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Sarnia dumps Belleville for championship victory

Darkened, black, ominous cumulo-nimbus clouds thronged above a small, loyal crowd of baseball fans last Friday night to officially welcome the ten best Intermediate fastball girls teams to Georgetown.

The rain came down in torrents shortly after the 7:30 p.m. opening as if in sending a warning omen for the following day. Mayor Pete

Pomeroy just barely escaped the downpour which followed his open pitch ceremony as he retreated to a nearby food canteen for cover.

It wasn't the best of ways to start the Ontario girls fastball finals, but amidst the mud and rain the tournament did finish after some twenty games to claim the Sarnia Belles as champions late Sunday afternoon.

After a hours delay of their game, slated for 7:30 Friday night as the ground crew worked to decimate the puddles collected on the diamond, the local Georgetown Legion Royalettes got underway against Napanee.

COASTED
The Legion girls coasted to a strong 5-0 win over their opponents, but it was to be the last win for them in the

tournament.

The Royalettes were defeated in re-scheduled games late Saturday night as they took a disheartening loss to Aurora 3-2 and a whopping by Elmvalle 6-0.

Like many of the other teams at the tournament, the Royalettes were forced to play two late-night games as the Saturday schedule did not start until 5:00 p.m. and

the last game did not finish until well after mid-night Saturday night. The grounds crew, under the direction of Shiel Lawr, worked all of Saturday afternoon to get the diamonds in shape for the Saturday night games.

Because of the erratic schedule, Moore Centre was forced to play their second game at 12:00 midnight, Saturday while next morning at 9:00 a.m. their third game was scheduled. If the Royalettes had won against Elmvalle, they would have had the identical 9:00 a.m. starting time.

But each of the teams realized the dilemma the rain had caused and every effort to cooperate was made from teams who had travelled from some great distances to compete in the tournament.

In the Royalettes Friday night victory against Napanee Nancy Shortliff started the team off right with a triple Janice Gagne drove her in for an early lead.

Monica Pollock sliced another triple as Joey Bennett drove in the run. During the game the Royalettes had eight hits while their opponents had four. Barb Curry was the winning pitcher.

BENNETT STRONG
Joey Bennett hit 2 for 4 during the game and was the top hitter in the contest. Bennett later received a honorable mention award at the closing ceremonies for her high hitting percentage which was over .400.

The loss against Aurora was characterized by costly errors on both sides. In past games this season against Aurora, the Royalettes would never

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games this season against Aurora, the Royalettes have never won or lost against them by more than one run. Aurora defeated the Legion girls 3-2 in the Regional finals three weeks before.

There was not an earned run in the game as the Royalettes collected their points from Aurora's errors. Georgetown outbit Aurora 7-3. The losing pitcher was Michelle Michm.

Against Elmvalle, coach Ted Wilkes said their opponents, "hit on us badly". The Royalettes were outbit 9 to 4 and were defeated 6-1. Barb Curry was injured in the fifth inning and Michelle Michm came in to relieve her. The Royalette game finished at 1:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

BELLES CHAMPS
In the final game, the Sarnia Belles emerged the champions as they defeated Belleville 6-2 to become the top Ontario Intermediate girls team: Riverside from Windsor captured the bronze medal.

Jim Ford, the Georgetown tournament coordinator was very satisfied with how the tournament was run and was happy at the crowd turnout, estimated to be about 900 over the three-day period. Groundskeepers Robbie Wilkes, Brian James, Mike Webster, Andrea Ford and Ed Libry deserve special mention for their help, he said.

The PWSA (Provincial Women's Softball Association) convenor, May Reid was also pleased with all facets of the finals. She was extremely impressed with the grounds crew who tried to get the diamonds in shape for Saturday morning, then worked all afternoon in preparation for the Saturday night games.



Royalette fielder Jennifer Linton chops a hit for the local side during action at the Ontario Intermediate girls fastball finals last weekend at the Georgetown Fairgrounds. Despite the less-than-ideal weather conditions, the attendance at the Fairgrounds was good and spirits were high among the teams, even though many games were delayed because of the rain.



A Belleville baserunner advances to third base while her teammate prepares to round second against Sarnia last Sunday afternoon. Sarnia 'Belles' eventually won the game to earn the Ontario Intermediate Women's fastball championships.

(Herald photo by Chris Aagaard)

Doug Smith's already looking into future

Georgetown's Doug Smith finished fifth in the 800 metre final at the Canada Games last week, but he'll have another crack at the prestigious games in another four years to avenge his placing.

The 18 year old track star will be eligible for the 1995 Canada Games because athletes can participate if they are under 22 years.

Doug was hoping to place within the top three in the 800 metre race, but two swift British Columbia runners, one Marlimer and Dave Mills from Ontario prevented

him from finishing in the medal standings.

Mills finished fourth in the race, but Smith had previously beaten him in the Ontario trials for the Canada games. Smith didn't run his best race and the competition was of a higher level than he was used to, he said.

There were no records set in the finals because of the windy conditions. Doug stayed in Thunder Bay at Confederation College during the competition which was a week in length for track and field.

It was Smith's last race of the summer season. He is now preparing for the cross-country season at Georgetown's district high school. One goal for next season will be to earn a place on Canada's cross-country team. The trials take place next February.

Bruce McIntyre came within one place of winning a medal, but his fourth place finish with a time of 30 minutes, 57 seconds just wasn't fast enough. McIntyre was hoping for a third place finish or better.



Twenty-one year old Bruce McIntyre of Georgetown (number 381) shadows Ontario teammate Gordon Christie of Elk Lake in the 10,000 metre final at the Canada Games last week. McIntyre eventually passed Christie to place fourth in the event held in Thunder Bay. The 10,000 was won by Rob Longden, B.C. in a new Canada Games record of 39:14.20. McIntyre finished with a time of 39:57.93.

(Photo courtesy of Canada Games media liaison branch)

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Pelvic injuries threaten Jon Cornwell's bid for Canadian National Dirt Bike victory

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Special

One of Canada's top motorcycle racers, Jon Cornwell of Georgetown was injured in a crash during his bid to attain the Canadian National Dirt Track championship.

With the accident, Cornwell may well lose his chance to win the Canadian championship, a dream he was very close to making a reality before the race.

The 19-year-old is recovering in Calgary with a pelvis broken in four places after he was hit by a fellow rider during the re-start of the 750 class half-mile competition.

Cornwell was leading the race, which took place August 2, after the first lap but an Indian-style start caused problems for Jon after his bike did not accelerate properly.

An accident during the first lap caused the half-mile race to re-start with Jon in the lead of a pack of motorcyclists set in Indian-style fashion. Usually this type of start is not done when a re-start is required after less than three laps. However, although the Americans abide by this rule, there is no section of the Canadian regulations that makes this rule official.

Jon's chief rival on the circuit, Peter Grant, the 1990 Canadian Champ, had trouble with his brakes and had to stop racing. When the

pack re-started, Grant had still not fixed his mechanical problems.

BIKE TROUBLE
Cornwell was injured when his bike would not accelerate fast enough. A biker behind Cornwell in the Indian-style lineup accidentally clipped Jon and he fell from his bike. Another racer hit Cornwell and the race was stopped for the second time while Jon was taken to the hospital.

According to reports from his mother, Betsy, who accompanied Cornwell to Calgary, Jon is sitting up in a wheelchair and she is hoping

he will be well enough to come home either this week or next. It will take around six weeks to heal before Jon will be able to walk without difficulty, she says.

The race in which Jon left early had another rider who

fell off his motorcycle. For a 10 lap race, there are not usually that many crashes, says Betsy Cornwell, an ardent supporter of her son and motorcyclist herself.

There were other irregularities in the race. Peter

Grant, who had earlier problems with his motorcycle wasn't allowed to re-enter the race and he has now protested the results of the race. Some officials have said that the Indian-style re-start should not have been

implemented after only one lap.

GUNNING FOR WIN
Jon was really gunning for the Canadian championship,

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Glen Merchants face Erin

Ironically, after a close first place finish in their regular season, and the deciding game for the league title being against Erin, the Glen Merchants now have to prove again that they can overpower the boys from Erin.

Tuesday night sees the locals starting the first round of the playoffs against Erin. The Merchants are well aware of the trouble Erin has caused them over this past

season (6-2 loss in the Glen) and previous seasons.

The three out of five opener, continues Friday, August 21 away, and Tuesday, August 25 in the Glen.

In the words of coach Bud Haines, the Glen Merchants "came through at the end of the season and won when they had to win."

The Intercountry Merchants played a particularly impressive second half of the

league championship last week after defeating Erin 3-0.

Their record for the season stands at a 16-8 win-loss record which betters their 12-12 record last season when they lost to Hespeler in the finals.

Although losing against Rockwood two weeks ago, the Merchants played inspired ball in their last two

games and won them both.

Coach Cliff Norton was happy with the second half of season play.

"We ended up with 14 players, but I'm a believer in having depth and bench strength - they can win a lot of ball games."

Bud Haines says that Rockwood gave the

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Goldiggers over Green Sprouts

By MAHE SIMONYI
Herald Special

In Wednesday's first game of the night The Goldiggers outshone the Green Sprouts on offence and defence defeating them 27-15.

The victors took a 7-0 lead in the first inning and kept it through to the final inning. Sprouts lacked their usual strength on offence and defence. Homers were belted out by Kim Smith for the Goldiggers and by Donna Peacock (2) for the Green Sprouts.

Stars for the victors were Kim Smith, Pat Mashinter, Laurie Inglis and Bonnie Bottomley for fantastic defence and Sue MacDonald for the Sprouts for fantastic fielding.

In the second game of the night The Shadows and the Dusters tied 15 all in a back to back scoring game.

The Dusters took the lead in the first inning. In the second it was tied. The lead taken by each team was only one run per inning and they jugged back and forth until the sixth when it was tied once again 14-14.

The final inning was a battle to the finish ending in a draw. Homers were belted out by Dianne Mikoleit and Brenda Cole for the Shadows earning them star honors. Dusters' Lynda Krouse earned the honor for great fielding.

FINAL GAME

In the final game of the night White Lightning blasted the Fireballs. "Clutch hitting by Jo-Anne Tucker, Linda Pells, Sharon Hale, Bonnie Earlo and Diana Tripp combined with determined defensive efforts by Irene Watt, Marie Semonyi and Robin Richardson resulted in a 24-20 decision in favor of the White Lightning team.

Home runs were recorded by Clary Vanderbyl and

Diana Tripp while star status goes to Anne Puckering for a fine pitching effort. (Four strike-outs in three innings). Fireballs took an 8-3 lead in the first inning and they kept it until the 4th when it was tied 12 all.

In the final inning Lightnings' bats started booming. They took the lead and were able to hold down home team. Homer was belted out by Laura Easdale for the Fireballs earning her star honors.

Schedule for rain games:
Games in brackets do not count in standings.
Monday August 17 (Beige vs Green) Diamond A - Exhibition.
Wednesday August 19 Red vs Orange Diamond A
White vs Blue Diamond B
Grey vs Yellow Diamond C
Monday August 24 Orange vs Blue Diamond A
Exhibition Wednesday August 26 (Beige vs Grey) Diamond A
(Green vs Yellow) Diamond B
(Red vs White) Diamond C

PLAYOFFS
Saturday August 29th - Playoffs
2 games will be played at 9:00 a.m.
2 games will be played at 11:00 a.m.
2 games will be played at 2:00 p.m.
2 games will be played at 4:00 p.m.

Final games Sunday August 30
1 game at 1:00 p.m.
Final game at 3:00 p.m.
All games will be played on the men's diamonds B and C.