

Local stable qualifies in Kawartha Downs stakes race

The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, August 4, 1993-12

Balanced Jazz, co-owned by the Cambrook Stable of Campbellville, captured the first Ontario Sires Stakes race of her young career with a victory at Peterborough's Kawartha Downs on Saturday.

The two-year-old trotting filly came from behind to score the 2:02.3 win in one of three eliminations for the Gold Series, and will now

take her place in the \$101,720 Gold Series final next weekend.

Driven by co-owner and trainer David Furness of Guelph, Balanced Jazz left from the six post and settled into the four hole while Norwell Streaker and Ham's Delight battled for the early lead through a rapid first quarter of 28.2. Go Go Gracie didn't give the leaders

any breathing room, coming up on the outside to force a half-mile time of 59.4.

The rapid fractions began to take their toll on the early leaders, and Furness took Balanced Jazz out to make her move for the lead along the backstretch.

Drawing up to second place as Go Go Gracie tripped the three-quarter mile timer in 1:30.1,

Balanced Jazz pulled into a quarter of a length lead at the top of the stretch and extended that margin to two lengths before crossing the wire. Balanced Jazz banked \$9,523 for the win, her first in three lifetime starts. The daughter of Balanced Image now has \$12,808 in career earnings. The Gold Series final is at Kawartha Downs Saturday (Aug. 7).

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THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1993



Milton Red Sox shortstop John Blasko tags out a Hamilton runner at second base, but can't turn the double play Saturday at Brian Best Park. The Red Sox were beaten 8-2 by Hamilton Cougars Saturday at Brian Best Park.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Short-staffed soccer selects advance to tournament championship

Playing with a smaller squad due to vacation absences, the Milton girls select under 9 soccer team still managed to force overtime in the championship game of a recent tournament against Ajax.

Milton lost 2-1 in overtime, but put up a strong showing enroute to the trophy game at the Whitby tournament, beating Mississauga 4-1 and recording ties against host Whitby (2-2) and Ajax (scoreless).

Milton's goalkeepers, Laura Lighthall and Fiona Lowe, played superbly against Ajax to preserve the shutout, coach David Hamon indicated.

Leading the Milton scoring list for the tournament were Michelle Merritt and Kimberly Aitken, with three apiece. Rebecca Johnston also scored.

Meaghan Kay turned in a strong effort up front while Yvette Robinson and Katy Kellner were outstanding on defence. Ruth Hamon was a workhorse at midfield.

No emergency relief for victimized Red Sox

High-flying Hamilton Cougars win 8-2 despite George Moore's strong pitching

All those sirens you heard Saturday afternoon weren't 911 calls directed to Brian Best Park, but the Milton H.J.M. Insurance Red Sox sure could have used some help in their 8-2 loss to the Hamilton Cougars.

The sirens, of course, were courtesy of a convention of firefighters in Milton over the weekend. That's not a group you'd normally want holding a get-together, considering the implications their absence could have on their communities. But, better here than somewhere else.

Incidentally, fireman is a term used in baseball circles, maybe not as much now as in the past, but a reliever who came on in the late innings with his team in trouble was said to be, "putting out the fire." Now, the term more in vogue is "closer."

The Red Sox were seriously short-staffed on Saturday because of the holiday weekend, but the game was a lot closer than the score indicates, or should have been, against the Cougars, who came in with a 16-4 record. Actually, the contest was considered a road game for Milton because Hamilton's park had prior commitments.

John Blasko led off with a single for Milton, stole second and then swiped third. Two outs later, Charlie

MURRAY TOWNSEND
with the RED SOX

Hyatt ripped one to right-centrefield for a single to give Milton a 1-0 lead.

Hamilton got it back in the bottom of the first when their leadoff man walked and was bunted over to second. The next batter hit a single, sending the runner to third. He then came home when the ball was bobbed in the outfield.

Incidentally, bunt is an old railway term. In the train yards they sometimes had to (and maybe still do) bump one of the cars lightly to get it moving slowly for some reason. Another railway term baseball adopted is doubleheaders, an expression used when trains needed two engines to pull the load.

George Moore, the 50-year-old southpaw, started the game for the Red Sox. Pay no attention to the score, he was outstanding.

He gave up one run in the first, two in the second on a couple of walks and a double, and then shut the door for the next four innings. Over that span he was almost perfect. He didn't give up a hit or even

a walk and was constantly ahead of the hitters. In their confusion at the plate, the Cougars were swinging too early or too late, or too far away from where the pitch ended up. None of them were able to hit the ball hard.

The score remained 3-2 until the seventh inning. Moore is normally not a nine-inning pitcher but with the team short of players he went as long as he could. He gave up a leadoff walk, who was sacrificed to second, and then got the next man to give him two outs. A single, however brought in another run and then a homer down the left field line made it 6-2. Brian Kempster came on to get the final out for Milton.

Incidentally, southpaws are called southpaws because most ballparks are constructed so the pitcher is throwing west. Probably something to do with making sure the sun isn't in the batter's eyes. That means the left-hander's arm is toward the south when he's on the mound.

The Hamilton pitcher was a northpaw. He gave up just five hits to Milton and struck out six. Milton's other run came in the third after Nick Robulack led off with a walk, was sacrificed to second by Blasko and came home on a two out single by Hyatt.

Incidentally, strikeouts are marked

with a K on the scorecard. When the scoring method for baseball was devised in the 1850s, they used the last letter in the word explaining what happened. For example, when a player hit a foul out they marked an 'L'. When he struck out, they marked a 'K'.

A number of players hit the ball hard for the Red Sox, but Hamilton fielders were equal to the task, making several sensational fielding plays. For Milton, Hyatt did a nice job filling in at third base. Blasko made an outstanding play at shortstop, ranging deep into the hole and gunning out a runner at first, and Paul McCutcheon ran a long way in centrefield to make a nice diving catch of a Hamilton blooper.

Incidentally, when an out occurs or most anything happens during the game we see the umpire making different hand signals. That started way back in 1888. A deaf ballplayer by the name of Dummy Hoy couldn't figure out what was going on in the game when the umpires voiced their calls, so he asked them if they would indicate their decisions with their hands. They complied and have been doing it ever since.

The Red Sox play two games this weekend, both at Brian Best Park. They take on the same Hamilton team at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday and

then face Burlington on Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

As usual, hot dogs and soft drinks will be available from the concession stand. Really, this is just a cheap way to get into the next "incidentally."

Incidentally, hot dogs got their name from baseball. It was on a chilly April day back in 1900 at the Polo Grounds in New York. Cold drinks and ice cream weren't such hot items considering the weather, so sales were lagging. The ballpark caterer thought it would be a good idea to try selling something hot, so he sent some of his people out to the markets surrounding the park and had them get all the sausages and rolls they could find. At the time sausages, as we picture them now, were called "dachshund sausages" because of their shape. The caterer put them in the rolls and they were an immediate hit with the crowd.

A cartoonist at the game was amused at the vendors who were yelling, "Get your red hot dachshunds," so he sketched a cartoon for the next day's paper with two dachshund sausages barking at each other. The caption was to include the words, "hot dachshunds", but the cartoonist didn't know how to spell dachshund. So he substituted dogs, hence, "hot dogs."