

Westenders hit bullseye in year-end tournament



Darts

By Alex Tough

Last weeks in 1988 HALTON LEAGUE

The last matches played were on Dec. 19 and were reported at that time. However, the results and standings are submitted to remind us of where we are at the halfway stage. Time Out I are 28 points ahead of McGibbon I with O'Tooles and Hollywood hovering, each having scored over 100 points to date. Although I do not have the individual statistics at hand Gary Rodda of McGibbon is leading in that area. Ron Scarlett, Joe Cairns and Danny Fraser of Time Out are not far behind. The next division meeting is on Jan. 10.

INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

The league approached the year end with a knock out teams tourney and a normal league evening, hosted at the Legion as usual.

The tourney was played in four groups of five teams in round robin play with the four leaders going through to the final round. Teams were allowed to play players or not as they chose. An extra team was set up to fill up the space. Three teams were short of a player and had to play with a "dummy" (my team played with a "dummy" me!). There were a few players around who did not play and chose to stay with their own team in support, all in keeping with the rules of the day. Games began around 8:40 p.m., and eventually the four section winners emerged in Bulldogs, Gasketmen, Snowjacks Hustlers and Westenders.

After the now traditional break for goodies the final commenced. Bulldogs went down to Snowjacks Hustlers and Gasketmen to Westenders in the first round. Westenders came back to defeat Snowjacks Hustlers and Bulldogs took the men from the Gaskets. Westenders then defeated Bulldogs and Snowjacks Hustlers defeated Gasketmen. This set up Westenders vs. Snowjacks Hustlers for the Alf Oates Memorial Trophy. Alf Oates was a former player of several years in the league and died in the summer after a long battle with cancer. He believed in playing the game seriously with sociality afterward. He also believed teams should not be made to change players for every game, as the league currently and traditionally, does in its format of play. Hence the tourney in knockout, unchanging fashion. The final was a real battle to the end and Westenders came out on top as the first winners, John Mills finishing with triple 17-double top in two darts after I missed double 18 for my lot. Eric Fuller's 140 did some damage in the final game.

Back in the league Snowjacks Hustlers and Steep Rock head their respective divisions. Hustlers have a handsome lead of 25 points over nearest challengers, Westenders. Steep Rock are in a closer dogfight being five points ahead of Gasketmen.

Last week's second and third placed teams, Westenders and Ensigns met in an important match and a close battle it turned out to be. Ensigns' threesome of Ken Baker, Harry Bottoms and Roy Rudiger took on the Memorial win-

ners of Ray Ackroyd, John Mills, Eric Fuller and Dennis Thorogood with Jim Fisher and Derek Hardcastle playing also. First blood went to 'Enders with a Fuller start and Ackroyd finish. Rudiger and Bottoms (and "dummy") took the second to tie the match; the same two with Baker went ahead in the third on Baker's finish. Two in a row for 'Enders then one for Ensigns tied it all up again. The crucial seventh saw Fuller start for 'Enders and Baker for Ensigns and Mills came through with a bomb to claim the lead. Ensigns had to tie the eight or lose the match. Bottoms and Rudiger with dummy were up against it. Thorogood began and Mills again closed out for the game and match. Rudiger finished off the last game for the one game difference.

Meanwhile league leaders were seeing off the challenge of High Rollers by a seven point margin. Beau Beaumont came through strongly in the end with four starts and close outs with yours truly setting the early pace with four starts and one close. Joe Cairns took a double four finish in the second game which could have changed the face of the match had he not. Snowjacks Hustlers handed down two 'skunks' in the match over luckless Rollers. Inter County showed only two players and conceded four games off the bat and managed to take one of those actually played to give Golden Flights a seven point win. Barry Sproule shot 120, Russ Deigel 123 and Al Murphy 100 against County. The remaining first division clash had Bulldogs biting the dust against Exports, Brad Hale and Don Eady closing out their two wins. Pete Pickering had a devastating opening game with six of them. John Malby had three with two closes to follow and Earl Malby and Brian Hicks each finished two.

Acadian Pools were back on track with a win over Taxmen. Mike Pepper had four opens and a close to lead the way and Grant Richardson had two opens and closes. Paul Karolidis came in with three opens and two closes for Taxmen and shot 140 and had a high start of 96. Dave Chamberlain highed on 174. Bruce Capriol and Cam Lever each had two opegs. Pools win keeps them in third place as Steep Rock and Gasketmen both won.

Steep Rock defeated Independents by the odd game and honors were spread around. Gary Rodda opened with 136, Hugh Smid with 102, Paul Kirby with 98 and Rodda had himself another maximum. In reply Jim Franks had five opens and closes. Gord Bottoms opened three and Eddie Plackett closed two. Franks opened one game with 116 and Plackett finished high on 80. Franks also recorded two 125 scores for a captain's part. Gasketmen defeated Unknowns by five points. For Unknowns Doug Harlow highed on 101 and Bob Webster began with a 72. Gib Telford and captain Harry Allen are the other now known Unknowns. Rick Harden scored 114 and Bruce Hope opened with a ton.

Aces took the last five games to round off their win over Firemen. Never the less Bruce Lewis scored 140.

McNally's abuzz as team skates in Wayne Gretzky Tournament

For weeks the players and coaches of Georgetown's Minor Novice "AA" hockey team have been buzzing with excitement. They had been accepted to play in Wayne Gretzky's fourth annual international minor hockey tournament on Dec. 27-31 and they felt they were ready.

Game one against Dundas on Dec. 27 saw the McNally Construction club face off against their old foes from regular league play. They had never beaten Dundas and knew they needed an all-out effort if they were to do it this time.

To add to their problems McNally's were informed just before the game that Judd Richardson, one of their four defencemen, would not be available for the game. He was at home nursing a 102-degree temperature.

When Geoff Bahr and Joey Barber complained of flu symptoms their assignment seemed to be a questionable one.

The game started with both teams feeling each other out. McNally was instructed to play a defensive game and wait for the opportunities.

Georgetown's defensive unit of Joey Goodhew, Jeff Telford and Geoff Bahr played a no-nonsense

type of defence while taking no chances in which they might have been caught out of position.

The game plan was working but with only seven minutes left in the game Dundas finally broke through the defence and scored what looked like a winning goal.

The McNally's would have to dig deep to tie up the game. And dig deep they did. With less than three minutes left in the game Ryan Smith shoveled a pass to Mike Madill along the boards. He in turn sent the puck into the Dundas corner. Robert MacLeod pounced on the loose puck brought it around behind the opposition goal and stuffed it in the short side for the much-needed tying goal. All in all a good start to the tournament.

Final score: Georgetown 1, Dundas 1.

Three stars: Geoff Bahr, Jeff Telford, Robt. MacLeod.

Game two was against Stoney Creek, and after the good effort in game one Georgetown's next opponent was again no easy task. Stoney Creek were a powerful team who were leading their own division in regular season play. The McNally's again went with their same line-up to make up for the players (Geoff Quinn, Judd Richardson) who were not available for the tournament.

Goodhew, Bahr and Telford would rotate as the only three defencemen while Robert MacLeod and Robert Larose double-shifted between the regular wingers.

Stoney Creek scored first and everyone knew the next goal would be crucial. Georgetown's hopes were buoyed when Trevor Rich slammed in a rebound off a shot by Dan Cabral.

Could the depleted McNally team hold on? Certainly the Stoney Creek team had something to say about the outcome as they showed why they are a division leader. They exerted constant pressure on the local team. This coupled with Georgetown's shorthanded defence proved too much and Stoney Creek went on to win 3-1 despite some strong goaltending

from Chris Hall and Joey Barber.

Three stars: Trevor Rich, Joey Goodhew, David Markham.

Game three against Cambridge would test to the fullest the condition of the Georgetown hockey team.

The defence had been overworked in games one and two. Geoff Bahr who had played exceptionally in those games was starting to feel the strain. "I feel tired and I feel a little sick because of the flu," he said. But the look in his face said he would do his very best.

The importance of the game was etched on the faces of all the Georgetown players as they knew that they had to beat Cambridge to go on to the second round of the tournament.

When Robert MacLeod scored an early goal it appeared to pick up the spirits of all the players as they started to buzz around the Cambridge net.

Cabral, Markham, Krause, Larose and Madill all had excellent scoring chances, but failed to score. Finally Trevor Rich scored on a goalmouth scramble and the McNally's took a 2-0 lead. They felt good about the lead but bad about all the chances they had missed.

Then as so often happens when you let your opponent off the ropes it comes back to haunt you. With less than eight minutes left Cambridge scored to make it 2-1. Then a minute later they tied it at 2-2.

The second goal for Cambridge seemed to break Georgetown's hearts. From this point on the opposition coasted to a 5-2 victory with five unanswered goals in less than eight minutes.

The Georgetown team looked tired and disorganized when the final buzzer sounded but the experience they gained in this their first tournament of the year will help them next time out.

Three star selection: Robert Larose, Ryan Smith, Mike Madill.

Check Leaks

Check the gaskets on your refrigerator to see if they are cracked or worn and leaking cold air.

Cross-country ski workshop

Jan. 28-29

Are you looking for an opportunity to break-in those new cross country skis you found under the tree Xmas morning...

The Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department is hosting a two day Cross Country Skiing Workshop on Saturday, Jan. 28 and Sunday, Jan. 29, at the Jack Smythe Field Centre, Terra Cotta from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This workshop is designed for beginner skiers and also for skiers who would like to upgrade their present skills. It will cover topics such as correction detections, ski safety and etiquette and is a must for all new skiers.

Ski

• Blue Mountain

Come and ski Blue Mountain in Collingwood on Feb. 3 during the semester turnaround. We provide the transportation with pick-up locations at the Gordon Alcott Arena, McKenzie Smith MS and Pineview PS. This day trip is open to both Adults and Youth 13 years and older. Check out the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department's Brochure or call us at 877-5185 extension 261.

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