868 he furthered his education at McGill in 1877. Through his familiarity with and interest in hockey, Creighton is credited with introducing the game to Montreal.

As far as Nova Scotians are concerned the argument is settled but it's likely Fergusson's thesis will only add more fuel to the controversy. As a matter of fact maybe Acton should put in a claim. Old-timers this fuzzy-checked one has spoken to remember when half the village of Acton West used to take part in "shiny" matches on Fairy Lake. Acton's Early Days speaks of it. Back when great grandpappy wore a handle-bar moustache and stood at the bar for his brew, the villages hereabouts were playing "shiny" and perhaps the honor of being hockey's birthplace rightfully belongs to some little hamlet long-since disappeared.

BEAT BITS ★ One-half of the Free Press golfing team was recovering from the measles but that didn't deter them from winning a steak dinner from Messrs. Creighton and Youngblut of the Beardmore office Saturday. After 18 holes were played it was reported the pair from the paper said they could have done it with one hand tied behind their backs. From this corner it looked like the motive was revenge for last year's beating at the hands of the Beardmore brace. Messrs. Scovine and MacArthur readily admit their handicap helped a little.

Georgetown Giant home opener was rained out last Wednesday. Only 30 boys registered for lacrosse Saturday but exec. director Pearce expected there'd be a run on last night (Wednesday) since there was a mass exodus from town last week-end. Barry Inscow, a member of last year's eastern St. B lacrosse champion Fergus Thistles, has rejoined the team again this season. "We're at least 25 per cent stronger than last year," said Inscow. Efforts are being made to promote an exhibition game between the new girls' team, Acton Wildcats, and a Guelph club next Monday. The Queen and her Maids will appear for an exhibition here on Friday, July 15.

Town league softball starts Sunday afternoon

Following is the complete schedule for the Acton Softball Association's town league which starts the 1966 season on Sunday afternoon at 1.30 p.m. with a game between last year's champion IGA, team and the new entry from Herb's Delivery.

Each of the four teams will play 15 games for a total of 30 games in the schedule. Regular dates will be on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays with two Wednesdays thrown in when holidays fall on a weekend.

Night games will be played under the lights and start at 8 p.m. Sunday afternoon games will start at 1.30 p.m.

Sunday, May 29 — Herb's Delivery vs Ledger's IGA.
Tuesday, May 31 — Station Hotel vs Legion.
Wednesday, June 1 — Ledger's IGA vs Station Hotel.
Thursday, June 2 — Legion vs Herb's Delivery.
Tuesday, June 7 — Herb's Delivery vs Station Hotel.
Thursday, June 9 — Ledger's IGA vs Legion.
Sunday, June 12 — Legion vs Station Hotel.
Tuesday, June 14 — Ledger's IGA vs Herb's Delivery.
Thursday, June 16 — Herb's Delivery vs Legion.
Sunday, June 19 — Station Hotel vs Ledger's IGA.
Tuesday, June 21 — Legion vs Ledger's IGA.
Thursday, June 23 — Station Hotel vs Herb's Delivery.
Sunday, June 26 — Herb's Delivery vs Ledger's IGA.
Tuesday, June 28 — Station Hotel vs Legion.

Jim Slaven wins mile in CWOSSA "A" meet

Training with the Guelph Legion Track Club and Acton coach Ted Franklin paid off for 15-year-old Jim Slaven in Waterloo. Jim won the junior mile event to bring home Acton High's only red ribbon.

A double winner in the CWOSSA "B" meet a week earlier Jim bettered his time by 27 seconds to hit the tape in five minutes flat. He'll be the only Acton entry in the OESSAA meet May 28 in London.

Paul Marr, Acton's threat in the senior mile placed fifth with a time of 5.3 minutes, 12 seconds slower than the pace he set in winning the CWOSSA "B" race.

Irene Severnski, junior girls' champion at ADHS raced in the 60 and 100 yard events but failed to place. She took both races in the CWOSSA "B" competition.

Kay Chisholm, girls' senior champion, missed out in the 60 yard dash and high jump. Kay failed to keep her record four feet, nine inch performance in the "B" meet, falling out five inches short.

Another Acton track star, Keith Ranney, placed second in the half mile at East York Saturday behind Jim Reynolds. Keith is also a Guelph Legion track club member.

Homers aid village in 8-7 win

Campbellville won their home-opener on Sunday when they turned back the powerful young Dundas team by a score of 8-7. It was an exciting contest that wasn't decided until the last of the eighth when, with two out Earl Cairns smashed a game-winning home run over the right field fence.

Veteran Harry Hamilton opposed young Terry Litzzen but at the end only the loser, Litzzen, was still working as the pitching rich Campbellville club went to their bull pen twice. In four and two thirds innings Hamilton allowed two runs off one hit. He walked four and struck out four.

Gary Field, in relief of Hamilton in one inning, allowed one run off two hits. He struck out two and walked two. Jack Roberts, the eternal winner, in three and one-third innings, allowed four runs off five hits. He struck out three and walked one. Terry Litzzen, who went all the way for Dundas, allowed eight runs off 13 hits. He walked five and struck out one.

Dundas took a 1-0 lead in the second when Krawczyk was safe on an error, stole second, went to third on an error and scored on an infield out. Campbellville came right back to tie it up in their half of the second when King singled, went to second on Elliott's single, was advanced to third by Repta's sacrifice bunt and scored after Chester flared out to deep left.

Campbellville scored four times in the bottom of the fourth to take a 5-1 lead. Repta singled, Chester walked and when Hamilton batted, no one covered first for Dundas even though the throw went there. Repta scored on the play with Chester and Hamilton ending up on third and second. A sacrifice fly scored Chester and Moore's singled placed Hamilton. Moore went to second on an error and scored on Cairns' single.

Arnold singled for Dundas to open the fifth but was out at second when Litzzen grounded to short. Litzzen went to second when Weldon walked, to third when McPhail walked and scored on McNab's single to make it 5-2. In the sixth Krawczyk was safe on an error, stole second and scored on VanSickle's short single to make it 5-3.

Dundas kept pecking away and scored two in the seventh to draw up even at 5-5. McPhail walked, went to second on an infield out and scored on Krawczyk's single. Krawczyk went to third on VanSickle's single and scored on Arnold's double.

Campbellville went ahead again in the bottom of the seventh when King singled and Elliott homered to make it 7-5. Dundas came right back to tie the score in the top of the eighth when Weldon was safe on an error and the scored ahead of Don McPhail who blasted a home run over the right centre-field fence.

This set the stage for Carl Cairns' game winning home run in the bottom of the eighth.

Arnold doubled and singled for Dundas while VanSickle and Krawczyk both singled twice. Don McPhail homered and also drew four bases on balls.

For Campbellville Earl Cairns and Bill Elliott both homered and singled. Elmer Dredge, Ken Moore and Stu King all singled twice. Rick Repta, Harry Hamilton and Jack Roberts all singled once.

Footnotes: Ken Moore uncocked a great throw in the fifth to take Weldon at the plate. He also threw Krawczyk out in the eighth as he tried to stretch a single into a double.

Al Wingo went hitless but twice drove the centre fielder back to the fence to make catches.



"THE PUFFS" captured the playoff championship in the Acton Mixed Bowling League last week. Pictured with captain Ron Winters are Charlene Gough, Fred Landry, Dot Thompson, Charlie Gough, Gary Dobie and Frank Daley.

Dance after roller skating popular innovation Saturday

Tuesday and Thursday nights are good, and Saturdays "terrific" is the consensus of opinion following the introduction of a three-night-a-week roller skating program at the community centre. It's a first for Acton.

Saturday night admission was 142, with all 112 pairs of roller skates rented quickly. There were spectators as well as skaters for the evening of fun. Between 80 and 100 stayed for the orderly and very enjoyable dance afterwards. The Sabres, a local group, set up their instruments in one corner of the auditorium for the very successful innovation.

The floor in the arena had been washed on Friday to keep down the dust and that was an improvement. The skaters were signalled to switch direction to keep the wear on the skates even. Patrols are in action every night.

A professional roller skating show is expected to draw many Acton natives on Saturday, June 4. Eight roller skaters are coming from Minica to demonstrate dances, pairs and tricks during the intermission. Attendance has been satisfactory every night so far.

Stu King took over third base where all-star Stan Henderson has held sway for so long and looked right at home in his new position.

Rick Repta, Campbellville's rookie second baseman from Waterdown showed lots of speed to first. As well as sacrificing and singling he was thrown out at first once on a very debatable call.

George Chester, like Wingo, went hitless, but hit well as he flared out deep on three different occasions.

Campbellville's next home game will be on Sunday, May 29th at 2.30 p.m. with Oakville providing the opposition.

Dundas 010 011 220-7 8 4
Cville 010 400 21x-8 13 6
Dundas — Litzzen and Arnold.
Cville — Hamilton, Field (5), Roberts (6) and Wingo.

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Free Press Sports Page



LACROSSE REGISTRATION attracted a number of local youngsters to the arena Saturday. Registration director Howard Pearce (seated) registers Doug McGilloway, Glenn Taillefer and Billy McGilloway as coach Barry Inscow watches.

Green Giants drop decision to Preston

Failure to hit with men on base cost Georgetown Giants a 4-1 decision at the hands of Preston in Halton County senior baseball action Saturday. It was the first game for the Giants who had the opener with Campbellville washed out.

The Giants didn't snaffle a run until the top of the ninth when Phil Marzo scored as Brian McCristall grounded out to second. Preston plated one in the first, another in the second and a pair in the eighth.

Bernie Dore went the distance on the hill for the Giants with Don Lindsay behind the plate. Don stroked two singles as well as sparkling defensively. Jim James also singled twice with Pete Lawson, Danny Arbie and Bill Campbell hitting safely once.

Tom James played a glittering game in the field gobbling up at least four drives that could have landed in safely.

Six Acton players started for the Giants: Denis Gibbons at second, Pete Lawson at short, Dan Arbie at third, Jim Lindsay in centre field, Brian McCristall in right and Don Lindsay catching. Phil Marzo pinch hit for Dore in the ninth.

Campbellville Merchants wore their new pin stripe uniforms for their home opener against Dundas on Sunday afternoon.

Hundreds of fishermen headed north for the weekend and many landed baskets full of beautiful catches.

Getting ready

Officials of Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers, sponsors of the annual Steam - Era reunion in Milton, are busy preparing for and promoting their sixth annual reunion in Milton Fair Grounds on Labor Day weekend, September 2, 3 and 5.

Milton edges Campbellville

Righthander Trevor Houston fired two-hit ball over the seven inning route on Saturday as the Milton Midgets edged Campbellville 3-1 in a Halton County Midget game at the fair grounds.

Milton, who never trailed in the game scored twice in the fifth. Campbellville's only tally came in the fourth when Jack Maves tripled and scored on a ground-out. Joe Wedge had the only other Campbellville hit, a single.

Barry McTrach, Richard Clement and Loris Faggan singled for the winners. One of the finest plays of the day was Marty Seeds' grab of a sure double off the bat of Bill Dennis.

Bill Dennis went the distance for the losers, going up three hits and striking out nine. Houston lanned eight.

New manager

Don Crane, manager of the Acton office of Atlantic Finance Corporation, is being transferred to Newfoundland, to be closer to his home there. The transfer came as a result of sickness in his family with his father ill.

Mr. Crane played on the Acton Tanners hockey team this winter and was quite popular with residents throughout town and sports fans.

He is being replaced Wednesday of next week by Mr. Atkinson who takes over as branch manager here.



High School News

The Grade 13 students have now received most of their May examination results. There is only one day of classes plus one study week left for them before they must tackle those formidable finals.

Last Wednesday evening Harold Manes and his meat department staff were host to a group of students accompanied by Mrs. Orr in the I.C.A. store. Frank McMahon from Oshawa and Douglas Black demonstrated procedures and answered ques-

tions concerning the cutting of a side of beef. After this informative session, refreshments were served.

After a vigorous week of campaigning, Student Council executive was elected for the coming year. Year Book editor Edith Hopkins, secretary Naney Lauder, and treasurer Joanne Landsborough assumed office by acclamation. Lynn Johnson was elected president and Susan Clarke vice-president.

The sewing machines in the home economics room are buzzing these days as the girls finish their garments for their Tulip Time Fashion Show on Friday afternoon.

At the All-CWOSSA track and field meet Jim Slaven was first in the mile and Paul Murr fifth in the senior mile. In the girls' division Irene Severnski placed sixth in the junior 60-yard dash and Kay Chisholm seventh in the senior high jump. On Saturday Jim Slaven represented Acton in the All-Ontario meet at London.

These students have won honors for the school and we congratulate them for their efforts.