

Sports of '88

Year was marked by surprising feats

By George Robinson

Like any Olympic year, 1988 had an abundance of memorable feats. This particular year in sports was dominated by outsized personalities, oversized egos, overwhelming achievements — and a quick fall from grace. Here are the 10 sports people who had the greatest impact in 1988:

1. **Ben Johnson.** This Canadian went from Olympic hero to villain in three days in September. It happened at the biggest sports meet ever held. Johnson set a world record of 9.79 seconds in the 100-meter dash in Seoul. Suddenly, he was stripped of his medal after testing positive for steroid use. The scandal cast a pall over the Summer Games. Thanks in no small part to Johnson's situation, the United States and Soviet Union began moving toward a stringent international drug-testing policy for amateur athletes. Thus, what happened to the "world's fastest human" in 1988 could have far-reaching effects.

2. **Steffi Graf.** Previously, only two women — Maureen Connolly in 1953 and Margaret Court in 1970 — had won all four Grand Slam tennis titles in a single calendar year. Neither dominated women's tennis the way Steffi Graf did while accomplishing that feat in 1988. How good was the 19-year-old West German in Grand Slam play? In the four tournaments — Wimbledon and the U.S., French and Australian opens — she won 54 of 58 sets and went 335-96 in games. Her four finals matches lasted a total of 4 hours, 57 minutes.

3. **Mike Tyson.** Forget the soap-opera antics with Robin Givens, the courtroom chaos with Bill Cayton, the backroom dealings with Don King. All you need to remember is that Mike Tyson "unified" the heavyweight crown for the first time since the early days of Larry Holmes. Tyson did it with a 91-second knockout of Michael Spinks, who had inherited Holmes' glory as "the people's champ." Tyson, holder of the alphabet titles from the

world sanctioning groups, also made quick work of Holmes and Tony Tubbs in 1988. The state of boxing depends on the state of the heavyweights. And Tyson is in control.

4. **Orel Hershiser.** He broke Don Drysdale's 20-year-old record for consecutive scoreless innings by shutting out all foes for 59 straight innings. In post-season play, the Los Angeles ace handcuffed two of the biggest run-scoring machines in baseball, the New York Mets and the Oakland Athletics. He won both the NLCS and World Series MVP awards, the Cy Young Award and a Gold Glove. Orel did everything but sing the National Anthem for the world-champion Dodgers. Take Hershiser away and they would have had trouble finishing fourth in the NL West.

5. **Barry Sanders.** This year's Heisman Trophy went to an unheralded junior running back from a second-level Big Eight school. Nobody was touting Barry Sanders of Oklahoma State at the beginning of the college football season. But when the dust cleared, the quiet tailback had run for over 2,500 yards, a new NCAA single-season record. Sanders broke or tied 18 NCAA yardage and scoring marks in 1988. He logged three games of at least 300 yards and three more of at least 200 yards.

6. **Wayne Gretzky.** For the first time since he entered the NHL, Wayne Gretzky made big headlines for something he did off the ice. When Edmonton Oilers owner Peter Pocklington traded the Great One to the LA Kings, black crepe was hung in Canada. Will Gretzky be able to single-handedly create an American market for ice hockey? No more than Pete did for soccer, but it will be fun to watch him trying.

7. **Pat Riley.** The head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers had "guaranteed" that they would repeat in 1988 as NBA champs. Big words for a league that had gone 19 years without a back-to-back champion. However, Riley was as good as those words — with a little help from friends Magic, Kareem, Worthy, et al. Like Casey Stengel with the New York Yankees in the 1950s, Riley has been underrated. Maybe his twin victories will bring the recognition he deserves.

8. **Danny Manning.** No one expected the injury-riddled Kansas Jayhawks to last beyond the first or second round of the NCAA basketball tournament in 1988. The fact that they were in the tournament at all was a tribute to Player of the Year Danny Manning. With a supporting cast of talented names, Manning finally shouldered the burden of leadership that coach Larry Brown had been pressing on him for four years. The lanky senior carried the Jayhawks to a national title. He followed up that triumph with the largest contract ever signed by an NBA rookie.

9. **Katarina Witt.** Although she didn't skate her best, this East German became the first woman since Sonja Henie to win back-to-back Olympic golds in figure skating. Witt defeated long-time rival Debi Thomas and Canada's Elizabeth Manley in Calgary. Two weeks later, to prove it was no fluke, she did it again at the world championships. With all three of these stars retiring, the face of the sport will change radically before the 1992 Games.

10. **Curtis Strange.** It was a year in which most of the PGA Tour was populated by strangers. In one stretch, nine consecutive events went to first-time Tour winners. And Strange was the most familiar name in golf. Curtis won an unequalled total of four PGA events — including the dramatic U.S. Open, his first major title. He also became the first golfer ever to clear \$1 million in a single year.

© 1988, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

Sabres exchange

It was a traditional Christmas for the Acton Sabres. They gave and they received.

Sabres dropped an 8-5 home ice decision to the Bradford Bulls last Friday in Acton after cutting down the Grand Valley Harvesters 5-1 in Grand Valley last Thursday.

Acton will be looking for a winning start to 1989 when they visit Schomberg Cougars next Monday

Chiefs sharpen arrows for Beaver tourney

Coaches Chris Milne, Dan Curtis and Wally Petrie hoped that a busy schedule last week would be ideal preparation for the Domtar Packaging Minor Peewee "AA" Chief's participation in the Milton Beaver Tournament beginning Boxing Day.

On Dec. 19, Georgetown travelled to Oakville and defeated their hosts by a score of 6-0, with a very solid effort. Goalkeeper John Waller had a relatively easy night in recording the shutout. Doug Sheppard was prominent offensively and scored a pair of goals. Duke Bouskill added a pair and Jamie Stephenson rounded out the Domtar Packaging scoring. Duane Erler, Gavin Glaser and Brent Wilkinson earned assists for the Minor Peewee squad.

Arch-rival Milton, provided the opposition at Memorial Arena on Dec. 20. With less than a minute remaining in the game, the already short-handed Georgetown team, saw Milton score the equalizer as they pulled their goalie. A very well played game ended in a 3-3 tie. For the Chiefs, Sheppard opened the scoring on a goal assisted by Mark Aldridge and Bouskill. Two goals by Stephenson gave Domtar Packaging a 3-2 lead. Erler assisted on both markers, and Glaser and Scott Wilson each earned an assist. Chad Hughes made several sparkling saves in the Georgetown net.

Everything pointed to the Chiefs peaking for the impending tournament play. However, another game in Oakville on Dec. 22 saw the Minor Peewees scramble to earn a 3-3 draw. In this game the Domtar Packaging team was slightly lethargic and could not get a bounce. A late goal by Wilson with assists to linemates Erler and Stephenson finally secured the tie. Wilkinson scored a goal and added an assist on Sheppard's opening goal. Sheppard returned the favour by assisting on Wilkinson's goal. Aldridge also earned an assist. John Waller completed a solid effort with two great saves to maintain the tie score.

1989 midget tourney title up for grabs Jan. 3 - 8

The championship crown of the Georgetown Midget Hockey Tournament will be up for grabs in the new year.

Richmond Hill, last year's winners, are not returning to defend their title in the 1989 version of the midget puck classic which gets under way at Alcott Arena on Jan. 3 and runs until Jan. 8.

Waterloo, which has won the Georgetown title on a number of occasions, were beaten by Richmond Hill in last season's A final and will be returning to try and win it all.

Markham, which won last season's consolation laurels, is also back for another crack.

Georgetown's own Sunny Acres Farms midgets open their tournament preliminary schedule on Friday, Jan. 6 as they face-off against Port Perry beginning at 8 p.m. at Alcott.

A win puts Georgetown in the A side against the winner of a Chatham vs Belleville contest, while a loss moves them to consolation round action against the loser of the Chatham-Belleville tilt.

The consolation final is slated for Sunday, Jan. 8 at 2:30 p.m. with the championship title on the line at 4:45 p.m.

All tournament games are played at Alcott Arena.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Autohaus Georgetown is pleased to welcome PHIL ORR. Phil is our new Service Manager, and will be working with Ken Law, Glenn Harris and Andy Bell, to keep your automobile running smoothly.

DON'T FORGET! — WE SERVICE AND LEASE ALL MAKES OF CARS.

AUTOHAUS GEORGETOWN INC.

199 Guelph Street Georgetown 877-5285

GEORGETOWN HOCKEY HERITAGE AWARD Nominations Wanted

The General Public is invited to nominate a group or individual who has made a significant contribution to Georgetown's Hockey Heritage.

Forward your nomination to the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council c/o:

DON OLSON
102 Raylawn Crescent
Georgetown L7G 4N1

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

Please include a brief description of the contribution. Submissions received prior to January 3rd, 1989 will be considered.

The fishiest tale of the season



LOON TUNES and OUTDOOR NOTES by Len Landers

The message from our car radio was very clear.

"Yes folks, it's going to be another hot one...37 degrees celsius, or just about 99 on the old, real scale...and still no rain in sight. Watering restrictions are still in effect for parts of Toronto and the County of Peel."

"And now, the traffic report..." "Well, Bob, the eastbound 401 is a real mess, and we think the weather might be getting to some people on this hot, hot Friday. We have six accidents to report on 401 eastbound out of the city, with lots of people slowing to look, and traffic is jammed all the way across the top of Toronto."

"Come on folks, drive carefully, relax, but stay away from the 401 east..."

Thus, the stage was set for our special "Moment of the Year."

Yes, when I think of the year 1988, I'll remember the summer heat; the record-breaking temperatures; the watering restrictions; the brown, drying and dying lawns; and the bad traffic on the way to cottage country.

But, I'll remember good things too, more pleasant memories like trout fishing with Barry and the Four Sisters of Port Credit.

We won't soon forget the walleye opener in Bobcaygeon, with the Halton Hills Ambulance crew, and I'll remember how difficult it was to fool of marble eyes that winked...difficult, that is, until I heeded back to the teachings of the Ace, my father, who always said, "Relax. Keep it simple, the fish will come. Just relax and have a good time...And leave that net behind! Then, you'll hook a fish for sure!"

Yes, I'll remember 1988 for those determined smallmouth bass of Stoney Lake, and the wonder of catching walleye with a hook and worm from the dock at the marina.

"Where were your fish on the opening weekend?" I laughed, over and over again, as I eased them to grow up, so that they may accommodate u in the future.

I'll remember working the midnight shift as they say, trolling for the mysterious, malevolent muskie under a full moon on Kinsabog Lake, accompanied only by my gear, an old radio, and the not-totally-welcome hard-rock tunes from Peterborough, which gradually gave way to the teaching of Our Lord, as the sun peeked its Sunday way over the barren, eastern horizon.

"Another night, another no-hitter..." I sighed, as I pulled the boat up to the dock.

Yep, and I'll remember Ken O'Brien, a Toronto angler who hooked and landed a 65 pound muskie...while fishing for bass...he'd never even seen a muskie before. He wasn't even interested in muskie.

Do you still think that fishing isn't the world's greatest sport...

I'll remember my brother Greg, imitating Billy Crystal, who in turn was copying Yul Brynner, cast in the unlikely role of Babe Ruth, and I'll recall almost falling into the lake laughing at good ol' Greg, as he assumed that regal pose in the boat.

"Theeze Chicagoo Cubz...they got me nutz," puff, puff on an imaginary

cigar. None of us will ever forget the first Loon Tunes Fishing Contest, won fairly and squarely by our son, ole sleepy eyes Zac, who at the tender age of not-quite-three years, hooked the biggest smallmouth of the week with a reckless cast of a hook and worm near a submerged tree stump on Kosh Lake.

I'll remember Lennon, our eldest a six years, standing for hours and hours on end, casting into the bay for bass, never giving up, never quitting, and I'll think about how much he must have resembled another little boy, a scruffy little ghost of the 1950's, tossing lures over and over again into the crystalline water of Balsam Lake, casting from a friendly old dock and dreaming about a bass that had jumped for the sun...

Yes, they're all warm memories, and each and every one has a special place etched in my heart, but there can be only one "Moment of the Year." There can be only one instance of the many you recall that captures first place.

There can be only one winner. And for that very special occasion, we take you back...back to that memorable moment...back to that weather report...back to Highway 25 North, as we sought to avoid the 401, as instructed, on a scorching summer Friday, on our way to cottage country.

It was hot. The trip would be long. Frustration festered.

Our little daughter Sullavan stood up from the seat to proclaim something. I told her to sit back, and do up her seat belt.

"Get back there and BEHAVE!" I yelled in just-less-than-the-intensity required to crack a windshield.

Undaunted, Sullavan (whose name strictly translates to "blue-eyed fighting girl from the sun"), well, she stood her ground, and her forehead furrowed in a frown of four-year-old ferocity.

"NO!!!" she shrieked in a voice totally belying her forty-pounds-soaking-wet weight, and her thirty-nine inch stature. "NO!! I WON'T BE-HAVE!!!" she hollered with a force that could've registered on the Richter scale.

"I CAN'T BE-HAVE!!!" "I'M NOT A-HAVE!!!" "I'M A SULLAVAN!!!" ...Well, truer words were never spoken.

I told her to be good...and she sat right back...

That was our Moment of the Year, and, you know...somehow, as our daughter gets older...somehow, I think that it's not going to get any easier...

Shorelines - Your first duty when planning to go fishing in the new year, is to remember to buy your fishing license. It's easy to forget, and not as easy to explain to your friendly conservation officer...

Have a Happy New Year and may all of you enjoy good luck and good health in 1989!

On the Horizon - "The world's ugliest fishing hole." See you in 2 weeks.

David A. Dem Registered Masseur

Located at Carols, 65 MAIN ST. S.
Phone for an appt. or please drop by

877-2981

Gift Certificates Available



Auto Master transmission automatic

Foreign - Domestic Light Trucks

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Here is a special message to all for health and success in 1989!

AUTOMASTER TRANSMISSION TRANSMISSION SPECIALISTS

315 Armstrong Ave. Georgetown

877-6904

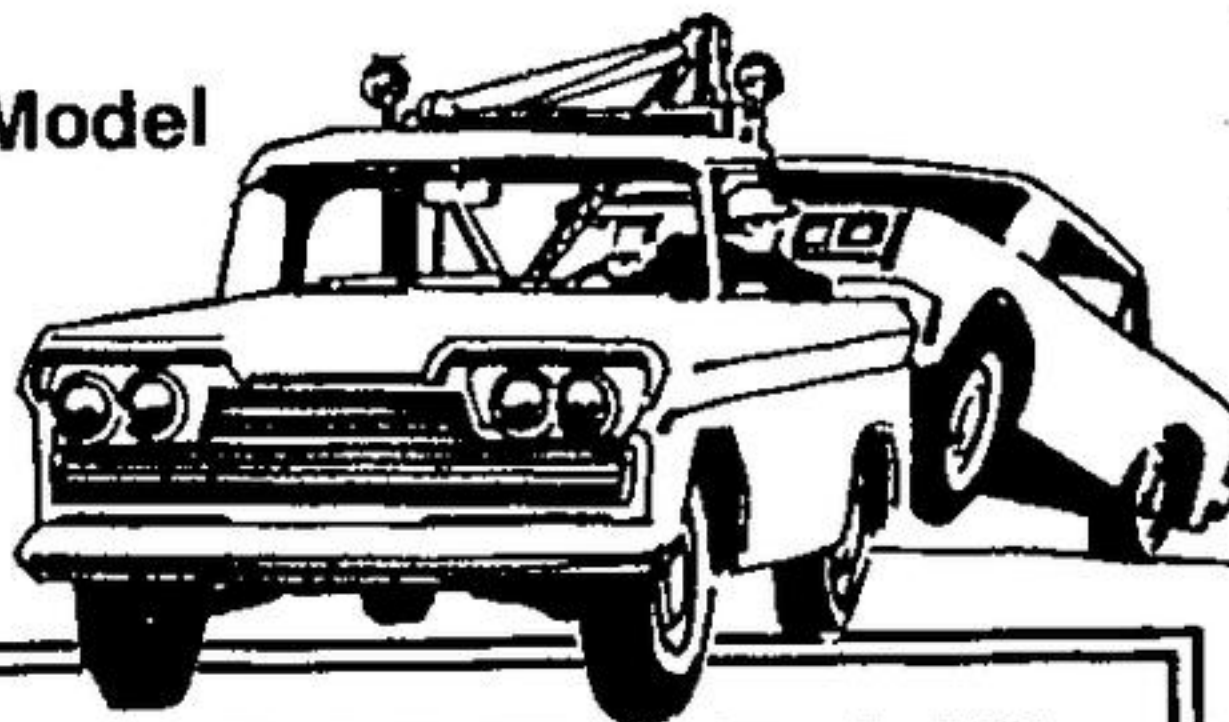
HYUNDAI OWNERS For Service Call 873-1818

BEARLY USED AUTO PARTS INC. Formerly Watson Auto Parts

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

✓ Parts for Late Model Cars & Trucks

✓ Hotline Services



HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR CARS & TRUCKS!

3 to 12 Month Moneyback Guarantee On All Parts!

Business Hours Mon.-Fri. 8:00-5:30 Saturday 8:00-3:00

BEARLY USED AUTO PARTS INC. Formerly Watson Auto Parts

877-6226 457-5713 or 457-5404

			10th Sdrd.
		*Ashgrove	
x	6th Line	Trafalgar Rd.	5th Sdrd.
		*Pineview School Steeles Ave.	
			Hwy. 401

CYCLE & SKI
Wishing all our customers a prosperous 1989.
Thanks for a great '88!
Closed Mon., Jan. 2, 1989

71 MAIN STREET SOUTH GEORGETOWN
Entrance Off Rear Parking Lot 873-2441