

Recreation Department offers swim programs

Now even the youngest member of your family can get in the swim! A new aquatic program designed for pre-schoolers is being launched at both the Acton and Georgetown Indoor Pools this fall. The program developed by the Ontario Division of the Canadian Red Cross Society, provides instruction for three groups of pre-school children.

"Waterbabies" provides water orientation for children under one year and includes their parent's participation. The one to five year old with mom or dad's support will learn Water Accommodation and Basic Swim Skills in the "Kinderswim" level. "Starfish" is geared to the three to five year old non-swimmer, and does not involve parent participation. The last of the NEW pre-school levels is "Guppy." This level is for the three to five year old and introduces the child to floatation skills with assistance (parents do not participate in this level). Registration for all aquatic programs begins Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Acton Indoor Pool or the Georgetown High School Library lobby entrance. For information on how to introduce your child to a lifetime of enjoyable aquatics, call 873-2600 ext. 266.

Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department
Aquatic Levels to new Red Cross
Parent and Pre-school Swim Program

Recreation and Parks Department Level Completed	Point of Entry
Parent and Tot (6 mos. - 1 year)	Waterbabies Parent Participation
Parent and Tot (1-3 years) Tadpole (2-3 years)	Kinderswim Parent Participation
Tadpole (3-5 years) Pollywog	Starfish Without Parent Participation
Superfrog	Guppy Without Parent Participation
Yellow	Yellow Without Parent Participation

Boston Red Sox batters take aim at hitting crown

By John Grabowski

It's a memorable baseball line from "Alibi Ike," a short story by famed writer Ring Lardner. "I had malaria most o' the season," claims Ike. "I wound up with .356."

No matter what — sickness, injury, even Margo Adams — you can be sure Wade Boggs will be at or near the top of the batting charts with an average around .350.

But Boggs is only the latest in a long line of American League batting champs to perform for the Boston Red Sox. In fact, nine different Red Sox players have combined to win a total of 21 batting titles.

That means that — with the AL having started back in 1901 — nearly 24 percent of the league's batting champs have been from the Red Sox.

The figure jumps even higher when you take into account that Boston's current home — Fenway Park — did not open until 1912. Twenty-one of 77 crowns (27 per cent) have been won by hitters who played home games at Fenway.

Boston's first winner was Dale Alexander in 1932, so the 21 crowns were actually won in the past 57 years.

Topping the list of Boston's great hitters are Ted Williams, with six batting titles (1941-'42, '47-'48, '57-'58); Wade Boggs, with 5 (1983, 1985-'88); and Carl Yastrzemski with three (1963, '67-'68).

Obviously, hitters such as Ted Williams and Wade Boggs could have won batting titles no matter where they played.

However, just as obviously, Fenway does add points to a player's average. Just how much of an impact it has can be seen if we examine batting

marks over the past several years.

According to "The 1989 Elias Baseball Analyst," players hit at a .282 clip at Fenway in 1988 (combined averages for Red Sox and visiting players). In road games between these teams, the same players hit for a .260 mark, or 8.5 percent lower.

Only Royals Stadium in Kansas City and Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles were better "hitters' parks" last year, increasing averages by 9.8 and 8.6 percent, respectively.

Last year was not an aberration either. Over the past five seasons, Fenway Park has increased averages by 7.3 percent (.284 to .264) for the largest increase of any stadium in the majors.

When Red Sox players alone are considered, the figures are striking: Boston batted .303 at home last year and only .263 on the road.

Every one of the 12 regulars or semi-regulars on the Red Sox roster hit better at Fenway, ranging from a 12-point difference for Mike Greenwell (.331 to .319) to an 86-point difference for Rick Cerone (.308 to .220).

Contrary to popular belief, Fenway Park is not especially conducive to producing home runs, despite the presence of "The Green Monster" in left field. It begins only 315 feet from home plate; and it's 37 feet high.

Over the past five seasons, Fenway has reduced four-baggers by 6.4 percent, with 755 hit in Boston compared to 801 by the same teams in road games.

During that span of time, 17 of the 26 major-league stadiums proved to be better "home run" parks. The top three — Wrigley Field in Chicago, the Kingdome in Seattle and San Diego Stadium — increased home runs, respectively, by 45.5, 34.1 and 25.2 percent.

Over the past 10 years, only 25 players with a minimum of 500 total at bats have hit at least .040 better in their home parks than on the road. Five of them played all or most of their careers with the Red Sox. They are: Reid Nichols (who batted .064

higher at home), Wade Boggs (.056), Butch Hobson (.051), Jim Rice (.048) and Ellis Burks (.043).

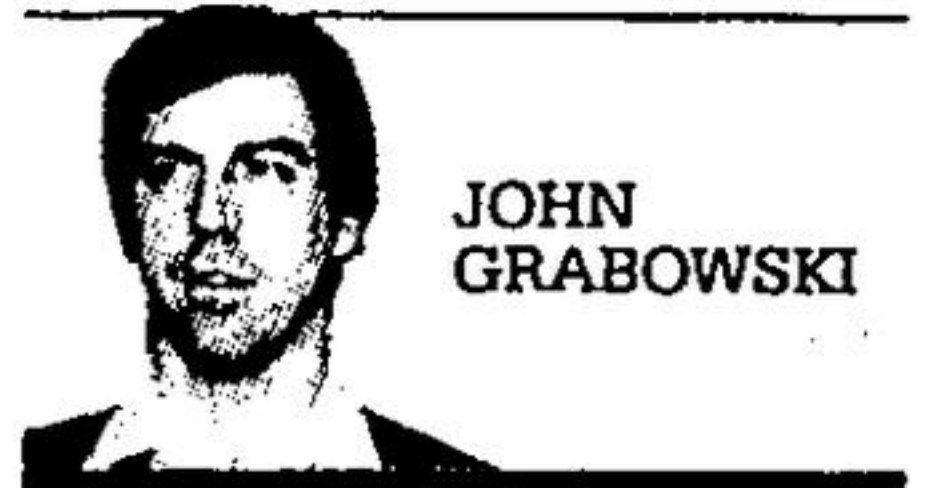
The Red Sox are the only team in the past 14 years to hit .300 or better in their home park over the course of a full season.

They did so in 1979, 1984, 1985 and 1988.

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Boston Red Sox Batting Champs		
	A.L. Titles	Year(s)
Ted Williams	6	1941-42, 47-48, 57-58
Wade Boggs	5	1983, 85-88
Carl Yastrzemski	3	1963, 67-68
Pete Runnels	2	1960, 62
Dale Alexander	1	1932
Jimmie Foxx	1	1938
Billy Goodman	1	1950
Fred Lynn	1	1979
Carney Lansford	1	1981

NEA GRAPHICS



JOHN GRABOWSKI

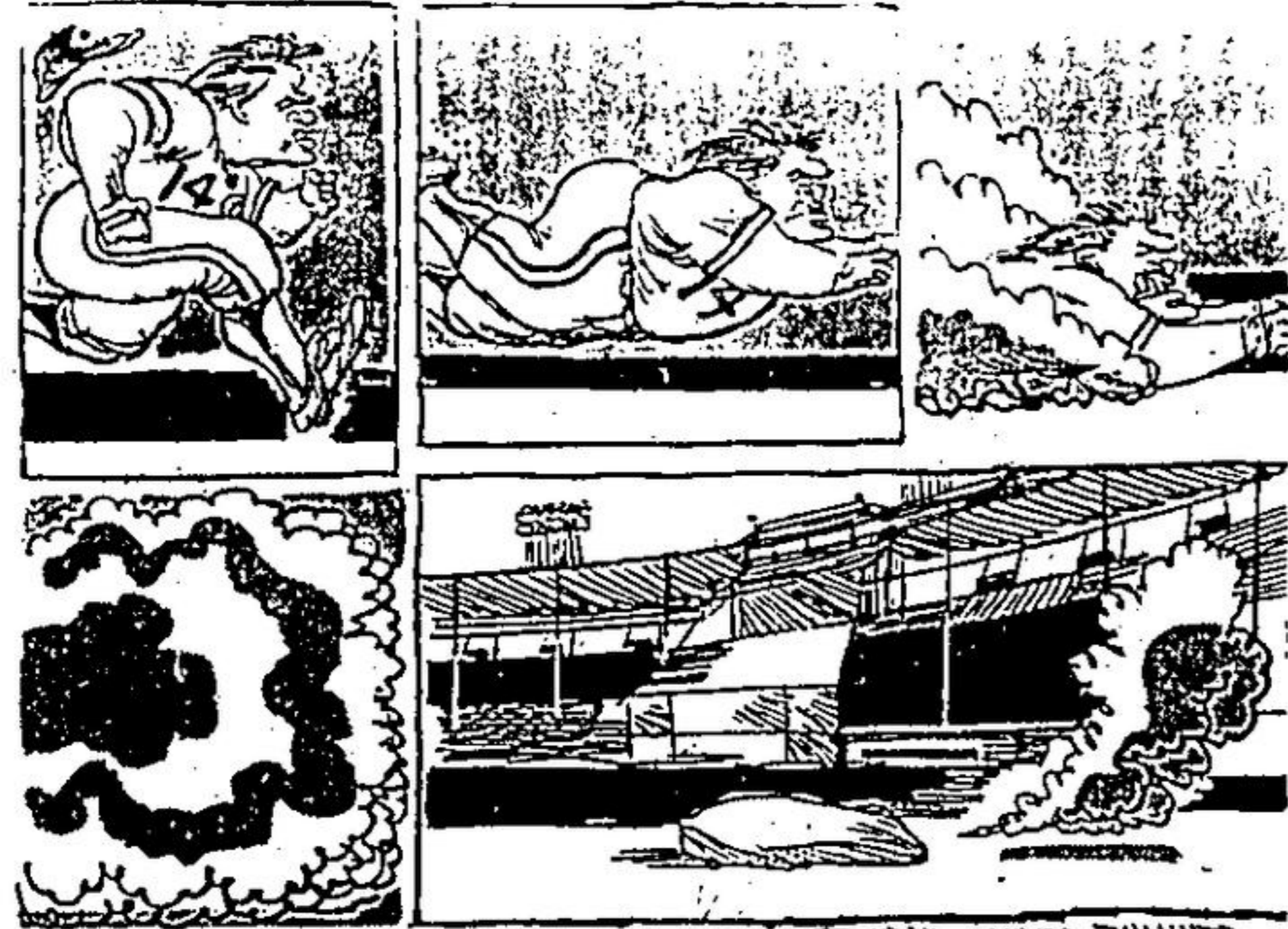
Legion sports starting up

By FLO CARSWELL
Herald Special

The Ladies Auxiliary sports program is starting. If you need anything to convince you that summer is over, that should do it. Our first event is Crib which will be held on Sept. 9. Sports Officer Peg Lewis asks that the team captains call her at 877-2468 if you intend to participate.

Again, a reminder of our birthday supper on Sept. 16, tickets are still available.

Sick List: Flo Walters is still hospitalized. Otherwise, according to our sick convener, everyone is well.



GRANDALL STANDARD EXAMINER NEA

Cultural Centre celebration scheduled for October

The Eighth Annual Library and Cultural Centre Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for Oct. 10 to 12. Local Talent Night will be held Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. Application forms may be picked up at the Recreation and Parks Department office, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown or the Acton In-

door Pool. For more information please call 873-2600 ext. 276.

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