

Basketball—Diplomat style



OOOO: Nothing like a pretty girl to distract Frank Starks of the Harlem Diplomats during their performance Thursday afternoon at the Acton High School. The Diplomats played a mook basketball game against students and staff of Acton High, including several members of the girls' basketball team. Starks enjoyed that part of the game the most.

The Harlem Diplomats bounced into Acton Thursday, harrmng it up with the basketball in front of a capacity crowd at the Acton High School gymnasium.

The Diplomats, a touring basketball troupe and second-cousins of the more famous Harlem Globetrotters, spent most of the afternoon delighting fans with their skills and antics.

There was the basketball that wouldn't bounce routine, the baseball routine, and the old, throw-a-bucket-of-water-into-the-crowd routine—everyone of them brought cheers and laughs from the audience.

The biggest applause getter was the glow-in-the-dark-ball and the purple fluorescent socks the Diplomats wore.

The Diplomats played a mook game against a team of staff and students from A.H.S., which posed a problem for the audience. They didn't know which was funnier... the visitors' off-color

jokes or principal Lyn McLaren's legs. Naturally the Diplomats won the game, despite their constant arguing with the referee and with each other. Goose Tatum Jr. was the star of the show—and deservedly received most of the applause. He singled out members in the audience as butts of his jokes and kept up an on running dialogue. He even, at one point, joined the Acton team.

Frank Starks was another crowd favorite, while 6'8" Dana Clark astonished onlookers with his skills.

Other members of the troupe are coach Neal Humphrey, Darrel Martin and Sonny Craig.

The Diplomats tour around the world with their trick shooting and passing, and had just returned from Mexico, Jamaica and Nassau.

Proceeds from the performance go to the high school's basketball program.



Goose Tatum gets by with a little help from Frank Starks during an entertaining afternoon of the Harlem Diplomats at Acton High School Thursday. The Diplomats won the game against a team of staff and students at AHS, but they bent the rules slightly doing it.

Midgets march forward—add Paris to casualty list

by Diana Waltmann

Ed's In-N-Out Midgets are in again. They battled back from a one game deficit to snatch victory in their best-of-five quarter-final playoffs against Paris last week.

The midgets won 8-5 in the fourth game last Tuesday in Acton, to even the series and nipped Paris 5-4 in the fifth game Friday.

The victories give the midgets an eight win, one tie and two losses record in the playoffs.

Acton had nearly lost the fourth game, a must-win match for them, and needed four overtime goals to collect the win. Paris was leading early in the third period, until Rob Vermuelen netted the tying marker with two minutes left in the regulation time.

Paris also took the lead in the 10-minute overtime, but Ed's came through in the crunch with four quick goals.

Paris opened the scoring a minute into the game, on a goal by Ron Mason from Glen Graham.

Paris Ahead

Mason potted his second to make it 2-1 at 6:41, but Mike Monahan replied for Ed's at 10:46 to bring the midgets to within one.

Paris only went ahead again with five seconds left in the first stanza on a powerplay goal by Jim Myerscough. Vermuelen was sitting out a roughing penalty at the time.

Mark Duval took charge of the second period with two goals a little more than a minute apart. The first one came at 6:43 from Denis Kirton and Monahan. Duval's second marker was a powerplay effort at 7:53. Kirton picked up the assist.

Duval's two goals gave Acton a 3-3 tie going into the final frame. Paris grabbed the lead again at 2:58 of the third. Barry Hussey scored on an unassisted effort.

That set up Vermuelen's tying goal at 12:22 aided by Kirton, his third assist.

Overtime

Mason scored a hat trick for Paris at 1:26 into overtime to make it 5-4, but Kirton quickly nullified that with his own goal at 2:27. Dell Mohammed

earned the assist.

Gord McArthur pocketed the winner at 5:54. Monahan and Vermuelen put in the insurance markers at 6:41 and 7:23.

Mohammed picked up two more assists, while singles went to Kirton, Randy Smith, Marty Colleton and Monahan.

The much-needed win evened the series at two games apiece and set the stage for the fifth and deciding match Friday in Paris.

This time Acton was taking no chances. Although Paris took an early lead with a goal by Dale Mathewson at 6:05, Acton came back, via Kirton's powerplay marker, to tie at 8:24.

Paris took another short-lived lead while Tim Ferguson was off serving time for interference, ending the first period at 2-1.

But Ed's only came back to dominate the middle frame with three goals. Gary Lumbers tied it at 1:03, Mike Monahan handed the midgets a lead at 5:56 and Kirton increased it by one with his second marker on the night. Duval helped out Lumbers and Kirton on their markers, and Kirton aided Monahan.

Pottruff connected for Paris to bring them within one before the end of the second stanza.

Duval batted in the fifth Acton goal, and the eventual winner with 1:29 remaining in the game.

Ed's almost blew the victory, when Barry Hussey scored on a powerplay goal a few seconds later, but fortunately for Acton, the Paris squad couldn't connect for the equalizer in the final 60 seconds losing the match 5-4.

McArthur, Smith and Mohammed each collected a single assist in the game for Ed's, while Paris aids went to Pottruff, Muir, Todd Quakenbush, Mason and Dwayne Gambacort.

Ed's received strong fan support from the 38 who bussed to Paris Friday to cheer their team on to victory.

The Midgets now advance to the next round of the all-Ontario playoffs. Dates and teams have yet to be announced.

Redmen to meet the best in Gravenhurst

Acton High School will be sending a combined Redmen basketball team to the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association's tourney Saturday in Gravenhurst.

Coach Rick McArthur said competition is stiff in the tourney with several top-notch school teams participating, but with an allstar team made up of junior and senior Redmen, he says the Acton squad should do well.

The team includes: Martin Osso, Bob McClure, Rob Faber, Chris

Lysholm, Brent Vickery, Rob Lenizky, Ken Faber, Steve Springle, John Vuk, Darrell Allison and Matt Vuk.

Glen Scott was also scheduled to compete but had to bow out because of a broken ankle.

McArthur has also been named as coach of the Halton East Allstar team. The team, composed of one player from each school in the eastern division and two designates meet the allstar team from Halton West in a game played Friday, March 28 in Burlington.

Lions eliminate Elora to reach W-W finals

The Acton Lions will meet Fergus for the Waterloo-Wellington league championships after their third straight victory over Elora. They downed Elora 4-3 Monday in Acton.

Elora took a two-goal lead in the game on a couple of quick first-period markers.

Brad O'Neill put Acton on the scoreboard with his first goal of the season—an unassisted, shorthanded effort at 6:22 of the second period.

David Thomas tied the game with his second-period goal at 8:27 with Sandy Waites counting an assist.

Elora took a short-lived

lead again early in the final frame, until Mike Hudson and Tony Van Dam connected to win the match. Danager, Hudson, Thomas and Heath Norton picked up aids.

Steve Taillefer played strong in nets.

The Lions spent Saturday battling Guelph

peewees in an exhibition match, coming out with a 7-7 tie.

Guelph and Acton traded a pair of goals in the first frame.

Guelph opened the scoring at the one minute mark; Van Dam answered at 4:10. Guelph scored again a minute later, with Hudson reply-

ing for Acton at 9:50. Hudson, Greg James and Van Dam counted brackets.

Guelph scored early in the second period to take a 3-2 lead, but goals by Van Dam, Hudson and Thomas with two, put the Lions ahead.

Guelph mimiced Acton's performance

with three goals of their own in the first half of the final stanza, to tie the game.

Hudson potted his third goal to put Acton ahead, at 7:12, but the lead lasted only 10 seconds before Guelph had tied it.

Dates for the finals against Fergus have not yet been confirmed.



ATW's Mike Morris almost connects on a goal in Industrial league action Sunday night at the Community Centre. Blow Press' Wayne Deforest gives Morris a quick push out of Pressmen goalie Robin Inscoc's way, while Ken Owen looks on. Blow Press won the match 6-3, taking a one-game lead in the best-of-three playoff series. Hellert's upset Lakeview Centre to take a one game lead in their series. The next games are slated for Saturday evening, starting at 8:10 p.m.

Pressmen, Hellert's take one game lead in playoffs

Hellert's and Blow Press took one game leads in the Acton Industrial League playoffs Sunday at the Community Centre.

Hellert's nipped Lakeview Centre 4-3 in their best-of-three series, while Blow Press doubled Acton Terminal Warehouse 6-3 in their series.

The next game will be contested Saturday night at the Community Centre with the third game, if necessary, played Sunday night.

Blow Press, as first-place finishers, had home advantage for the game, but that didn't stop ATW as they built a 2-0 lead by the end of the first period.

Mike Morris connected on the first ATW marker at 3:31, with Chris Tennant picking up the assist.

Gary Marsh bounced one in past goalie Robin Inscoc for the second ATW goal at 9:34. Ken Slaney earned the aid.

Blow Press got on the scoreboard at 8:09 of the second period after Ken Owens netted one on a pass from Fred Crawford.

Owen tied it for Blow Press a few minutes later from Wayne Deforest.

Dave Morris replied for ATW at 17:33, still in the middle frame, to give them another one-goal lead going into the final period.

The third frame was all Blow Press, as they scored four unanswered goals to snatch the victory. Wayne Allan started things off for the Pressmen with a quick goal 26 seconds into the period, tying the game.

Bill Fields added two more to the total at 4:20 and 15:17 to give the Pressmen a two-goal lead, Deforest

netted the insurance marker at 16:12.

Sid Barnes earned two assists on the Field goals. Fields also picked up a single.

George McPhail counted an aid for ATW.

Russ Van Fleet of Hellert's battled a one-goal deficit to conquer Lakeview Centre 4-3 in overtime.

Van Fleet scored the tying goal with less than a minute remaining in the game and then went on to net the winning marker in overtime.

Lakeview and Hellert's traded goals throughout the game, Lakeview going first at 12:39 of the opening period. Floyd Hillier scored with Jim Hagget and Steve Atkinson.

Randy MacIntyre replied for Hellert's seven minutes into the second period from John Ashley.

Hillier potted his second of the night two minutes later to make it 2-1 for Hellert's. Jim Hagget and Steve Atkinson counted brackets.

Hellert's came back to tie it again on a marker by John McCutcheon from Lloyd Smallwood and Dave Thompson at 15:23 of the final frame, only to have Lakeview's Bruce Cooksley net what he thought would be the winner at 15:28.

But Van 'never-say-die' Fleet finally connected to tie the game, and not a moment too soon with only 46 seconds left in the match.

He repeated his performance a few minutes later in the overtime period to snatch the victory from Hellert's. MacIntyre pocketed two assists while a single went to Dan Arbic.

Game times Saturday are 8:10 and 9:30. Lakeview and Hellert's face-off first.

Huff'N Puffers head west for championships

The Halton Hills Huff'N Puffers of the Halton-Wellington-Dufferin non-contact hockey league, are leaving for Vancouver tomorrow (Thursday), to compete in the National Oldtimers

championships. The Huff'N Puffers ended in third spot in their division of the Halton-Wellington-Dufferin league, and won three of six tournaments they competed in this

season. They will be competing in the "G" Division with 15 other teams in the championships and are scheduled to play teams from British Columbia, Alberta and Peter-

borough. The Huff'N Puffers met Peterborough last year and suffered a 5-0 loss, but this year, says captain John Kavanaugh, they've im-

proved. There will be eight divisions in the championships with four teams consisting of former professional players competing in the "A" division. About 100 teams will compete.

The team raised money to go to Vancouver by holding dances, draws and stags. There are 28 players, coaches and managers on the team, but only 24 will travel to B.C. tomorrow. The team: Don White, coach, Jim Clarke, manager,

Len Hurlzger, trainer, Ralph Melton, Jerry Van der Eyken, Harry Stone, John Kavanaugh, Kevin McLean, Jim Brown, Jim James, Walter Arbuckle, Brian Quinn, Bruce McMeeker, Stu McDonald, Lorne Smith, Pat Fitzpatrick, Eric Stone, Bill McCormick, Kevin Galway, Bill Power, Don Stone, Bernie Kent, Bill Kent, Fred Buchanan, Sid Harris and Fred Inge. Arbuckle and Buchanan won't be making the trip.



Halton Hills Huff'N Puffers are on their way to Vancouver for the national oldtimers championships. They are front row, left to right: Ralph Melton, Jerry Van der Eyken, Harry Stone, John Kavanaugh, Kevin McLean, Jim Brown, Middle row: Jim James, Walter Arbuckle, Brian Quinn, Bruce McMeeker, Len Hurlzger (trainer), Steve McDonald, Lorne Smith, Pat Fitzpatrick, Eric Stone. Back row: Don White, (coach), Bill McCormick, Kevin Galway, Bill Power, Don Stone, Bernie Kent, Bill Kent, Jim Clarke (manager). Missing: Fred Buchanan, Sid Harris, Fred Inge. Arbuckle and Buchanan will not be making the trip.

Bants advance

The Rotary Club minor bantams advanced to the next round of Waterloo-Wellington playoffs after skating off the rink with a victory and a tie over New Hamburg recently.

Acton tied New Hamburg 2-2 in the second game, of the best-of-three series on February 19 and shut them out 6-0 in the third game February 26. Both matches were contested in Acton.

Earlier the minor bants took a one game lead with a 5-1 victory. In the second game, Vince Danaher scored both goals for Acton, with

Stan Smith and Troy McNaught earning assists.

Scoring was spread out in the third game, with single markers coming from Jim Richard, Randy Coverdale, Paul Cargill, Dave McKnight and Brad McPherson. Rick Dodds picked up three assists in the game, while Cargill, Danaher and Richard Kilpatrick counted an aid each.

The minor bantams are waiting for the winner of the Hespeler-Orangeville match-up before they continue W-W playoffs.

Wagner connects in Beardmore win

Acton Beardmore minor peewees split their playoff series against New Hamburg one game apiece, despite Steve Wagner's four goals in two games.

Wagner led the way in the first game, scoring all three Acton markers as Beardmore nipped New Hamburg 3-1 last Wednesday.

Wagner opened the scoring in the first period at 4:07.

New Hamburg tied it early in the second stanza, only to have Wagner pot two more goals at 7:23 of the middle frame and 4:40 of the third. Gordon Mitchell earned both assists.

Wagner gave Beardmore a one-goal lead at the seven-minute mark of the first period in game two in New Hamburg, but the opposition came back to knick Acton 2-1 Saturday.