

Sports Scene

An embarrassment of riches

Soccer streak extended

It was an embarrassment of riches for Donny Foster who was acting as coach for the Mid-Pen soccer team at Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School Sunday afternoon.

Every one of his registered players turned out to play including former stars, journeymen and the faithful.

Former league leaders, Bracebridge, formed the opposition and as a result of Sunday's contest, find themselves looking up at Mid-Pen.

It must be said that the Bracebridge ranks were a mite depleted as they did not travel with their best team.

Mid-Pen saw the return of former greats Mark Losch (Thunderfoot) and Dave Jupp who are on a sabbatical from the rarified air of the Newmarket League.

In spite of all the sharpshooters in the forward line, it was one of the faithful plodders who scored the winning and only goal of the game. Ramsay Khoury notched an opportunist goal from a scramble in front of the net that put Mid-Pen in front to stay.

Khoury has paid his dues by sitting on the bench in the past. It is good to see virtue rewarded.

The local squad should have added to the score but were overanxious in their exertions. Repeated raids on the Bracebridge goal peppered their keeper, but a combination of good saves and sloppy finishing by Mid-Pen kept the score down to a respectable figure.

Nick Boudouris, in the Mid-Pen nets, was lonelier than a Maytag repairman, but he did preserve his shutout. The shots that tested him were handed in a sure-handed manner. If he is not careful, he will find himself stuck with the job.

Mike Keainey was a standout on defence for Mid-Pen.

Next Sunday, the teams will meet in Bracebridge for a rematch where Mid-Pen is expected to see tougher competition. Bracebridge will be anxious to exact revenge and are always a trial on their own balliwick.

With the victory, Mid-Pen moves to the top of the seven team Muskoka Soccer League with a record of six wins, a tie and a loss.



My Ball

Mike Keainey, star defenceman for the Mid-Pen soccer club, collects the ball with the Bracebridge players taking up hot pursuit. It was an auspicious airing for the club's new uniforms as the local team went on to win

the game on a single goal from Ramsay Khoury. There was a good crowd on hand at the Penetang Secondary School field last Sunday to see Mid-Pen move into top spot in the Muskoka Soccer League.

Kids soccer in full swing at MSS

by Ed Pearson

On Tuesday evenings the playing fields at Midland Secondary School are awash with humanity. I stopped by last Tuesday. No less than five soccer games were being played simultaneously. The Nippers (5 to 6 and 7 to 9 years) were playing across the east field with scaled down goals. Four seven a side games were being waged in this manner on one full size pitch. The players were mixed, boys and girls, but there was no quarter asked or given and no prisoners taken.

The field was a cacophony of sound. Eight teams with four referees blowing four whistles and eight coaches yelling encouragement and advice competed with parents who had more personal interests. As the beachmaster said on the Normandy beaches on D Day "The noise, the people". Somehow there was method in the chaos. The players seemed to be tuned in to the pitch of their particular referee's whistle and order prevailed. Fun seemed to be the main ingredient and if they picked up some soccer skills on the way, so much the better.

I moved over to the west field to the more sophisticated level of soccer provided by the

10 to 12 year olds. Gerald Befort, a member of the Midland-Penetang soccer club, was refereeing out of earshot of other whistles. This game, befitting the advanced maturity of the players, was played on a full size pitch. The older youngsters tended to play their positions more closely and dribbling, heading and tackling skills were more evident. The Champs were playing the Tigers, the Champs won 2-1 on goals by Kevin Henderson and Lee Marion. Play-offs begin next Tuesday evening at the Midland Secondary School. League leaders, Champs, will play the third placed team, Road-runners, the runners-up, will play cellar dwellers Liverpool.

Carol Coult and Judy Thomas, the league organisers, feel satisfied with the 1988 season. They attracted 150 registered players and were able to keep the costs down to \$10 per player. No other expenses needed to be met, soccer at that level can be played in running shoes, shorts and T shirts, a team smock is provided. Carol credits support from community members, too numerous to mention by name, who fill the jobs like coaching, refereeing and linesmen with keeping costs down.



Heads I Lose

A soccer player is a little apprehensive as the ball descends in her direction at Midland Minor Soccer League action at Midland Secondary School last Tuesday. Her

forehead, however, met the ball in the approved manner and went in the general direction it was intended much to the relief of her coach who was also a little concerned.

Fish derby next Sunday

The Maple Valley club will be holding their first annual Fish Derby on Sunday, July 3 from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Entry fees will be \$10 per person or \$15 per family (children up to 16 years of age).

The weigh-ins will take place at the Maple Valley Club from noon to 6 p.m.

Cash prizes based on the entry fees will be awarded along with gifts generously donated by local businesses.

Smallmouth and largemouth bass

minimum limits will be 12 inches with pike minimum limits set at 28 inches.

Only fish caught in Georgian Bay waters will be eligible.

The Fish Derby is designed to afford a fun fishing day. Refreshments will be available at the club from noon July 3. The club will cook the entrants' fish if desired and serve it with french fries.

For further information, contact the Maple Valley Club.