

# Sports Week

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SPORTS EDITOR



## Columbus started something big

More than 400 years ago when Christopher Columbus proved that this world of ours was indeed round and not flat, the Italian navigator and explorer probably started the soccer revolution that has spread around the world to make it the most popular international spectator and participant sport on the globe. The growth of European football is directly related to the discoveries of new lands. With their travels went their leisure pastimes.

### DISCOVERY

Discovery is still a big part of the game of soccer we in North America play today. Jeff Stephen of Soccer International says that the 1,000 plus boys and girls, men and women out kicking the black and white spotted balls around Georgetown's pitches have plenty to learn about the game. That is why he and his company this week are conducting a schooling clinic for youngsters aged seven to 15.

The program which began yesterday at the Georgetown District High School (GDHS) and goes to Friday, is geared for everyone from the rank beginner to the advanced players. All participants are assigned to groups according to their age and skill level. It is professionally directed and coached with the emphasis on development of all the basic skills, physical fitness, game knowledge, sportsmanship and vigorous fun-filled competition.

Guest stars George Gibbs and Peter Roe of the North American Soccer League Toronto Blizzard and former members of that team Brian Budd and Robin McGraw will be in attendance to help teach and demonstrate.

Special goalkeeping sessions, laws of the game lectures, fitness classes, movies, teamwork tactics and tournament play are all included in the four days of instruction.

### GROWING PAINS

Stephen, who comes by way of England where he played with the English Fulham Football Club before turning semi-pro, is operating the school throughout the area all summer. He says the popularity of the sport has grown in leaps and bounds the past few years and like hockey proper skill development is starting to suffer because of its initial growing pains.

Morning and afternoon sessions continue to Friday and come highly recommended by Georgetown Youth Soccer President Alex Tough. It should be worth a stroll over.

## Three wrestlers off to worlds

Three local wrestlers are going to Sweden at the end of this month to compete in the World Schoolboy Championships. All earned the right by winning their weight divisions in this weekend's Canadian finals in Thunder Bay.

Mike Sweeney, who entered the same competitions in San Diego last year, will be wrestling in the 45 kilogram 15 and 16-year-old midget division. He will be joined by juniors Jeff Knight, 32 kg, and Steve Power 41 kg, in the 13 and 14-year-old age group.

They will return to Thunder Bay in two weeks time for another two weeks of training before heading out to the week-long championships July 29.

Bantams Gord Savage, in the 29 kg division and Dave Power in the 35 kg class will be going to Nova Scotia at the same time for another meet.

Wayne Morrow, Mike Gopelli, Brian Stone, Mike McNiven, Derek Roy and Doug Gillespie also competed.

Tax deductible donations to the team may be sent to coach Jim Hall at 814 Childs Dr., Milton.

## Masson Bulldogs having trouble swims to thirds

The Acton Bull Dogs and the Georgetown Golden Bears tug-of-war teams, who were to have pulled for the coveted Canada Challenge cup in Glen Williams Saturday but were rained out, will meet in competition for the Cup during the Acton Fall Fair, September 19.

The two clubs are also pulling for the \$100 prize offered by Mavak Automotive Parts, to be donated to the winning team's favorite charity.

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## Speyside Games winners

Local swimmer Sue Masson, of the Etobicoke Swim Club, swam away with a pair of third place finishes this weekend at the club's international age group invitational.

Competing in the backstroke against other Canadians and Americans, the 15-year-old cut through the 100 metre long course swimming pool in a time of 1:11.34 for her first third place finish. She finished in the same position in the 200 metre also, with a time of 2:32.56.

## Speyside Games winners

The organizing committee for the Speyside Highland Games, held last month in Georgetown, have announced the names of winners in several competitions held at the Games. Winning numbers in the program draw are 1739, 1825, 2505 and 1803. The side of beef was won by D.S. Bennett of Niagara-on-the-Lake, while the Dewar's rug was won by Mrs. N. Cruikshank of Toronto.



Getting your weight over the shoulders of the horse, where the centre of balance is, is one of the things Amanda Roxborough, of Ballinafad, is learning at jockey school at Humber College.

The 99 pound girl is one of 15 in the rare course. She is one of the best prospects for a chance to mount up in a race.

## Aspiring jockey learning reins at Humber College

Amanda Roxborough is off to the races a lot these days. The horse races that is.

The petite 16-year-old from Ballinafad studies the daily racing form regularly. She's up and out to the Woodbine track as early as five in the morning some days, checking out the big slick thoroughbreds hours before they are scheduled to run for the money.

No she is not a handicapper. And no she is not a fanatical gambler wagering her allowance on a chance for the pars mutuel fortune that will allow her to start up her own stable of race horses. As a matter of fact she rarely bets on the horses.

At four feet 11 inches, the 99 pounder wants to be in the winner's circle alright as the jockey. And it doesn't matter if it is on a favourite or a longshot. For that matter she doesn't

backstretch, the homestretch, the quarter and half mile posts. Then on the 15 school owned horses, each student is taught how to shift your weight up over the horse's shoulders for balance, grip the reins and the mane when jumping out of the starting gate. There's a lot more to riding a winner than getting on the fastest horse admits Roxborough.

Race horses are high strung athletes whose only purpose in life is to run. That is how they are reared. They are kept inside the stable all the time except for morning workouts and the actual races. They are fed constantly with high protein food to give them that extra energy they will need at the finish line.

The jockey students also have to watch their diets. Twice a week they have weight control classes where they study nutrition and do strengthening exercises.

### APPRENTICE JOCKEY

..... This is the seventh week of the course, which has only been offered once before two years ago. For the final week of the program the riders will be placed with a trainer at Woodbine.

Hopefully once that week is over the trainers will ask Roxborough and others to stay on as exercise riders for the mornings. So she hopes. That could lead to an opportunity to become an apprentice jockey if the Ontario Jockey Club steward okays it after seeing them ride.

Trainers are usually in favour of taking on an apprentice since it allows their horses to carry 10 pound weight advantages for the rider's first five races, five pound leeways for 45 rides and three pounds until they are accepted as full fledged jockeys. That should take about a year.

In the meantime it is a matter of honing her craft for Roxborough. She probably won't be able to test herself out until that big day when she dons the silks for her first race since there will likely not be a graduating race amongst the jockey class of 1980.



AMANDA ROXBOROUGH

really care if she wins, just as long as she is in the race. That's how you get a chance at the 10 percent purse the winning jockey gets.

But, getting out of the starting gate on a mount is a tough assignment. That is why she is spending 10 weeks at the Equine Studies campus of Humber College. She and 14 others are there training to be jockeys. Eight are girls and seven boys.

The pretty little blue-eyed blonde has always had an affinity for horses since the day seven years ago when she first mounted up on a pony in Mountsberg. From that day on she has made horses her main love.

"Women seem to have a thing with horses," Roxborough says. "Not that men don't, but you see more women groomers (around the track)." Being a groomer is one way in which an aspiring jockey can get into a stable with the chance of some day getting a chance to put on the racing silks for a race to the finish line.

TRAINERS OLD FASHIONED "Trainers are a little old fashioned," when it comes to recruiting new riders, especially women. But, "it's got to change," says the determined aspirant. "It takes a lot of time and devotion. You have to start at the bottom mucking out stalls. They don't want anyone getting (on the horses) killed."

The track death of racing legend Avelino Gomez is part of the sport according to Roxborough. "You always know there is danger involved. . . the horses have a mind of their own and that is why you have to know how to handle them the right way."

Thoroughbreds run a mile in just under a minute, the good ones that is. That makes their speed about 60 miles per hour. Riding on an English saddle that can weigh between several ounces to five pounds, compared to the conventional 30 pound western saddle, there is a good chance of falling off. This future jockey knows this all too well.

During a training session on the Woodbine race track, located next door to Humber, her mount Morris (they are assigned a different horse to take care of each week) took off on her and she had to get help slowing him down.

Jockey training involves first learning about the track, two furlongs equals a quarter mile, the clubhouse turn,

## Local rider comes second in Queen's Plate

Georgetown jockey Hugo Dittfach hadn't ridden a Queen's Plate winner since 1961, the year he rode Blue Light to victory.

Saturday afternoon in the 121st running of the country's oldest horse race he came within a length of winning again. This time aboard John Terdik's Somello Man, a 24-1 shot on favourite to win, Dittfach came from 12th in the backstretch was eighth coming off the turn and in the homestretch edged out Jack Stafford's Allan Blue, the number two pick in the race at 3-1 odds, at the wire. Second prize purse money was \$36,786.

"It was a great race," said Dittfach. "especially the last 100 yards. I expected a wide open race. Every horse had been beaten and there was plenty of speed."

The 43-year-old jockey, who is the 13th winningest jockey of all time with 3,300 wins, says he is pleased with his race but admitted the finish could have been better. He said no one could have picked the winner.

With 25 years experience on the track he still continues to ride. The death of friend Avelino Gomez, in a racing accident at Woodbine two weeks ago, was "nobody's fault. Things just happen that way."

Dittfach has raced all across North America and continues to do so. His mounts have also taken him to South Africa. He says that women jockeys are valuable to trainers because, like good business people they want someone "dependable."

Yesterday Dittfach was entered in four races at Woodbine and figured his best chance at making it to the winner's circle would come aboard Goodbye King in the fourth.

## Deforest fans 14 in Limehouse mens' ball

The 1979 finalists, Ballinafad Blue Jays and Limehouse Hustlers, met for the third time this season. The Hustlers came out on the better end of a 8-1 score to move into a second place tie with the Jays. Both teams trail the Indusmin Rockets by two points.

Brad (Ram) Deforest pitched his best game of the season, fanning 14 Blue Jays

and allowing only five hits. Jim Fiddler and Steve Scott each stroked a double while Hank Bouwman went two for three and added a sacrifice. Morley Shortill had a home run in the second to count as the only run for the Jays.

In the second game, the Limehouse Rocks took an early lead with five runs and held the Petrohaul Oilers scoreless until the 6th when

the Oilers got two runs. They tried to take the win again in the 8th with two more runs but the Rocks won it 5-4.

Indusmin Rockets took another game this time over the Huttonville Hawks. Bruce Pinder of the Rockets had one clean break in the fourth that will bench him for the season. Rockets, 8, Hawks, 5.

## Hustlers in Acton tourney

Limehouse Hustlers competed in an Acton tournament this past weekend, but were unable to come up with a victory in three games. The Milton C.P. Pirates blasted the Hustlers 18-0 in the first game on Saturday. Jamie Franks managed to touch the Milton pitcher for a double while Ivan Wheeler and Steve Scott stroked singles.

The Hustlers came up with a good effort despite losing

2-0 against the Acton Old Timers. The game featured a pitching duel with Brad Deforest and Grant Usher going the distance for both teams. The game was scoreless until the bottom of the sixth when Acton scored both their runs.

In the third and final game, the Hustlers were edged 10-8 by the Georgetown Merchants. The Hustlers took an early lead but were unable to hold the

lead. Chuck Peavay did most of the damage for Georgetown as he stroked a two run homer and a triple. The Hustlers refused to give in as they fought back to within one run in the sixth inning to make the score 8-7. Earl Malby lined a double to drive in 2 of the Limehouse runs. John Case was credited with three RBI's while Hank Bouwman smashed a solid triple in a losing cause.



Stacey Hurley hit the under 18 outdoor tennis tournament circuit hard this week, with her first major win of the season in Stouffville. The 15-year-old who turns 16 July 11 defeated Lyn Sale of Toronto 6-3, 7-4 in the final match. Sixty-four players from across the province competed.

## Local ladies win three of four tennis matches

Georgetown Ladies of the Intercounty A tennis loop came through with their second big week on the courts where they took three of their four matches with Bassethorn. Doreen Thomson and Pat Harris had the first win of the Wednesday game. Their 6-4 and 6-2 sets led the way for the local side. Marilyn Serjeantson and Lela Allison followed up with a pair of 6-1 wins. Audrey Houston and Ann Kennedy picked up their match with 6-4, 5-6 and 6-3 games.



Soccer International is a ball

## Bantam Falcons in tailspin after second loss

The Georgetown bantam Falcons could be headed towards a tailspin after being picked off for their second straight loss Thursday, following four opening season victory matches. Malton won the game 1-0.

The match was a contest between the strong defensive squad fielded by the home side, Georgetown, and the superior offensive opposition fuffack supplied by malton. Both sides proved equal to the task.

Malton controlled the ball most of the game but, the back field corps of Blaine

Harrison, Mike Sweeney and Kevin Gillespie kept them from getting in the Georgetown zone for many good scoring opportunities.

The winning goal, which only came with five minutes to play in the game, was the result of a rebound shot which goalkeeper Scott Murray originally stopped. It was only the ninth time the team had been scored on in its six outings. They have netted themselves 20 markers.

Both of the teams' top shooters were out of the lineup for the losses.

## Hardball's game winning's a pain

The game of hardball is proving to be just that for the Georgetown bantam entry in county league. The boys lost their last three games in a season that is proving to be tougher than any of them expected.

At home Thursday they lost a close one 1-0 to Brampton. Larry Angot threw the perfect five inning game for the winners.

The night before Mississauga lambasted the locals there 11-0. The score was only 1-0 after the sixth. John Fitzgerald led the only Georgetown hit to ruin the shut-out bid by the opposing pitcher.

The Tuesday before Burlington beat the boys 7-5. Jeff Budwaiser, Robbie Wilkes, Jeff Sergeant, Mike Stone and Andy Fisher scored the local runs.