

... Pounding the Sports BEAT

ACCORDING TO REPORTS in the dailies the touring Russian hockey team was perturbed because the C.A.H.A. sent them to Newfoundland and the east coast on safaris which the comrades won easily.

"They weren't hockey players", said the Russian coach through an interpreter. "They were fishermen".

This being centennial year the C.A.H.A. possibly felt the maritime teams were as much a part of the Canadian hockey picture as clubs from central and western Canada. As such they were entitled as much as anyone to play the tourists.

It gave Newfoundland fans and those in the maritimes a chance to assess the Russians. Speculation is rife about how they'd compare with N.H.L. teams, there as elsewhere. Fans in that sometimes forgotten part of Canada are as hep in sport as anywhere else in the country, contrary to what you may have heard.

N.H.L. games are beamed thataway via the boob tube and the trans-Canada network of the CBC carries reports for people in fishing hamlets and fog-shrouded outposts. So in their own way the folks in the east are as knowledgeable about sports as most of us here who can't afford to attend any professional contests and have to rely on TV and radio for reports.

The trip didn't hurt the image of the Russian team. They won by such overwhelming scores it couldn't help but promote the super-duper tag some people attach to them.

BEAT BITS ... Four town tournament teams are being organized for this year's day-long event, slated for Fergus. The Acton teams are practicing now under their coaches and managers. Novice coach is Ron Schmidt assisted by Clarence Hill with Phil (Scotty) McCristall as manager. Pee Wee coach is Bill Knight with Ken Marshall handling the manager's chores. Ilio Marzo will coach the Acton bantam entry with Kerwin McPhail manager. Referees are always good targets for a harpoon but the gentlemen in the striped shirts received more than their share of criticism the past week from Acton team officials ranging all the way from intermediate to midget. The Tanners were peeved at officials for their calls in Fergus Friday night when they got most of the penalties. "Worst refereeing I've seen in the O.H.A.", said one. Down in Burlington Sunday where the juvenile Lions took a 4-1 loss, Acton fans claimed the whistle blowers let the bigger and heavier Burlington boys away with almost everything.

Seems to me the sports scribblers are throwing more ink in Carl Brewer's direction than is necessary following Canada's win over Russia in the centennial hockey tournament. Brewer was a power on defense for Canada but it was an all-round effort from the entire team which sank the Russkies. Acton has an entry in a new hockey league exclusively for Building Products of Canada. The local team plays against the Hamilton plant here Thursday night. Hamilton Red Wings showed there is a wide gap between Junior 'A' and 'C' hockey by easily whopping Milton Merchants 10-1 Sunday. Keep your eye on the Acton Bantam entry in the Tri-County hockey association. They're attracting a larger following every game as they beat and tie the top clubs in the 13 team league.

LEGION TOWN HOCKEY LEAGUE

Tail-end Bantam turned on league leading Fergus with a 3-2 win in the town league bantam division last Thursday. First loss for the Hornets this season, the Bisons got goals from Tim Coles, Paul Paulsen and Steve Connell to knock off their antagonists, Paul Paulsen and Riny Schuts go, assists.

Pittsburg goals were scored by Garth Taylor and Gary Masters with Ricky Livermore assisting Gary.

Brampton edged Weston 3-2 in the Atom opener Saturday afternoon to widen the gap between the two teams. John McHugh, Scott Withers and Joe Kentner bagged the Brampton goals. Ford Alton picked up two assists.

John Scoyne drilled the first Weston goal, Mike Morris got the second from Ricky Holmes. St. Kitts whopped Hamilton 6-2 in the novice lid-lifter. John Hansen rattled five goals into the net and assisted on another for the winners to lead the point parade. Wayne Allan notched three corners. Steve Papillon and Bill Paul registered an assist each.

Kevin Maroux scored both Hamilton goals.

League-leading Niagara Falls outscored Oshawa 3-1 in the second half of the novice doubleheader with Bernie Taylor firing all three goals. Billy McKenzie picked up two assists, Billy Ware one.

David Allen scored the lone Oshawa reply.

Cleveland and Baltimore duelled to a 5-5 draw in the pee wee opener with Springfield shading Rochester 2-1 in the nightcap.

Peter Morrison shot two goals and collected two assists for Cleveland. Danny McGiloway, Randy Downes and Jeff Goy notched a goal apiece.

Glen McKenzie scored two for Baltimore. Harry Lawson, Randy Marsh and Jim McNabb each put the puck in the net once. Jim McNabb collected two assists. David Forster, Harry Lawson and Randy Marsh registered one apiece.

Bob Krul and David Brada gave Springfield their one goal margin over Rochester with Randy Collier assisting on the first goal, Bob Krul on Dave Brada's.

Red Gibbons hit the twine for Rochester assisted by Danny Bolton.

GAMES THIS SATURDAY:
Atom
1 p.m. - Weston at Brampton.

ACTON BANTAM entry in the Tri-County hockey league continues to bring honors to Acton and is a strong contender for first place. Front row left to right are John Snow, Mike Field, Craig Weldon, Bill Field and Jim Stevenson; second row coach Harold Townsley.

Tanners down Fergus 7-2 lose Townsley for month

Acton Tanners' 7-2 win over fourth place Fergus Flyers Friday night momentarily moved them into a first place tie with Hespeler. Mic Macs, however, have back-to-back games with Orangeville and Fergus this week and could easily regain sole possession of first place.

Victim Harold Townsley, a prolific goal scorer since he found the target, sustained torn ligaments in his right leg after being driven into the boards late in the third period. He'll be lost to the team for at least three weeks and possibly a month. His loss will be felt keenly as the schedule moves into the last half.

Townsley was one of the better Acton players, rattling in three goals; his fourth hat trick of the season. Doug (Smoky) Richardson notched two, Jan Riddall and Jim Farrelly bagged one apiece for the Acton club which was never behind in the contest.

They outscored Fergus in every period, leading 2-0 at the end of the first, 5-1 at the end of the second and driffling two more in the third with one reply from the Flyers.

Goalkeeper Jim Sweeney could very well have racked up a shut-out. Two questionable Fergus goals were allowed by referee Bill Devorski, who doled out 22 penalties in an effort to keep control of the chippy contest. Thirteen of the sentences, which included a 10 minute misconduct, went to the Tanners.

Devorski ruled the second Fergus goal was in despite claims by Acton team officials the whistle had blown. The first Flyer scoring effort was way offside but the ref ruled an Acton player had touched the puck before it went into the Acton end.

Three Tanner regulars, Blake Inglis, Bill Currie and Dan Arbie missed the game but the slack Fergus never had kingpin Bob Dobbie in uniform. Richardson, Cunningham and Townsley excelled killing penalties for the Tanners. Pepper-pot Ozzie Harper served five of the nine Fergus offenses.

It was the Tanners' ninth win in 13 games and it momentarily moved them into a first place tie with league leading Hespeler. Mic Macs, however, have back-to-back games with Orangeville and Fergus this week and could easily regain sole possession of first place.

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Seaforth hangs 7-0 shutout on shorthanded Tanners Tues.

Seaforth Beavers hung a 7-0 whitewash job on the shorthanded Acton Tanners last night (Tuesday) in a scheduled O.H.A. Int. B game at Seaforth.

Unveiling the goalkeeper they've been keeping in wraps until after the Christmas rush, Beavers outskated, outchecked, and outshot the Tanners as well as shutting them out. Missing Bill Currie, Paul Bodendistel, Doug Richardson and injured Harold Townsley, the Acton club wilted under the fast pace set by the Beavers.

Seaforth scored four goals in the first period, two in the second and added a single in the third. Except for exceptional work by goalkeeper Jim Sweeney the score might have been doubled.

Gar Baker, Beaver's netminder was more lucky than skillful in keeping the Tanners entirely off the score sheet. The Actons had their moments in the free-wheeling, end-to-end play but just couldn't seem to fire between the pipes.

Coach Fred Kentner, with only four players on the bench, was forced to juggle his line-up, moving defense and forwards around in order to give each a rest, but was unable to come up with a scoring combination.

There were only seven penalties in the mild mannered contest, five in the second period, two in the third.

Bob Buettemiller and Bill McLaughlin scored two goals apiece for Seaforth; Jim Dick, Bill Teal and Ray Henderson notched one each.

The loss shattered Acton's chances of overtaking first place Hespeler in the standings and established the Beavers as contenders for the league penthouse. It could very well be a three team photo-finish.

The Tanners will have a chance to get even here a week from Friday when they entertain Seaforth. Only game for the Acton club in the coming week is in Fergus next Tuesday.

Bants tweak Burlington 2-2 Sunday night

Acton-Bantams tweaked the tail of the undefeated Burlington 'A' team with a 2-2 tie Sunday night in scheduled Tri-County hockey in Burlington.

Continuing the pace that made them the hottest team in the bantam division of the league after three initial losses, the Acton team never quit digging against the bigger and heavier Burlington boys. Down 2-1 in the final minutes of the third period Bill Field notched the winning goal with two minutes left to go in the game assisted by league leading scorer Pete Marzo.

Not content to settle with a tie the Firefighters put on the pressure in the final minutes but the winning goal eluded them.

George McPhail, playing his best game this season, scored the first Acton marker from Mark Neilsen. That goal seemed to lift the whole team, they hammered away until they tied it up.

Craig Weldon, outstanding goalkeeper for the Firefighters kept them in the game in the early minutes while the speedy Burlington crew threw everything but the kitchen sink in his direction. James bagged the first Burlington goal from A. Swanson. Raibeck drilled the second from Willmott.

Four games remain in the schedule for the Acton club. They meet Preston here tonight, go to Chinguacousy (Bramalea) Thursday, and to Brampton Sunday. There's also a postponed game here with Hespeler which the team hopes to play on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

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Novices score win over Guelph

First win of the season for Acton Novices followed close on the heels of their initial point when they knocked Guelph All-Stars off by a 4-1 tune in Tri-County hockey at the community centre last Wednesday.

Goalkeeper Peter Swim allowed only one puck to get by him while Gary Eardien scored two goals. Billy McGiloway and Tim McIntyre potted one apiece and each collected an assist.

Sunday in Burlington the team was blanked 4-0 by the strong Burlington entry which had most of the play and scoring opportunities.

"I was quite pleased with the win," said coach Barry Inscope, "and the boys played well against Burlington. We should be in pretty good shape for play-off time."

Goal in dying seconds Bantams edge Guelph 4-3

Bill Field notched his second goal of the game with four seconds left on the clock to give Acton Firefighters a 4-3 verdict over Guelph All-Stars in Tri-County bantam hockey, here, last Wednesday night.

Rated an 'A' major club the Guelph crew didn't appreciate being downed by the 'B' Acton team. But the Firefighters were full value for the win, checking well and making the most of their chances.

Craig Weldon was outstanding in goal for Acton in a game which provided an all-round effort from every member of the team. Play shuffled from one end to another in the fast-skating contest with Acton taking a 2-0 lead over the first two periods on goals by Bill Field and Pete Marzo from Glen Taillefer.

Guelph came back with two goals in the third period to tie it up but the Acton team regained the lead as Mike Field hit the target assisted by Bill Field and Pete Marzo. Again the visitors scored and pulled even.

They'd have been satisfied with a tie but the last minute marker by Bill Field from Glen Taillefer wrapped it up for the Firefighters.

The victory kept the Acton unbeaten skein at eight which includes six wins and a pair of ties.

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Senior cagers at high school shape into playoff material

The senior boys' basketball team at Acton District High School is busy preparing for its 1966-67 season. To date, it has had four exhibition games while waiting for the league to begin in January.

This year's team is much stronger than last. Coach Ron McCallum feels that this club has a good chance to make the playoffs because the players have the ability to perform well if they want to.

The team has a good nucleus back with Phil Dupuis, Alan McNabb, George Wallis and Steve Johnston. Three returnees have added strength. They are Terry Churchill, John McGachie and Dan Arbie. Arbie played on the senior championship team two years, but has played very little basketball since.

Harry Oehlich and Dick Barclay round out the team. Harry had scholastic problems last year and couldn't play. Barclay is from Toronto. He played for Silverthorn College last year and is an asset to the team.

Acton plays in a league with six other schools - Elora, Erin, Milverton, Milton School for the Deaf and Arthur. Both Milton and Arthur could pose serious threats to the seniors. Milton stresses team sports and Arthur won the CWOSSA B championship last year.

In exhibition play, the seniors have defeated Fergus twice, 32-17 and 29-28, and Bishop McDonnell Juniors 35-34, but lost to Georgetown Seniors 35-20. In the annual staff-senior game, the seniors were victorious 42-35.

Last Thursday the seniors travelled to Milverton for their first league game; won 65-29. Dan Arbie and Alan McNabb led the winners. Arbie scored 32 points while McNabb netted 14.

This Thursday they host Milton School for the Deaf.

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ACTON ARENA

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
6 p.m. - Referees' Hockey
School
7-9 p.m. - Legion Minor Hockey
9-10 p.m. - Tri-County Juveniles

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13
8-10 p.m. - Public Skating
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
9-12 - Figure Skating
1-6 p.m. - Legion Minor Hockey
8-10 p.m. - Public Skating

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
8 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. - Rentals
1.45-3.45 p.m. - Public Skating
7-10 p.m. - Ind. League Hockey

MONDAY, JANUARY 16
Curling
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
Curling

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
2-3 p.m. - Mothers and pre-school children Public Skating
6-10 p.m. - Tri-County Hockey - Novices, Pee Wee Bantam, Midget