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PLAYING THE FIELD

GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

Coach gets more than his team

Sometimes, I can't tell who gets more out of it. Me, the coach, or the Giants, my team. It's something I have to understand, though, if I'm truly going to appreciate Terry Laidlaw, coach of the Arc Angels floor hockey team.

I derive pleasure from coaching little league baseball. Tons of it. I get pleasure from working with the kids; seeing them work at and improve their baseball skills. I take pleasure from being part of a team, from the personal relationships I have developed with each of the boys.

I absolutely love winning.

All in all, I think I get more out of it than the kids do. For the boys, it's just a baseball game, some fun two nights each week. For me, it's a quest; a calling. I was born to pitch batting practice.

Enough about me. Let's look at Terry Laidlaw.

Laidlaw began working with the Angels, a floor hockey team composed of mentally handicapped individuals employed with Arc Industries in Hornby, about eight years ago.

LIFETIME MEMBER
Recently, Laidlaw, a Norval apple farmer, was given an honorary lifetime membership to the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded. Obviously, in a very special way, Laidlaw was born to pitch batting practice, too.

In a recent interview, Laidlaw explained that the relationship between himself and the players has become a mutually satisfying one over the years. In an entirely unselfish way, however, he gets most excited about what he gets from the situation, rather than from what he puts into it.

"They really are a unique group of guys," Laidlaw, 26, attempts to explain, enthusiasm spilling over his wall of social modesty. "There is something I can gain from being with them that is very different. It's a kind of personal growth."

Laidlaw and his younger brother Wayne, 24, coach the Angels every Monday night through the winter at the Huttonville Public School gym, from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. They accompany the team to league and tournament games, travelling to Hamilton, Brampton, Mississauga and Oakville for games.

GOOD LEAGUE
Their league is a highly-competitive and skilled one, with two exceptionally strong teams, and a couple of weak sisters. The Angels played in the middle of the pack this winter.

Much of what the Laidlaw boys do is just what it should be; basic coaching. The teaching of game skills and strategy, and the application of a little back-street psychology.

That's what they put into it, on the surface. Beyond that are the other factors, like caring, dedication, perseverance, reliability and patience. The players take out whatever they need. All or any of the above.

"For them, the competition is extremely important," Laidlaw explains. "The team is a purpose for them. The team is more important to them than it is to me."

"For me, it's more personal." Terry and Wayne realized a long time ago that, if they realized satisfaction only from tangible results like winning and player-improvement, then satisfaction could be a long time coming.

This coaching isn't a business, with a profit-and-loss statement of record available at year's end.

"It's worthwhile because of the friendships you make," Laidlaw says. "We really have a lot of fun."

When all is said and done, however, it can all be explained very simply, this part about who gets what out of this mutually beneficial relationship.

"Any successful team, you get something out of it," Laidlaw concludes. "You have to think about yourself, and your teammates. You acquire a sense of caring, about each other."

Two-goal shooters too much for Dave's

Greg Robertson, Dave Doucette and Howie Orm all fired two goals as Martin Structure edged Dave's Service Center, 6-5, in Georgetown Ball Hockey League action Thursday night at Memorial Arena.

Steve Breen counted a hattrick for Dave's, while Mark Kirley and Tony Graham-Smith chipped in with singles.

In other action, Nick Martino Motors rallied from a 2-0 deficit to double Pompei Pizza, 4-2.

Mark Linaur scored twice for the winners, while Scott Sanvido and Scott Taggart added singles.

Alex Virag and Mike Donnelly replied for Pompei Pizza.

Exchange House scored six unanswered goals in the final period and a half to dump The Roxy, 8-2.

Gary Lockwood paced the winners with a hattrick, while Ian Seaton scored twice. Mike West, Rob Ripley and Jamie Frank all connected for Exchange House.

Chuck Moffitt and George Poulsen replied for The Roxy.

Eight different shooters found the range for Dutch Exports in their 8-1 win over ReMax Realty.



Georgetown A.E. LePage major peewee third sacker Marc Murnaghan takes a throw in the dirt from the catcher, as Guelph baserunner Alan Carlo scampers back to the base. This action was Saturday at the second annual GBA Peewee Tournament, at the Fairgrounds. Georgetown rallied to win this game, 12-10, and advanced to the tourney final.

LePage peewees in final of second GBA tourney

By BOYD HODDINOTT
Herald correspondent
The Georgetown A.E. LePage peewee majors made it to the championship game of the Georgetown Tournament this past weekend.

Friday night under the lights the Realtors triumphed over a tough South London squad, 6-2. Andrew Hoddinott threw a four-hitter over seven innings against a team that is undefeated in their own league.

Andrew struck out eight London batters and helped his own cause with five stolen bases and three runs scored.

Georgetown managed only five hits against the opposition with the big blow being a triple by Bill Tutt.

In a Saturday morning start against Cawthra, Georgetown fought back for an 11-7 triumph as a late-inning bases-loaded double by Mark Smellie made the difference.

Curtis Green gave up six runs on five hits and four walks, as four errors by his fielders contributed to an early Cawthra lead. Abad Mora threw two excellent innings in relief, giving up one run on four hits.

Game three for the LePage peewees saw Georgetown once again overcome a deficit of 10-7 for a 12-10 victory over Guelph. The home squad uncashed 18 hits highlighted by triples from Adam Bennett and Mike Wilkins and a home run by Bill Tutt.

Bill also pitched three innings giving up four runs on seven hits while reliever Abad Mora allowed three runs on five hits over three innings. Andrew Hoddinott came in to save the game with a shutout seventh inning.

With very little rest Georgetown had to face the experienced Clarkson squad in the championship. The boys battled back and outthrew the opposition 16-11, but fell by a score of 13-10.

Six errors and five walks hurt the cause for a tired Andrew Hoddinott, while Abad Mora pitched a fine two innings allowing just two runs. John Brooker, Curtis Green and Marc Murnaghan led the attack with three hits apiece to complete a fine weekend.

Minors top Oakville advance to group final

By COLIN BROOKES
Herald correspondent
The Georgetown North Halton Sports minor peewees put in an excellent showing at the second annual GBA Peewee Baseball Tournament on the weekend.

The locals played opening-round games against Clarkson, Oakville and Burlington, before advancing to the division final against Burlington again.

Georgetown lost their opener Friday night, 13-2 to Clarkson. Shane Oldrieve was the Georgetown batting star, picking up a single and a double to drive in both runs. Mark Lortio also cracked out a single and double.

Scott Van de Valk was the top defensive player for Georgetown, making an outstanding diving stop and a double-play catch on a fly ball from his second base position.

Mike McElroy went to the mound in Game Two, an 11-8 Georgetown victory over Oakville. McElroy was the game star for the winners, helping his own cause with a pair of run-scoring singles.

Andy Pearce cashed in two runs with a triple, and also banged out a two-bagger. Oldrieve ripped out a single and an RBI-double.

Dave Haskins played very well for Georgetown in right field, throwing out three Oakville batters at first base, robbing them of base hits.

In their third outing, Georgetown dropped a 13-9 decision to undefeated Burlington. The loss spoiled a fine come-back effort, in which the North Halton Sports peewees erased a 7-0 first-inning deficit to create an 8-8 deadlock in the third inning.

Mike Hughes was the top Georgetown batsman with a single and double to knock in three runs. Oldrieve executed a perfect squeeze bunt in knocking in two more runs, while Van de Valk had three hits this game.

Georgetown advanced into the final, a rematch with Burlington, after a tie-breaking formula was used to separate them from Oakville and Clarkson. While Burlington had gone unbeaten in three games, the other clubs all managed just a single victory.

Burlington won the round with a solid 12-2 decision over the locals. Left fielder Eddie Doyle was the home side MVP in this contest.

Donker sets new record Three Georgetown winners at Ontario track meet

Centennial Charger Bob Donker set a new provincial record for the 1,500 meter race at the Ontario Minor Track and Field Championships in Oshawa on the weekend.

Donker, 12, blew away a large field of more than 60 runners in setting a new Ontario mark.

His time of 4 minutes 39.8 seconds was almost a half-minute faster than the second-place finisher. The old mark had stood for eight years prior to Donker's performance.

Donker also won the 800-meter event, in a slower time of 2:24.

Several other youngsters represented Georgetown at the OMTFA meet.

Atom Jennifer Arnold, 12, raced to victory in the 400-meter event. Anna Toone, who was fourth in that event, was the winner in the 200-meter sprint.

The girls were edged by the home-town Oshawa Track Club entry, by a mere five one-hundredths of a second.

Two other Georgetown boys, Mike Melville and Paul Lalonde, turned in strong performances in the shadow of Donker's record-setting pace in the 1,500-meter race. They finished fifth and sixth respectively.

Chad Bailey and Bill MacDonald were finalists in the 200-meter sprints.

Approximately 400 athletes from 18 track clubs competed at the OMTFA meet.

Eagles top Oakville with clutch Milne hit

The Georgetown junior baseball Eagles got back on the winning track this week, and they did it the hard way.

The locals nipped league-leading Oakville, losers of just one of 11 starts coming into the Fairgrounds on Saturday.

Georgetown won on the strong pitching of lefthander Chris Fabbri, and the timely hitting of shortstop Gerry Milne. Fabbri went eight and a third innings on the mound, striking out seven while allowing just five hits. Both Oakville runs were unearned.

Milne slammed a ground-rule double over the head of the Oakville center fielder in the Georgetown sixth, scoring the second and third Eagle runs. Paul Blackmore had walked, while Paul Guistini and Brad Yoemans singled to load the bases, before Milne unloaded his run-scoring shot.

Trailing 1-0 entering the bottom of the fourth, the Eagles tied it when Kevin Hughes delivered an RBI-single to score Blackmore, who had walked and stole second.

The Eagles had a chance to blow the game apart in the fifth, but a promising rally was snuffed on a controversial double play.

The bases were loaded, with one out, when Paul Blackmore missed a third strike. When the catcher misplayed the ball, Larry Deighton attempted to score from third base.

Blackmore was called out, and the umpire ruled Deighton out at the plate. Eagle manager Dan Guistini put the game under protest, claiming the Oakville catcher failed to tag Deighton.

Righthander Andrew Braun came on to get the final two outs in this one, when Fabbri fired in the ninth. Braun came on with one out and two runners on, but two strikeouts quickly killed the visitors' rally.

The Eagles improved their won-lost record in Halton County play to 6-8, good enough for third place in the seven-team loop. They travel to Mississauga on the weekend for one game.

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Video bantams split a pair defeat Burlington 15-12

By KEITH MILLS
Herald Correspondent
The Georgetown H and H Video bantam baseball team split a pair of regular season games last week, losing 2-1 in Streetsville on Wednesday, and winning against visiting Burlington 15-12 on Thursday.

The Streetsville game was a defensive battle with all the runs being scored in the first inning. Chuck Peebles held the opposition to a pair of hits while striking out nine batters. Georgetown's four hits were produced by Pat McCarthy, Brian Hayward, Scott Mizener and Dave Tate.

Pitcher Dave Tate helped his own cause in the Burlington game by pounding out a two-run homer in the third inning. This was one of 12 hits produced by the Georgetown squad.

Other hits included singles by Sean Milton, Brian Hayward, Chuck Peebles (3), Greg Tuck (2), Mike Ross, Scott Mizener, Dave Tate and Jeff Mills, and a three bagger by Brian Hayward.

The H and H Bantams travelled north on the weekend to the Chesley Rotary Club 26th International Bantam Baseball Tournament.

In the first game Georgetown lost 3-2 to Owen Sound in a well-played contest.

Dave Tate went the distance on the mound striking out six batters. Georgetown's four hits were produced by Chuck Peebles, Dave Tate, Greg Tuck and Brian Hayward.

The locals were eliminated by Oakville in the second game, by a score of 6-1. It was a close contest until the fourth inning but Oakville found their bats scoring four times on two home runs.

Chuck Peebles and Dave Tate shared the pitching duties in the losing cause. Georgetown's five hits were produced by Sean Milton, Brian Hayward, Pat McCarthy, Chuck Peebles and Jamie Breen.

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Sports in brief

Juniors top Oaks

The Gordon Alcott junior tennis team defeated White Oaks, 3-1, Saturday.

Mike Hurley paved the way to victory with his 6-1, 6-1 decision in the 'Under 18' match.

Rory Kennedy was equally as effective in the 'Under 15' competition, winning 6-2, 6-1.

Bobby Sun and Steve Eastwood teamed up to capture the 'Under 15' doubles contest, 6-4, 6-3.

Jay Anderson and Sean Jackson weren't as lucky in the 'Under 18' doubles match, though, losing 3-6, 4-6.

Pros golf with Gems

A few tickets are still available for the Georgetown Gemini annual golf tournament, Friday at the Georgetown Golf and Country Club.

Thanks to new head coach Ken Southwick, several National Hockey League players will be on hand to meet local fans.

Mark Osborne of the New York Rangers, and Greg Gilbert of the Stanley Cup finalist New York Islanders head up the list. Ken Strong of the Toronto Maple Leafs, Dan Biggs of the Minnesota North Stars and Jeff Hamilton of the Buffalo Sabres are also scheduled to tee-off around 2 p.m.

Georgetown native Brian Hayward, goaltender for the Winnipeg Jets, will also be on hand.

Tickets, at \$30 per person, are still available. For further information, call Bob Tost at 877-4733, or Bob McCandless Sr., at 877-4447.

A-team wins

The Gordon Alcott ladies 'A' tennis team took three of four matches from Cobblestone in Inter County play last week.

Audrey Houston and Brenda Sissett led the way with a straight-set victory, 6-2, 6-3.

Ann Kennedy and Marilyn Serjeantson went the distance before winning, 6-1, 5-7, 6-3.

Pat Harris and Kay King also needed three sets to win, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Isla Allison and Linda Rice were out-pointed, 2-6, 3-6.

This week the 'A' team hosts Brampton.

Racquet gals lose

The Georgetown Racquet Club ladies 'A' squad came up just short in Inter-Club squash play against Richmond Hill last week.

Christine Kogon breezed to victory, 3-0, and Myrna Britton held on to win a cliff-hanger, 3-2.

However, Wendy Cotton, Cory Carter and Diane Andrews all fell by identical 0-3 scores.

Alcott ladies lose

The Gordon Alcott Ladies 'C' team lost three of four Inter County tennis league matches against Cobblestone this week.

The only win came from the team of Midge Hampshire and Margo Prior, 6-1, 7-5.

Diane Delroy and Marg Hughes lost to difficult opponents, 1-4, 2-6. The other couples fought to three sets each with Trudy Roy and Lois Fraser losing 2-6, 6-1, 4-6 and Karin Wilson and Mary McEwen losing 6-3, 4-6, 4-6.

After these games, the Alcott team remains tied with Cobblestone with 14 points each so far this season.

IGA atoms romp

The Georgetown IGA Atoms Selects of the Mid-Ontario District Soccer League defeated Fergus 7-1 at Cedarvale Monday.

David Osborne and Scott McGuigan each scored twice with Brent Wasylenko, Robert Harrison and Andrew Elliot scoring a goal each. Goalie Tim Shrer and backfielders Ken Kosziwka and Marc St. Iorre played very well.

This follows a well-played game in Hillsburgh last week, when Georgetown won 4-0.



ANNA TOONE



BOB DONKER



JENNIFER ARNOLD

Business as usual

Next weekend is a long, holiday weekend, but it's business as usual in the Herald sports department. We'll be open on Monday.

If you plan to submit a hand-in for the sports pages, please pay attention to the usual deadlines. Please try to submit articles by 5 p.m. Monday; call, if you can't make it in till Tuesday morning.

Remember, the earlier you give us your article, the better the chance it will be published. Thanks, once again, to the regular contributors to the Herald sports pages. We depend on you if we're going to stay first in sports in Halton Hills.