

# All-Star game an interruption of boxscores

Bo Jackson, Wade Boggs, Kevin Mitchell, Nolan Ryan. The All-Star game.

That's what baseball is all about. The players and the fans getting together to celebrate the sport.

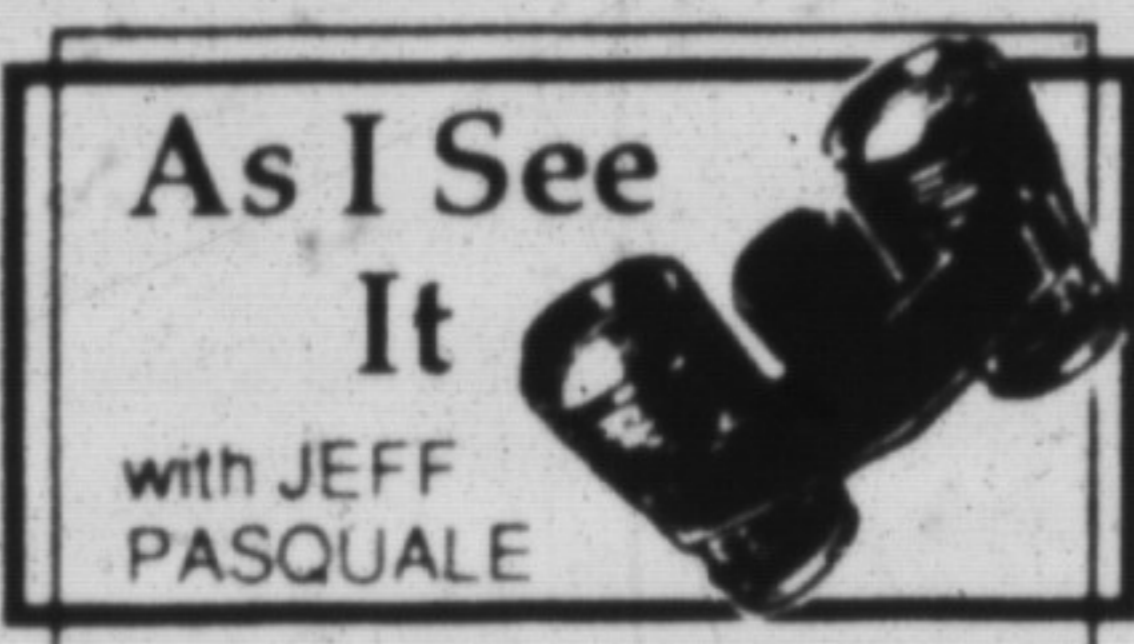
You know the thing I hate most about the All-Star break. Three entire days of no boxscores in the daily papers. It's too much to take for a baseball junkie such as myself.

For 72 hours I've got to make do without my summer lifeblood, boxscores. Being in three rotisserie pools, I'm rather accustomed to opening the sports section to page 3 and seeing if Cory Snyder managed to steal a base, or if Dennis Eckersley finally got off the disabled list and was able to pick up a save.

Instead we make do with the annual extolling of individual talents. There is no teamwork needed in baseball's mid-summer classic. The goal of the game itself is to entertain and honour. It certainly did that Tuesday night in Anaheim where the American League knocked off the pompous Senior Circuit. (As you can see, I'm an American League fan. I actually prefer the D.H.)

The general attitude around baseball in the past has always been the National League gets the more talented young players. I think the trend is reversing itself.

The idea originally formed back in the '40s and '50s when the National began signing black players before the American League did. It continued over the years when the National League started going after players in other sports, for instance Dave Winfield of the San Diego Padres who was also drafted by the NFL and NBA.



The reverse is true now. College football standouts such as Kirk Gibson, Rick Leach and, of course Vincent (Bo) Jackson, all signed with American League teams.

Most of the young exciting players

are in the American League now. Jackson, Ellis Burks, Ruben Sierra and Jose Canseco all toil in the junior circuit.

One of the definite class-less moves at the All-Star game had to be pulled by Gary Gaetti, Minnesota's outstanding third baseman.

When Gaetti was introduced before the game, he held up his left hand, and neatly written on his batting glove was 'Jesus is Lord'.

I have no beef with Gaetti's religion, but is this really the place to do it. Gaetti is a recent convert to the ever-enlarging God-squad in the

major leagues, but, like they say, there is a time and a place for everything.

You have got to feel just a little bit sad for the Blue Jay's Kelly Gruber. Named to his first All-Star game, the closest Gruber got to actually taking part in the contest was when he was left in the on-deck circle. Mickey Tettleton, though, struck out to end the bottom of the eighth inning.

I thought Tony LaRussa, the American League manager, was at least going to let Gruber play the ninth at third base, but as it was he had to be satisfied with the honour

of just being named to the team.

I happen to be a fan of the CFL, but Wednesday night's game at Sky-Dome, sounded the death knell for the league.

When you combine the fact that this was the first ever game in Sky-Dome and the arch-rival Tiger-Cats were the opponents, the Argos had every right to expect 45,000 butts in the seats.

As it was, they got 32,527 fans, and judging by the noise, about 1/3 of them were from Hamilton. I hate to say it, but I give the league two years - three, tops.

## Home course no advantage for local trio

By BRUCE FROUDE

Home course was no advantage to the Wyldewood Golf and Country Club threesome during the Pro-Junior Championships for the Canadian Professional Golf Association of Ontario Monday.

"I would have an advantage if I knew what to hit into the wind," said Wyldewood's 1988 junior champion, Mark Charles. He, Alison Kidd and professional Paul Martin appeared to have the inside track before the one-day, 41-team event began, but then the winds picked up and took away any upper-hand they might have held.

Charles shot an 11-over par 81, Kidd fired 99 and Martin checked in at 86 for a gross score of 266. When Charles nine handicap and Kidd's 12 were figured in, the trio finished at a net 245. The winning net score was posted by the Port Colborne G&CC trio of Al Graham (77), Stef Merkovich (97-69) and Tom Davis (88-78) at 216.

The team low gross went to the triumvirate from Dundee, pro Alex Wilson shot a 77, Stephanie Flood a 72 and Joe Flood an 84 for a combined 233. The Trafalgar G&CC trio of professional Edge Carravaggio (81), Johanna L. Fraser (91-78) and Mike Moores (88-84) were in the middle of the pack at gross 260 and net 243.

"It was tough because it was really windy," added Charles. He was disappointed that he shot 43 on the back nine, eight-over par, after carding a 38 at the turn.

"If you had told me before the round I was going to shoot an 81, I would have been happy. But having shot 38 on the harder front nine - I'm not too

happy with 81," admitted Charles.

Martin was battling a cranky back throughout his round and conceded the tough windy conditions didn't make things any easier.

"It's very difficult to play the course today because it's very narrow and has a lot of water," he said. "The players that hit the ball good are going to score well and the guys who hit it sideways are going to hit it further sideways."

Kidd was having a rough game due to improper alignment. Her feet and shoulders weren't positioned properly, therefore, her driving was out of whack. That was until Martin corrected the problem and set her on the straight and narrow line needed at Wyldewood.

Kidd is hopeful the advice will be enough to help her score well at the Ontario Junior Girls championship which concludes today at the Kawartha G&CC in Oshawa.

"Paul helped me to feel a little more confident about the way I'm hitting the ball. I started hitting the ball fairly solid, but I wasn't putting that great," said Kidd.

Martin said that was part of the reason for the championship. "I think that is what we want to do with this - we're here to help the kids," he said.

The event almost didn't come to fruition this summer. Sponsors bailed out of the tourney for a year, leaving the CPGA of Ontario without a course or sponsor. The organization elected to sponsor the annual tourney itself when Martin stepped forward as the host.

"Paul kept it alive," said CPGA of Ontario spokesperson Heather Howell. "It was Paul that came to the forefront and really helped keep it going."

It is the only junior stop the association has during the summer.

"I just feel that it is important for somebody to do something for junior golf," said Martin.

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## LEGGAT Salesmen of the Month



LARRY MARTIN



FRANK LENTZ

Kim Manos, New Car Sales Manager and Bob Velenosi, Used Car Sales Manager are pleased to announce the winners of the June sales contest. Larry Martin has established a winning sales record that will be very difficult to beat. June was the 12th month in a row that he has been Leggat's top new car sales executive. In used cars, Frank Lentz won for the 3rd month in a row - his 8th win in the past 12 months. Both sensational sales achievements.

Larry and Frank wish to thank their many customers who helped make these wins possible.



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