

Defining team loyalty among baseball fans

Team loyalty. How exactly is that defined? Lots of people follow their major league sports to different degrees, such as watching them on television every week and/or reading about them in the paper regularly. Others try and see them in person when the team is in town, while others will even follow them on the road.

There are those that hunger for every new scrap of information about their chosen sports organization, ranging down to those who are content to wait and ask friends or co-workers how the team is doing lately.

For most in this area, the Toronto Blue Jays are baseball's team of choice. However, there

are those among us (I count myself as a Jays fan) who may look like us, talk the same - and hey, you might even socialize with them, but there is something not quite right about them. That's right, they're White Sox or Red Sox fans or worse - Tigers fans.

They can usually be spotted whenever sports conversation comes up, spouting team doctrine on why they're the best (even though they might be in the division cellar at the time). The easiest time to pick them out however, is at the Skydome. That's the time when the colors are shown; usually in the form of headgear or jerseys.

These infidels usually con-



Risky Business
by
Robert Risk

gregate in groups, possibly because they're afraid to wander from the herd and never return, but more likely it's due to their travel packages seating ar-

rangements. I have no qualms about them, provided they stay in their place.

However, it's those little non-blue and white caps that are dotted around the stands that get me. Granted, some of them are uneducated foreigners in town for a short vacation, but many are turncoat locals. How dare they show themselves amidst the swarm of Blue Jay supporters, spoiling our cheers with catcalls and yelps of encouragement for the visiting team.

It's hard enough getting tickets to see the Jays nowadays, with the Skydome being such a good place to watch a game and the team doing so well. What steams

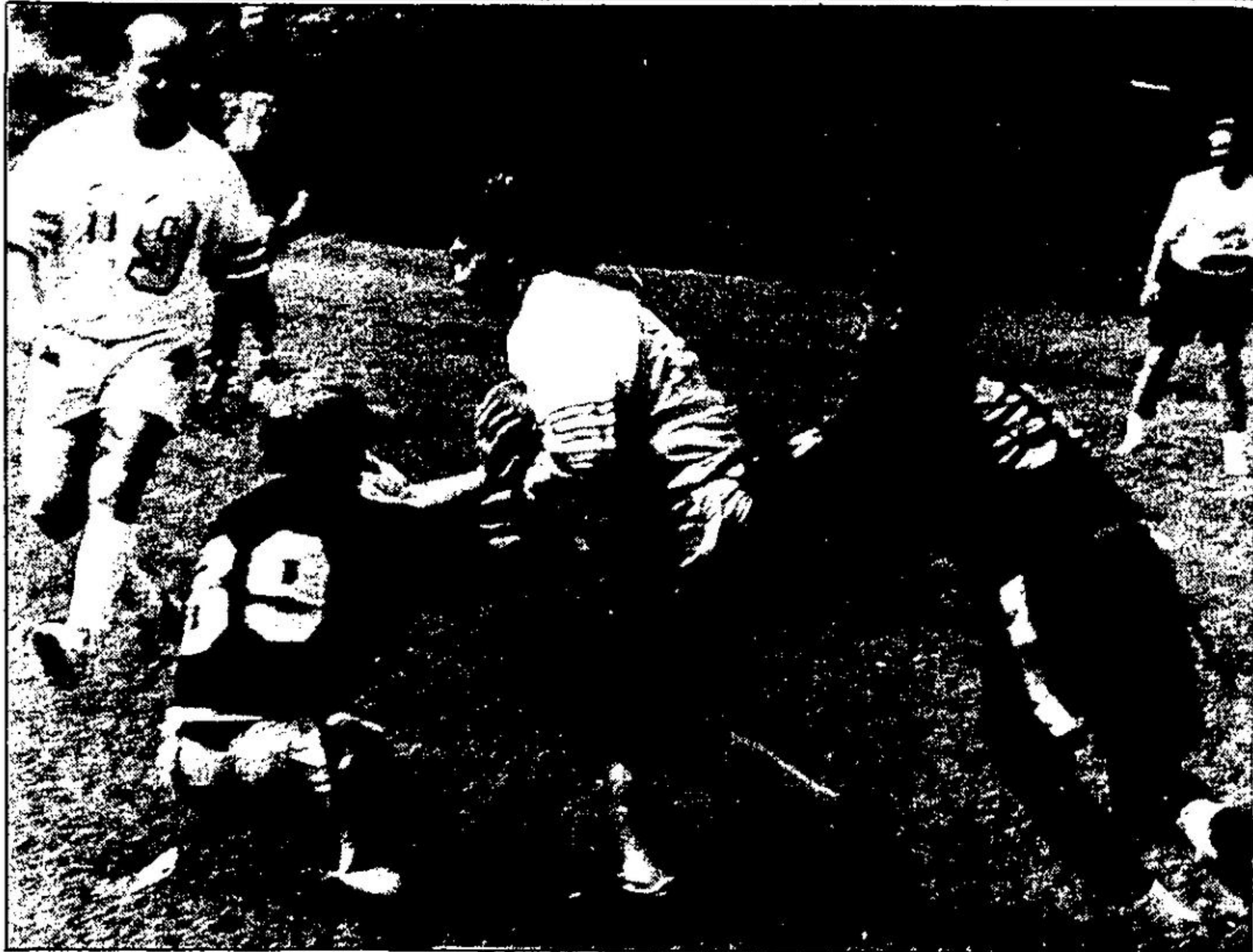
me is wanting to go to a game that's sold out, and knowing that traitors are taking up valuable space that many loyal fans could be using. I guess it's just sour grapes because I haven't been able to have a free night at the same time when seats were still available.

While on the subject of team loyalty and being able to see a game, why not give the Halton Hills area teams a try? There are plenty of seats available (closer to the action than most Skydome seats) and the players would love to have an audience. There's some kind of action going on at the various fields almost every night, so go out and enjoy.

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Stopped cold

Two Dawgs players, Wayne Stasiulis (left) and Dave Clements sandwich Meznic ball carrier Rob Spiteri during flag football action at Georgetown

District High School on Sunday. Dawgs won 27-11. For story, see B2. (Herald photo)

Sands top Rebel at OFSAA meet

By ROBERT RISK
Herald Sports Editor

Dave Sands became the first Georgetown District High School student since 1988 to place as high as third at the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association (OFSAA) championships in Sudbury on the weekend.

Competing in midget boys 100 metre hurdles, Sands took home the bronze medal from the Ontario finals, the highest achievement by a Georgetown student since Dave Paul placed third in senior boys steeplechase.

Rebels coach Jay Anderson said he was pleased with the results, considering that 800 schools took part in the championships, involving about 1,000 competitors from across the province.

"We have a very good team and will have an even better one with the new crop of midgets we have coming up and the ones we have now improving on their per-

formances."

Anderson pointed to Rebels winning the Halton track championship title and said he was very sure if the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference championship meet kept score of its finishes, Rebels would have easily won that as well.

Also placing well at OFSAA were the senior boys 4x100 metre relay team of Bill McDonald, Stew Teetzal, Kevin Dyer and Rob Walker, who took fourth place overall, setting a new GDHS record with a time of 42:94, beating the old mark of 43:30.

Kristy Johnson placed 16th overall out of 24 competitors in junior girls 3000 metre, while sister Jody Johnson placed 18th overall in midget girls 3000 metre. The midget boys 4x100 metre relay team of Dave Sands, Matt Brain, Derek Parsons and John Buckle placed 16th.

Herald Sport Shorts

Track meet

The Family of Schools Track and Field Meet, involving five Georgetown public schools and 272 athletes, is being held today at Georgetown District High School.

The event, which begins at 9:30 a.m. and runs until 3:00 p.m. is being organized by GDHS grade 13 students Duane Lewis and Jim English as part of their physical education class.

Youngsters from grades three, four and five will compete in such events as 60 metre, 100 metre, 200 metre, 400 metre and relay races. The field event competition will include high jump, running and standing long jump and ball throw.

The top six winners will receive ribbons for their efforts. All participants names will be entered into a drum for lucky draw prizes, which include athletic wear from Brooks.

Acton lacrosse

In Acton Timbit Lacrosse

League action last week, Blues had its way with White, knocking them off 6-0 at the Acton Arena last Thursday.

Michael Mills led the scoring for Blues, getting a hat trick. Teammates Chad Henry, Colin Sheehan and Kyle Kennerly had singles.

Formerly called Peanut Lacrosse, the Timbit League plays every Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. in Acton.

AHS Athletes

Acton High School recognized its top athletes of the year at its awards banquet on May 22, presenting Heather Willmott with the Bill Spehar Memorial Trophy for her outstanding contribution to the athletic program.

Willmott was president of the athletic society, assistant coach of the girls basketball team and played on the senior girls basketball, volleyball, softball and tennis teams. Matthew Fleet, assistant coach of the swim team, received special recognition for his leadership

and being an inspiration to others by being given the Al Higgins Memorial Trophy.

Mai Nguyen was selected most improved female athlete, while Scott McKee was chosen as the most improved male athlete. Outstanding female athlete was Kelly Ambrose and Bill Andrews was the outstanding male athlete.

Most valuable player awards went to: Shawn Reynolds (ski team), Sarah Fleet and Tracy Mayne (female swimmers), Todd Deforest (male swimmer), Devon Ambrose (midget boys basketball), Bill Andrews (junior boys basketball), Beckie Boycott (junior girls basketball), Kelly Ambrose (senior girls basketball), Leanne Prueter and Kelly Ambrose (girls softball), Steve Turkosz (boys tennis), Tanya Filipek (girls tennis), Jake Jovanov (junior boys volleyball), Jason Schonnop (senior boys volleyball), Sarah Lindsay (midget girls volleyball), Jenn McNabb (junior girls volleyball) and Leanne Prueter (senior girls volleyball).



Long jump try

Carrie Burns, a grade five student at Harrison Public School, comes in for a landing during one of her long jumps during the school's track meet on Friday. Originally scheduled for Wednesday, the meet was moved due to rainy weather. (Herald photo)