

Sportorial

What is the purpose of sport? To win or to have fun and try to win. Unfortunately, many people in control of minor sports programs in this country are just concerned with the winning aspect of sports. Yelling and screaming when a youngster makes a mistake is no solution to solving the problem of the play, the child, or of those presently associated with minor sport.

A study by T. D. Orlick on the Athletic Drop Out. A High Price For Efficiency, was first presented at the first Canadian Congress for the Multidisciplinary Study of Sport and Physical Activity in Montreal in October 1973.

The report states that according to Canadian Amateur Hockey Association statistics, of the 600,000 players registered or affiliated with the C.A.H.A. in 1973, 53 per cent were under 12 years old, 34 per cent were 12-15, and only 11 per cent were over 15 years of age. These percentages have been remarkably consistent since 1970 and a similar trend reportedly exists in other organized sports. (Hansen 1970)

But why is this dropout rate so high? The paper by Orlick interviewed many youths who were once involved in sports programs. In case one, a 17 year old female cross country skier of national calibre revealed why she dropped out of sport and gave some perspective insights on why many children may be dropping out of minor sports.

She said she liked the sport when she started out, but later it wasn't fun anymore because there was too much criticism. She said the coach didn't act like he wanted her on the team and never gave her any POSITIVE suggestions, just criticism.

Another thing that bothered her was that the coach ignored the young skiers. "In order to get attention, you have to be good. Lots of kids gave it up because nobody look any interest in them," she said in the report.

In case two, a seven year old boy had dropped out of both hockey and baseball. He said he quit hockey because he didn't get the puck passed to him too many times, only once in fact. He quit because he got bored. Why was he bored? Because, he said "You could be fooling around at your house instead of wasting your time playing hockey. All's I did was sit around."

When asked what he meant by sitting around, he said, "Well like baseball...it's like hockey cause you...I hardly even get a chance...cause I'm always at the end of the

line in baseball. He said he wants to be real good in his sports so the coach will think about him.

When asked if he thinks he'll ever go out for a sports team again he said NO.

What are the implications of these two testimonies filed in this report. The fact is that something must be done to curb the dropout rate and to improve the general participation and sports here.

In response to a series of questions, the report said 50 per cent of the dropouts cited the emphasis of the program as the main reason for dropping out.

Included in this area were such things as the seriousness of the program, the lack of enjoyment and emphasis on winning and on being the best. Another 17 per cent mentioned the coach as the primary reason for leaving. The coach was said to leave people out, criticize too much and push too hard.

Both sitting on the bench and the absence of rewards in general, tend to lead to feelings of unworthiness, unacceptance and unfun, in that particular environment, which in turn leads to a rejection of sport as a viable alternative.

Everybody apparently wants to win, but what is being won and what is being lost? "To win the game and lose the child is a totally unworthy sacrifice." (Orlick and Botterill, 1974)

Programs and their agents seem so caught up in the winning ethic that the dropout appears to be part of the price paid...in a short sighted quest for "Victory". Contrary to what some may think, a program which eliminated masses of children will never result in true excellence. A quality program comes from serving the needs of all children.

The need for changing of the competitive ethic is evident.

When one considers the fact that less than one percent ever make it to a professional level (McMurty 1974) and that less than two percent of the Canadian adult population are reportedly physically active in sport-related activities as frequently as once a week, (Participation 1972-Burgess 1973), the necessity for positive change becomes evident.

The Orlick report closed with a statement for the tomorrows, "It is time to refocus, away from scoreboard victories, to human victories. Let's end up with a jockeyed-off generation."



TOM ROCCOLA cruises into home plate greeted by members of the Eden Mills Srs. after their win against Don Prior Trucking of Guelph 4-2 Thursday evening. Roccola's run drove in a pair of Eden Mills tallies.

Eden Mills win their semi-finals over Guelph

It was a home run from Eden Mills' Tom Roccola that drove in three runs late in the eighth inning to secure the victory of Eden Mills seniors over Don Prior Trucking of Guelph 4-2, Thursday evening. Eden won the semi-finals of the Eramosa Puslinch league play-downs.

The win was Eden Mills' third over Priors in their best of five game series. They will now advance to the finals against Badenoch.

An error by Guelph second baseman Ronnie Prior in the fifth inning gave Eden Mills their first run and lead of the game until the eighth inning. Bob Larder made the Mills

run. The local crew stopped a run attempt by Guelph with a double play in the sixth.

Prior Trucking didn't mar the scoresheet until the top of the ninth, when Mark Gamble and Bill Osbourne tallied the only runs for Guelph in the game.

Eden Mills rally began with a hit from Jim Barden and was followed by George Campbell who made a base on balls. The Roccola home

run drove in the pair of runs for the win and his own run for security.

Soapbox

Jim McVeigh of Acton took part and placed fourth in the junior class in the Halton Hills GT Motorsport club soapbox derby Sunday in Georgetown.

Hundreds of spectators lined the streets to watch the 28 entries compete for the Boughton Jewellers Trophy for the fastest car. The derby is rated the biggest annual event of its kind in the country.

Keith Rogers won the hard luck award, Mare Williams the best appearance, David Stoddart won best effort and Craig Snyder the jewellers trophy.

All Stars edge Grimsby 2-1

Eramosa-Puslinch all-stars played a benefit game against the Grimsby all-stars to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy, in Aberfoyle and won 2-1.

Freeiton, one Strabane and two Erin. The two Eden Mills players were B. J. Legate and Steve Lawkey.

Grimsby was a team which made the Ontario Amateur Softball Association finals this year.

Sidney Lang and Jeff Boyle netted runs for the win. Jeff Boreham was the winning pitcher. The Eramosa-Puslinch all stars were made up of four Arkell players, four Belwood, two Eden Mills, two

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Think Quick. You've only got until September 12th.



L.I.P.
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out to work.**

If you've been toying with some ideas for the L.I.P. Initiative, Program your time is just about up. All applications for L.I.P. grants must be in our hands no later than September 12th 1975. Your idea should be original and innovative and create useful jobs, where there were no jobs before. It must also employ people registered at a Canada Manpower Centre. Your project can get underway anytime between November 3rd the year and January 26th 1976 and must be completed by June 26th 1976. So come on, do a little quick thinking. Who knows, the ideas you have this summer may be working for you this winter.

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EXECUTIVE MEMBERS of the Tri-county Minor Softball Association collected trophies and issued crests for players at a meeting in Eden Mills Thursday evening. The Tri-county association covers 600 sq. miles, takes in nine centres and keeps 800 children busy in ball over the summer months. Left to right are Ken Martinz convenor in chief, Jimmy Lakey second vice-president, Jean Cellini treasurer and recorder, John Johnston first vice-president, Jay Christie secretary, Don Legate president, and George Wheeler umpire-in-chief.

Golden Hawks

Con'td from page 4.

White.

In the final game where Golden Hawks dumped Blue Angels 12-3, Lisa Thomas, and Teresa Dunn nabbed the runs for the Angels. Dunn tallying two.

Diana Romano, Joanne Gordon, and Shirley Renforth each nabbed a pair. Kim White, Patricia Henry, Linda Paton, Janet Ager, Beverly Glenn, and Angelina Shamoun netted singles.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN EVANGEL TABERNACLE



W. H. MOODY,
Former pastor evangelist teacher and executive administrator in the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada will minister in the tabernacle

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Bill Davis, clean up your Acts.

The Davis government has cleaned up a few things in its time. Take, for example, conflict of interest. Mr. Davis came down hard on some of his cabinet ministers who were exposed as having conflicts of interest. Now we have guidelines to steer our politicians.

Or there was the case of corporate contributions to election campaigns. Again, Mr. Davis responded. He cleaned up that legislation. But the government has sadly neglected the rights of 60,000 citizens. It has forgotten its own employees. Crown employees and civil servants have practically no political rights.

The Public Service Act and the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act spell this out clearly. We can't canvass on behalf of a candidate. In fact, we can't even speak or write publicly on any topic that is part of any party's election platform. This is a denial of our basic democratic rights. To change this costs taxpayers nothing. We have asked Mr. Davis to clean up these two acts. He has refused.

We hope you will vote for democratic justice... for everyone. These are two hard acts to swallow.

Whose rights go next?

