

Sports Scene

Forest Hill takes 5th annual UCI

by Peter Balcom

Forest Hill Public School of Midhurst held off some very stiff competition on Saturday past to become the victors of the fifth annual Msgr. Castex Invitational Volleyball Tournament for elementary school boys held at the M.S.S. Triple Gym.

Twelve teams from across Simcoe County and Toronto were represented.

In pool play, the calculator had to be used for two divisions to determine placement in the final round as six teams were virtually tied.

As the final elimination began, three Midland schools were granted byes to the quarter finals as they had all finished first in their pools. They were Parkview, Sacred Heart and Bayview. Hillcrest of Barrie was the other first place finisher.

In the first round, Forest Hill, coached by Tricia Pinikey defeated last year's finalist, Assikinack from Barrie two straight 15-10, 15-11. St. Joseph's of Penetanguishene got by Warnica P.S. of Painswick 15-4, 15-5.

In other first round play, a very powerful Shanty Bay team coached by Judy Brundage had little mercy on the defending champions, St. Brigid's from Toronto, easily getting by 15-0, 15-3. The final match of this round saw Allandale Heights of Barrie put the host club, Msgr. Castex of Midland on the sidelines in a real barn burner. The score was 15-13, 13-15, 15-13 in favor of Allandale.

The competition remained tough in the quarter finals as three of the four first place teams were eliminated. Forest Hill came on to defeat Parkview coached by Jim Flewelling 15-9, 15-3. Hillcrest got by St. Joseph 15-11, 15-3. Shanty Bay's blue machine had a more difficult time with Bayview's stubborn crew who came up short allowing Shanty Bay to continue. The score was 13-15, 15-10, 15-3 for the Bucs. Allandale Heights just kept the momentum going from their big win over Castex and defeated Jim McGregor's Squires from Sacred Heart 15-10, 15-8.

The semi-finals saw Forest Hill matched against Shanty Bay and Hillcrest against Allandale Heights. Forest Hill went ahead with little difficulty to defeat Shanty Bay 15-9, 15-3 after Shanty Bay lost their number one player to injury. Hillcrest also got a break as Allandale came out very flat and by the time the momentum was changing Hillcrest coached by veteran Paul Smith had taken charge and won 15-11, 15-3.

The final saw the 1984 champion Hillcrest

Rod Devils pitted against Forest Hill's green machine. Forest Hill won the first game by a whisker 15-13 but Hillcrest's weak bench proved the undoing and they went down in two straight 15-10 in the second.

The organizer of the tournament would like to convey his sincere thanks to Midland McDonald's Family Restaurants for their continued sponsorship, Midland Secondary School for the use of their facilities, the

students of Msgr. Castex School for scorekeeping, the referees from St. Theresa's and Dan Lethbridge and finally to staff members and Mr. Joe Rankin for convening our fifth tournament.



Money shot

For most, the curling season is just getting underway, but Russ Howard has been hard at it for a while. In just a few sweeps of the broom he collected more money in Europe

this year than he did all of last year. In this photo, Russ studies the attempted take out shot by his brother, Glen, while Kent

Carstairs and Tim Belcourt apply their educated brooms to the ice. This week, Russ and his wife Wendy are off to the Orient.

Through The Lens

by Dave Gravelle

Howard off to the Orient

Preface

"Steven dear, Mommy and Daddy are going away again. Don't worry, you'll have fun

with Grandpa and Grandma."

"But Mommy, I don't even know who you are anymore, you're never home!"

Let me say that this situation is only a fictional possibility and may or may not occur Sunday afternoon when Russ Howard and his wife Wendy prepare to leave for the Orient.

The Story

Russ and Wendy's handsome son, Steven, won't see Mom and Dad for about a week as the pair go to Japan to teach curling and play in three bonspiels.

Being a curling baby is nothing new for young Steven. He had to put up with Dad's fame and fortune last year when the Russ Howard foursome won the global men's curling title. The year before, he didn't even want to talk to Daddy when he missed that crucial shot against Ed Lukowich in the '86 Brier in Kitchener.

Now that Dad is a famous curler and everybody wants a piece of him young Steven is feeling the pressure again. Just to get attention he's keeping Mom and Dad busy. Meanwhile, Mom and Dad are worn out passing through time zones left and right and putting up with the rigours of living out of a suitcase for a month.

Monday, Russ and Wendy will be leaving for Japan to teach numerous clinics. Curling

is starting to grow over there and some of the wealthier Japanese want to be taught by the best. Therefore, the Skip of the World Championship Team has been invited.

As well, Russ will play with three Canadians from the consulate in Japan in a spiel of some sort.

Yes, they do have ice over there, rocks purchased from Canadian sources, and even an ice machine. When the Japanese try something they jump in head first.

In the meantime, Russ has been catching up on missed games at the Penetanguishene Curling Club. Also, he's trying to make up for a loss earlier this year to yours truly. Let me tell you that the running series is now tied at a game apiece after Mr. Howard deposited of me quite nicely this past week.

No, I'm not going to tell you the score. My credibility as a curling reporter may be shot when you read future curling reports and find out the final outcome.

Meanwhile, Wendy who is also our ace photographer overseas, went to work this week...for one day. The people at work asked, "Who was that?" as she left.

And for Steven, he wants to become an airplane pilot when he grows up. He figures that's the only way he'll be able to see Mommy and Daddy! Good Luck Steve...oh yeah, you too Russ!!

Power volleyball

Last week, ESPSS hosted the Zone Championships in volleyball. As usual the round robins play pitted the two traditional rivals, ESPSS Redskins against Le Caron, in the finals.

In the midget finals, the Redskins put together two solid performances to defeat Le Caron 15-8, 15-5. This squad, under the coaching of Tony Schulze, have shown steady improvement throughout the season. It looks like they will be "peaking" right on schedule.

In the junior match up, the Redskins won the first match and jumped out to a quick 11-6 lead. However, as is the case in volleyball, the squad stalled and could not put anymore points on the board. Le Caron won the second game 15-11 and went on to win the third game and the match 15-8. Look for these two teams to meet again in the GB's.

By far the hottest match of the afternoon was the senior contest. Le Caron had the upper hand in regular season play and the Red-

skins were looking to even the score in post season play. The Skins started off quickly in the first game by running off five straight points. They went on to win the game 15-13. In the second game, the Redskins got away from their game place and allowed Le Caron to even the score.

The final game was a see-saw affair with Le Caron holding slim leads throughout the games Ahead 11-9, Le Caron made a technical error which cost them the serve and two points. With the serve back in the Redskins Court, the game boded down to a contest of hustle. Each squad put together some excellent volleyball; powerful hitting and blocking and crowd-pleasing defensive plays. When the dust had settled the Redskins were on top 15-13 to claim the regional title.

Look for both of these teams meeting again at the GBSSA finals on Tuesday. It should be a classic grudge match.