

# Canada faces stiff test at Under-16 World Cup

Canada's task in the under-16 World Cup was not made any easier by the addition of Italy to their group together with Qatar and Egypt. In fact, the opening game of the tournament will be Canada versus Italy. A tougher beginning cannot be imagined. That game is followed by Qatar versus Egypt.

The opening day is to be hosted by the Peel-Halton District Association as part of the Peel-Halton day and is quite an honour. The special rates for the day, Saturday, July, 12 have been taken up by a number of clubs in the district. However, Georgetown is not one them and we may have missed the boat. Burlington's Ontario Cup champions of 1986 are the chosen ball boys for the first day.

North America as a future site for the senior World Cup is on the horizon. I also believe that the shortage of grass, natural for the use of, will remain the determining factor in any decision. Short-sightedness on the part of the Skydome committee has ruled out that stadium almost certainly, having chosen artificial turf for the surface.

Moving down the scale a little, yet remaining at an upper level I move on. The Canadian Soccer League opened this past weekend and the actual first opening kick-off belonged to the Ottawa/Hamilton Steelers game in the capital city. The game resulted in a 1-1 tie with a last-minute goal from the home team depriving the visitors from Hamilton of a victory. Steelers netted a fine opening goal in the first half and looked like they would win the game until the late equalizer. Starting a little later, Blizzard visited North York and this game also ended in a 1-1 tie. Blizzard had old favourites David Byrne, Paul Hammond and Randy Ragan in the line up. I suppose all coaches were reasonably happy that their teams did not lose.

A national league is the top of the 'pyramid' for play in the country and is the goal for all players, or should be short of representing our country.

Regrettably we are without the next level down - a provincial league. Last season we did have the Petro-Canada league. There were negotiations ongoing between various interested parties and official bodies in the early months of the year in an attempt to set up a provincial league and these were thwarted in the political atmosphere surrounding the OSA, CSL, and NSL. Hopefully there is still the opportunity to put such a league in motion in the future.

This brings me to local interests. Georgetown Peel County provide the next level with the Toronto and District Premier league team, now playing out of Georgetown at Alcott on most alternate Friday evenings.

There was, I understand, a game last Friday, which I missed. Below County we have our youth 'rep' teams. Even those are sadly lacking in terms of numbers of teams. We have under-21, under-18, and under-13 only, this year. The 'contingency' of prior years has gone astray in recent years and we have a long way to catch up.

Then we have house leagues. Perhaps you can see the progression through the system to the players and coaches from the foregoing.

Citing an example in our own Gary Morrow, it is possible for players to aspire to the heights as a national and top flight league player, as did Gary Miller before him. Who is the aspirant? How many are next? Who has the aspiration?

Inter-County play saw Varian win over Ajax 2-1, Ajax losing their goal by ejection. The ancients gave up a point at Trexcon in giving

away a second half equalizer. Park continued their winning ways with a 2-0 win over Villa 'A', Bill Blackburn netting both goals. Rangers lost 2-0 in helping Blue to maintain their undefeated record at this time. In the other matches Masters went down 2-1 to the Rose and Thistle, in their best show to date. I do not have the United/Milton result.

In most adult outdoor sports the taking along of "a case of 24" has become almost mandatory. Last summer, in outdoor activities, somewhere around 80 charges were laid by the local "bobbies". The league, in order to protect the clubs, has issued strong warnings against this practice and they will face expulsion from further league play should any team be caught contravening the field permit conditions and the law of the land. Sorry, lads, but that is the way it is.

See you next week, folks.

## Soccer



By ALEX TORGIL Herald Special

I believe it is important for the district to show up in as large numbers as possible, and the other hosting districts also. FIFA will be present and watching our organization of a world class tournament, even although the players are young. The possibility of looking at

An interesting factor is the contract with the TSN network to carry most, if not all, of the games in the league. This league is long overdue as we are the only country to qualify for the World Cup without a major national league. The shortcomings of this were seen in the defeat by USA in the Olympic qualifying

## Squirt girls soccer results

The squirt girls' soccer teams were in action last week, as the Gold Team chalked up a pair of victories. Cheryl Rivard scored three times and Kimberley Vagg added a single marker as the Gold squad doubled the Care Bears 4-2.

Stephanie Appleby and Renee Kitchen replied for the Care Bears, who received solid efforts from all the members of the team in the match. Monica Beauparlant played a strong game for the winners.

The Purple Panthers also fell victim to the Gold Team in another con-

test, as they dropped a 3-1 decision. Kimberley Vagg, Cheryl Rivard, and Monica Beauparlant accounted for the winners' goals while Davina Taylor, Jennifer Armstrong, and Sarah McEachern also turned in strong games in a winning cause. All the Purple Panthers played well in the game.

In other squirt action, the Grasshoppers split a pair of matches.

In one outing, the Purple Panthers fell prey to the Grasshoppers by the score of 3-1. Bobbi Squire had a pair

of markers for the winners, while Cheryl Cordell Ethier chipped in with a single goal. Both sides played extremely well in the closely-contested game.

The Grasshoppers' loss came at the hands of the Care Bears as they suffered a 4-1 setback. Eirn Ashbee, Renee Kitchen, and Julie Pollock accounted for the Care Bears' scoring punch, while Bobbi Squire replied for the Grasshoppers. Again, it was difficult to pick any standouts from the two teams, because both squads played very well.

## Bantam soccer teams see action

In what proved to be a well-played match, the Green Team took a 2-1 decision from the Blue Team in Bantam girls' soccer action last week.

Scoring for the winners were

Doreen Bergsma and Traci Peggie, backed up by Eslier Gerrits and Shannon O'Donnell. Scoring for the Blue Team was Sandy Rahn, whose efforts were supported by the entire team.

Playing shorthanded, the White Team dropped a 7-1 decision to Hillsburgh. The White squad put in a good performance with a goal by Kristine Krafcyk and admirable work by goalie Donna Kerby.

In a very entertaining game, the Penguins and the Blue Team fought to a 5-5 tie. For the Penguins, Tara Barroughs scored three goals, and Sheri Nairn added a pair of markers. Sonia Letarnee, Tara Leavitt, and Donna Kerby all played strong games for the Penguins. Sandy Rahn scored three times for the Blue Team, and Anna Toone had two goals. The entire team turned in excellent performances.

In another match last week, the Green Team played an excellent match, tying Hillsburgh 3-3. Doreen Bergsma, with two markers, and Traci Peggie with a single, were the strikers for the Green Team, while Carol Mitchell and Shannon O'Donnell also had strong performances.

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