

# Hancock leads youth race

By Alex Tough

Here we go, here we go, here we go - to borrow a famous phrase from another sport. Lots of news this week.

Youth darts at the George each Saturday afternoon from 1:00 p.m. Kyle Hancock is the points leader with 21 to date. Harvey Snow and late starter Phil Scutt are close behind. Jason Mercer and Teresa Mercer are not too far behind either. Reports are that all 16 players are enjoying all the fun. top score of 140 is held by Kyle Hancock, with several other high scores. Phil Scutt has 123, Harvey Snow and Teresa Mercer both have scored 114 and Jason Mercer 105. The Brampton area youth league has also begun and is held at the Manhattan Hobo at Kennedy/Church.

Halton darts also runs the adult Monday night pub league with the top five teams all winning by 10-4, therefore, no change at the top. Legion #4 remain undefeated, Legion #2 coming a cropper. McGibbon took out Legion #3 and George #2 held off Legion #1 with O'Tooles defeating George #3. Other scores are George #1 winning 8-6 over #4, Copper Kettle #2 5-Timeout #1 9 and Kettle #2 8-6 over Timeout #2.

Some indifferent darts were thrown in the top match, according to the standings, between number

## Making the playoffs Ford's top priority

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a little over-confident and felt they didn't have to work as hard as they should.

"Then when they started losing they got confused and frustrated to the point where they've lost a lot of confidence. Once they get that confidence back I'm sure this team can be competitive again."

However, he cautions the turnaround won't happen overnight.

"It's going to take some time," he said.

Ford also feels that with the club's relative youth, the lessons learned from this current losing streak will only serve to strengthen the players' character once they resume playing competitively again.

"They know what it's like to be down and kicked," Ford said. "Hopefully that will serve to scare them from slacking off."

However, any move to respectability has to come from the players, Ford added.

"There is light at the end of the tunnel," he said. "But that has to come from within. The onus is on them."

With 24 games remaining in the regular season, Ford's long-range goal is to make the playoffs. Currently the Raiders are tied for the sixth and final playoff spot in the seven-team East Division with Royal York.

Ford had no qualms with having Anderson remain as an assistant coach. The two were assistants three years ago, Sturgeon's final season as coach of the Raiders.

"Jay is good man," Ford said in a sincere tone. "I was glad when he said he would consider staying on because we got along well three years ago and it's half the battle having someone headed in the same direction as you are."

Anderson was disappointed with not getting the head-coaching job, but feels very confident he can work with Ford.

two and number six, George #2 and Legion #1 respectively. The first two and last three singles were split with the centre sets going to George for a 5-3 lead. The teams were tied setting up the doubles as a clincher. The visitors took all four doubles for the match by 10-4. Ian McDonald had two 140s and Dan Fraser 140 and 135, Karen Buckley 135.

Stan Rhynold had a huge night, leading from the front so to speak. 180, 140, high finish of 118 and winning singles doubles and teams. Ted Edmundson scored 3 & 2 and just managed to beat the "dummy" in singles: Ed Ebbings and Bubby Rhynold lost their doubles to Larry Hunt and Bob Downie. These from McGibbon-Legion clash.

Alex Paterson closed 103 and Jeff Henderson closed out 101. Jack Hamilton popped a 180, Paul Dean 160 and Gord Yake 162 for high scores. 140s from Frank DeSantis, Vic Lovell, Larry Varey, Paul Goudie, Paul Kirby (2), Dave Scutt, Al Murphy, Ray Porter, Alex Paterson, Steve Foster, Doug Hole, Dave Nicholls, Bruce Hope, Mike Hope and Neal Olmstead.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday evening, Hustlers took a slight three point lead in The Industrial League first division from Gasketman Cutters with their 9-0 rout of Inter County. Cutters defeated third place Westenders 7-

2, Steeprock coming closer after taking out Acadian Pools 8-1. High Rollers won 7-2 over Panthers leaving the standings the same as the previous week.

Westenders lost the opening six games before registering a win and split the final two with Cutters. Joe Cairns had three opens, Dave Scutt scored three 140s and Jeff Richardson had a 2 starts, 2 finishes match.

Henry Graham started three and Paul Kavanagh scored 133 twice. Larry Hunt opened with 142 and Dan Abercrombie scored 140 for High Rollers. Rod Beaumont opened 120 & 103, had four starts and three closes, Erwin See had three closes and Ron Scarlett fur starts and two finishes. I had the rest! (managing to bust a 125 finish). George Powell had six worthy starts for County. Bruce Stevens had four starts, Dave Tait scored 140 and Terry Hancock fired two tons.

In the second division an upset heads the news. Dreamteam lost for the first time this season 4-5 to Hotshots. It must be said that the division front runners only had three players and that is no excuse for so too had Hotshots only three players.

Simon Entwistle had five starts and three finishes with Mike Hope backing up with two 140s. Bubby Rhynold had five starts and two finishes with Stan firing a 140. Rob Quinton had a 150 start and scored 121 with Gary Griffiths closing 75. Ensigns' Roy Rudiger had starts of 120 and 105 and Laurie Hopkins scored 120. Mike X of Bandits scored 140 and opened 100 in one of his three starts. Dean Hancock and John Burke each opened three. Jim Franks opened six, one of 116, and closed out three. Gord Bottoms scored 100.

The Halton league held it's monthly meeting and had to postpone the monthly 50/50 draw due to the absence of secretary June Norton through illness. The draw will be made later. The draw is in two parts, the first being drawn until one by one of the paying entrants. The second draw will, if not won, be carried forward until won. Some housekeeping of fixtures was done and the meeting was a short one indeed.

The Eddie Paterson Memorial tourney is set for 9th Jan/93 at the George as usual. There was talk of a possible change of venue, which is not taking place. More details later of this one. Darts Ontario zone shoots, which are open to all upon payment of the required fees, are next on 10th Jan. and, if my current information is correct, will be at Acton Legion.

More details of this tourney later.

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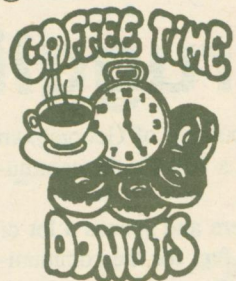
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