

Let's remove the taint of judgment from the Olympics

Most people feel bad for Sylvie Frechette missing a gold medal because of a scoring mistake. I don't. Synchronized swimming is a joke. It's not a sport, there is no direct competition, everything is decided by judges.

In sports you win by applying skill directly opposed to the skill of other players. In diving, skating, gymnastics, synchronized swimming and the like you win by impressing the judges with your skill, more than anyone else impresses the judges with their skill.

It isn't competition; it's a popularity contest. How often do you hear in these events that such and such a person deserves high marks because of past performance? It would be like giving style points for running the 100 metres. Speed wouldn't be a factor, only how good you looked when you ran.

I'm not denying for a second the immense skill it takes to do some of these things. They are interesting to watch, as exhibitions of skill, but they aren't competitions. They do not

REAUME WITH A SPORTS VIEW

with BRAD REAUME



belong in the Olympic Games.

After virtually each one of these events, be they in the Olympics or the World Championships, there is a hue and cry regarding the just awarding of the medals. This fact, that controversy explodes in every event, is testimony enough that they should all be scraped as medal events.

Anything produces some controversy, but rarely do track fans leave the stadium crowing that their favourite athlete was robbed by a bad judgment, rule interpretation or call. The first guy across the line wins. Simple.

There's no leaving the high marks for a later,

and potentially better performance; there's no talk about deserving the win based on prior performance; and there's no doubt about the winner.

Away from the races, the faster, higher, stronger stuff, there is another class of sports, games really, where people compete head-to-head rather than having their performance measured against each others performance by time or distance.

These sports have some place in the Olympics but it is marginal. They are at least competitions. Elementally baseball is one man with a club trying to hit a ball that another man is trying to throw past him.

If it were judged as synchronized swimming is, baseball would be decided by whoever fulfilled the elements of pitching and hitting the best, based on style, form and the result of the hit balls. In the standard Olympic format a pitching machine would give every participant a chance to win by hitting the ball the farthest,

or hitting the most over the outfield fence.

In the real game, baseball is competition between teams, played by rules which influence the outcome only inasmuch as they define the game. One man's skill is opposed to another man's skill with all those individual skills wrapped up in a team format.

Seen this way, which 'sports' are legitimate? Which 'deserve' to be Olympic sports? We have to define legitimate sports and purge all others from the realm.

If we want to continue to allow the garbage events in the Olympics, and if we insist upon treating these exhibitions as legitimate competitions then it will take public indifference to force these abominations out of the spotlight.

If that doesn't happen, then we will continue to have these 'sports' foisted upon us and treated with respect they don't deserve. However, we would deserve to have to endure them because we haven't got the courage to remove them from the Games.

17-The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, August 12, 1992

SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Bruce Hood
MILTON
Travel
The Way To Go!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1992



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

The Sultans of Swat

Craig Holloway (left), Dave McDuffe and Damien Dubien picked up Gold Bat Awards for Most Valuable Player contributions during the recent Gold Bat Tournament in Sarnia. Milton's juvenile team was not invited but Holloway went with Streetsville and McDuffe and Dubien played for Burlington. Holloway pitched a one-hitter in a win over Fiesheron for his Gold Bat, and Dubien pitched Burlington to a win over Thornhill. McDuffe garnered two Gold Bat Awards, the first for a game winning two-run homer against Toledo and the second for a grand slam in an amazing come-from-behind win over Michigan. Maybe Milton's team should have been invited.

Red Sox up record to 12-8

The Milton HJM Red Sox senior baseball team ran their record to 12-8 with a 7-2 win over Glanbrook last week.

Milton scored three runs in the fifth and four in the eighth to take the win. The winning pitcher was Scott Gadd who went seven and two-thirds, giving up only one earned run, en route to the win.

Milton left-fielder Charlie Hyatt keyed the three run outburst in the fifth with a two-out triple. He scored on an error to the Glanbrook shortstop.

In the four-run eighth, a leadoff double by Paul McCutchoen and successive singles by Al Dairou and Tim Blackadar got the ball rolling. Glanbrook answered Milton in both scoring frames but were only able to score once each time.

Gadd gave way to Brian Kempster with two out in the eighth. After giving up a single Kempster induced a groundout to Matt McCandless to end the inning.



Scott Gadd

Colling wins hobby race

Milton's Glenn Colling drove his 1936 Dodge to victory in the Ontario Amateur Racing Club's hobby feature at Flam- boro Speedway on Saturday. It was Colling's second appearance of the season in this car.

John Fletcher, also of Milton, finished fourth behind the wheel of his 1939 Plymouth. Other Milton racers didn't fare so well. Justin Fraser was in an accident in his 1932 Chev and placed 16th though he didn't finish. Al Haringa in his 1932 Frontenac spun into the infield and was unable to return to the track because of the wet conditions. He was 20th.

Juveniles clinch 'A' tournament berth

By BRAD REAUME
The Champion

The Milton Canada Brick juvenile baseball reps pulled off a 7-2 win over the Clarkson Indians on Thursday at Brian Best Park. The win gave them a slight edge in the race for the last league 'A' level berth in the Ontario Baseball Association juvenile championship tournament. They needed a 3-1 win against Kitchener on the weekend to nail it down.

Against Clarkson, Milton had their ace Damien Dubien on the hill and he responded with a complete game, seven strikeout performance, despite not having his best stuff.

Milton broke open a scoreless tie in their half of the fourth inning of the scheduled seven inning contest. Jamie Janjevich walked, Dubien singled on a bad hop through shortstop, and Dave McDuffe ripped an RBI single to right field. With one out Duane Eggleton managed to match McDuffe's feat, this time the single went to left. An error to the Clarkson second baseman brought home another run.

Clarkson struck back in the top of the fifth getting two

runs to narrow Milton's lead to one. A single followed by a hit and run double to left brought home one run and a pair of walks and a dropped infield fly allowed a second to trot home.

Milton hung onto the lead until the bottom of the sixth when a leadoff homer over the rightfield fence by McDuffe opened the floodgates to the tune of three more runs. The inning was keyed by leadoff hitter Glen McAllister's two-out, three run double to left.

Eggleton pitched into the eighth frame against Kitchener in winning 3-1. Craig Holloway came on in relief of Eggleton, got an outfield double play on a hit and run and retired the side in the ninth for the save.

Eggleton gave up three hits and only one run, which was unearned. He walked three and struck out three.

Milton scored all their runs in the first frame. McAllister reached on an error and scored on Janjevich's double. Janjevich went to third on a wild pitch and scored as Dubien grounded out. Mike McPhail singled and moved to third when the Kitchener third baseman threw away Ryan Peddie's grounder. McPhail then scored on a passed ball. Milton had only five hits in the game.

RED SOX BOXSCORE

Red Sox 7		Glanbrook 2				
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi			
Blasko 2b	4 1 1 0	Toohay cf	3 0 3 1			
McCandless ss	5 2 2 2	Phillippo 3b	3 0 0 0			
McTrach 1b	5 0 3 0	Pomfret p	2 0 0 0			
Currie c	4 1 1 1	Gilmour 2b	3 0 0 0			
Hyatt lf	5 1 1 2	Kim 2b	2 0 0 0			
Turner 3b	3 0 1 0	McBurney c	5 0 3 0			
Casarin 3b	0 0 0 0	Ellis 3b	4 0 0 0			
McCutchoen cf	4 1 2 0	McCormack lf	3 1 2 0			
Dairou dh	4 0 2 1	Tiedale 1b	4 1 2 0			
Blackadar rf	3 0 0 0	Croft ss	3 0 0 0			
Schouten rf	1 1 1 0	Mohar rf	4 0 1 0			
Red Sox	000 030 040 - 7					
Glanbrook	000 010 010 - 2					
E - McCandless, Gadd, Phillippo, Croft 2.						
DP - Red Sox 2, Glanbrook 2. LOB - Red Sox 10, Glanbrook 11. 2B - McBurney, McCutchoen. 3B - Hyatt. SB - McCandless 2, McTrach, MacCormack.						
Red Sox	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gadd (W)	7.2	9	2	1	2	6
Kempster	1.1	2	0	0	0	0
Glanbrook	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ellis (L)	7.1	13	7	5	4	0
Pomfret	1.2	2	0	0	1	0
BK - Gadd, HBPT - Croft by Gadd.						