

## Worthy World Cup victors

# West German team deserved win

By ALEX TOUGH

No doubt about it, the biggest moment in soccer for four years has passed, the World Cup is over. A true World Cup, the largest single event in the world. And we have been privileged to be able to watch all of the games, live or on tape, via TSN and Molsons.

Predictions are not my strong point, as I have often said, I kept away from forecasting the winner until last week and got it wrong. I gave the kiss of death to Italy.

Mind you, I did forecast three of the last four. England, I did not foresee as being able to make the consolation or final games. Perhaps I was not so far wrong as England finished fourth after losing to Italy, the favorites.

West Germany are champions, Argentina are runners up. Justice is served as Argentina did not really deserve to be there at the kill. Well prepared, methodical in play, adventurous when they had to be, Germany had all that was required.

The attempts by FIFA to have the tourney described as an advert for fair play were not achieved. Players have been taught for so long the wrong way to tackle and the correct way to pull shirts, tackle above the ball, push, trip and all the other niggly illegal plays it was hard for them to play fair. For example, Cameroon were cynical in defence yet bright and clever on the ball. Most teams had a similar outlook.

Defensive, negative tactics pre-

ailed and the so called rabbits showed that they have learned well how to survive against higher rated countries. It would seem as though winning at all costs, well almost all costs, is the most important item on the agenda. Does the end justify the means? Is it better to have played well, to the best of your ability, and lost to a better team or to win, no matter how you arrive at the winning post?

I like to win, win well and have played well, and certainly

not by breaking the rules and regulations. Each to their own.

The game will change again over the next four years as teams analyze their performances and amend as they see fit. We are already preparing for 1994 and the USA.

The Ancient Mariners did not lose this past week - only because we did not have a game. Crown and Anchor take the lead in the first division with a 3-1 win at Meadowglen over Meteor. Meteor's cause was not helped when the goalkeeper was thrown from the game for retaliation against a Crown challenge. The Crown player was also ejected. Meteor had not allowed a goal at this stage of the game and the loss was unfortunate. The remaining division game ended in a 2-2 tie with Eagles and United in opposition.

Home teams fared well in second division clashes. Stingers recorded a 3-3 tie against Laurentians, Milton defeated Ajax 4-2 (a rare win) and Blazers took out Trexcon 2-0.

Georgetown ladies' squads had mixed fortunes. A 5-0 loss to Milton and a 6-0 loss to Brampton #2 coupled with CRSC United winning 2-0 over shorthanded Acton were the local results.

Inconsistency of officiating is a real concern for soccer people as well as in other sports. (What do you think of Merry Fraser versus Don Koharski, for example. These two are ice hockey officials). Compare any two baseball umpires with their differing strike zones. The problem is the same. When one official is 'hot' on another is not. Some apply the rules with advantage in mind others do not. And even attitudes and style may change in a game. I have no idea how oneness can be achieved. Unless we use programmed robots, of course.

Players are inconsistent in the same manner I believe. They are not all same. Some are skilful, some are physical, some are both. Some are fast, some are slow. Some are tall, some are small.

The problem with a single game result is that the official may be an unknown quantity and it takes a little time into a game before the standard is known. Where the referee is well known to the players it can be recognized before the game begins what is likely to be called and what is not. It is another part of the game with which we have to live and accept.

The Mexican referee in the final of the World Cup demonstrated the difference in level of competition between top players and officials. Regretably, he lost control, disallowed one tripping inside the penalty area and allowed another. Those actions gave West Germany the winning penalty kick score.

After all the penalty shoot-outs it is poetic justice to have the final game end with a penalty kick. The closing minutes were a let down with the two ejections of Argentina players and the caution to Maradona.

This Wednesday, Inter County games were in town with United vs Villa, Meadowglen and Blazers vs Milton, Alcott both at 7 p.m. and Mariners vs Crown at Cedarvale, 8:45 p.m.



## Tae Kwon Do silver medal winners

Georgetown was well represented at last weekend's Canadian Junior National Tae Kwon Do championships held in Etobicoke. Fifteen-year-old Matt Zuraw (left) and nine-year-old Jason Millar returned home with silver medals in their respective classes.

Zuraw won his medal in the black belt super heavy-weight competition while Millar was the runnerup in the nine-year-old green belt blue strip event.

# Hoosiers' errors lead way to losses

The Firestone Halton Hills Hoosiers self-destructed in a pair of games last week. Monday, they committed a dozen errors to hand Brampton an easy 16-1 victory. And on Thursday, the team made

nine errors on the way to a 16-6 loss.

The game at Brampton started off well enough. Playing with irregulars at several positions, Firestone grabbed a quick lead in

the first on back-to-back doubles by Tammy Richard and Sherie Peacock. The team escaped damage for two innings, despite committing three errors. But in the third, three walks and four errors helped Brampton to cash six runs and take control of the game.

Shannon Morris took the loss, allowing two earned runs and seven walks and four hits over four innings of work.

On Thursday, Firestone hosted the Cawthra Carleys. Playing with a regular lineup, the team committed four errors to help the Carleys to nine runs in the first inning. Firestone got three of those back in their half of the inning. Morris singled and Kelly Ambrose gained base on an error. One out later, Richard produced a run-scoring single, and Sherie Peacock followed with a blast over the left-fielder for a stand-up triple. It was 9-3.

Cawthra got those three back in the next inning, with the help of a two-out error which allowed

two runners to cross home. In the bottom of the inning, Lisa Harlow led off the inning with a wrong-field home run down the left-field foul line. It was 12-4.

Cawthra extended their lead by three more in the next inning. In the bottom of the fourth, Firestone closed the gap a bit with a pair of runs. Harlow walked, and Andrea Leeking and Morris had back-to-back singles to load the bases. Ambrose then singled to drive in a pair of runs. But this was as close as Firestone would get. Cawthra added one more run in the sixth, to make the final score 16-6.

Ambrose took the loss allowing four earned runs in the first inning. Morris pitched six innings of relief and allowed four earned runs. Defensive play of the game was executed by Harlow, who made a fine running catch.

Next week's action includes Firestone's first trip of the season to Streetsville, and a visit by Brampton.

# Bloor nips Eagles 5-4

Georgetown Junior Eagles are finding it hard to claim a Central Ontario Baseball Association (COBA) win these days.

The Eagles dropped their seventh straight league game Monday night, a 10th inning 5-4 decision to Bloor. The loss left Georgetown with a 3-9 record to date.

The Eagles were trailing 4-2 late in the game when Sean Mitton's hit brought home the tying tallies. But in the 10th with a Bloor runner on third, a Tim Chapman pitch eluded Eagles' catcher Curtis Green. The runner tried to come home, and was declared safe even though it appeared Green had made the suc-

cessful tag. Eagles' manager Boyd Hoddinott said the Georgetown team members weren't the only ones to share those sentiments.

"After the game some of the Bloor players and their coach came over and apologized for the call," Hoddinott said. "I feel sorry for our kids because we can't seem to buy a win right now."

Chapman was tagged with the loss in going the distance. Green led the offensive attack with four hits while infielder Mike Ross chipped in with three.

Georgetown returned to league play Thursday night, hosting Bloor at the Fairgrounds.