

DISTRICT SPORT NEWS



SPORT SPOTS

BY RON CRAINE

Matt Kinnari has got to be the busiest hockey player in Ontario. Not content with playing in just one league, the travelling Mr. Kinnari plays in three — count them — three!

He plays in the Richmond Hill Senior League and is well up among the leading scorers. In the Stouffville League he leads the scoring parade. With what spare time he has left he plays for Bondhead. And who would you think is one of the scoring leaders? Right again, Matt Kinnari.

Just where the stocky public school teacher gets all the energy from is a mystery of the first magnitude. You'd think that teaching moppets all day long at McConaghy Public School would sap all the vitality right out of him. But it just isn't so.

Matt never appears to be in a hurry to do anything. He always looks like a man going nowhere in no particular hurry and with all day to do it. This probably is one of his secrets of hockey success. One second he's coasting to nowhere and then suddenly explodes and goes into orbit. Combine tactics like these with a blazing, accurate shot and you'll have some idea of why he's such a netminder's nemesis.

When it comes to softball, the same Matt Kinnari is still with it. To begin with he's left handed. If he's playing at first base, a natural position for one of the southpaw breed, he just never looks comfortable. Despite lack of style he is a very effective first sacker who can come up with the big play when it's needed.

When he's dug in at the plate for his lick with the bat, pitchers are very inclined to under-rate him. To their dismay.

His batting stance is reminiscent of a spider on crutches suffering from a back injury. His stance is so wide and his crouch so low that his chin is almost scraping the plate. Try to put yourself in a pitcher's shoes trying to pitch to a character like this. It's not much wonder that he draws more walks than anyone else on the team he is playing for!

No matter what the game is, Kinnari is a clutch player. He's broken up more softball games with hits to the wrong field than anyone can remember. Batting from the port side you just don't have any business hitting to left or centre field — but he does it. No matter what the game is, it's nice to have him on your side!

A couple of years ago his pupils used to come to see him play ball. They always sat together in the stands and formed a kind of Kinnari Marching and Chowder Club. Teacher took a real verbal pounding from these "enfants terribles" and took it gracefully with a slight smile. No matter what the kids said, they never forget to end up with sir. Things like, "Who told you that you were a ballplayer, Kinnari-sir?" were often heard.

If from the foregoing you get the idea that this is one public school teacher who doesn't lead a sedentary life — then you're absolutely right. They breed a hardy race up around Kirkland Lake and Matt Kinnari is a worthy son of the rugged northland!

— SPORT SPOTS —

One day we'll soon have a fine hospital. Our library building won't national prize for architecture. And this is the leading rose-growing town on the continent. All these things are cause for pride and when the proposed buildings and institutions are established we'll be doubly proud.

And yet there still remain some smaller projects that could do much to round out a complete town. Just recently we acquired a golf course, tennis courts have been operating for two years. We've got a lawn bowling green, a fine curling rink, bowling alleys, softball diamonds and playing fields. All things to be thankful for. And still we haven't got a swimming pool where kids can be taught the elementary rules of water safety. Nor have we got a running track where fine young district athletes can develop their athletic talents.

No one argues that a swimming pool is unnecessary. Everybody agrees that, aside from the pure pleasure of a cooling dip on a hot day, a pool can be used to save life by ensuring that people learn to overcome fear of the water. And still we haven't even got a start on a thing that would benefit every man, woman and child in town.

Some people say that a running track is a frill, something that caters to the needs of only a few. Pure hogwash! Lessons learned on a track are basic things. Every game ever invented consists of three basic skills, running, jumping and throwing. And what else is there?

Figure what would happen with a swimming pool and a track. There wouldn't be a reason in the world why track meets couldn't be held in Richmond Hill. Meets that would attract people from all over the province and from other provinces. Swimming meets could also be held, bringing in more people and thus the pool would serve a dual purpose.

Competition today is fierce. You have to run like crazy just to stay in the same place in the business world. And we're in business. Every one who lives in Richmond Hill and vicinity has a stake in the community business. The better our advertising campaign, the more prosperous the whole area will become. The more prosperous — then more industry. More industry — lower taxes — and amen to that!

So maybe spending a bit now would make us more in a few years. We'll never know if we don't try. And what is the old saw about "cast your bread upon the waters"? Let's throw our crusts into our own pool!!

— SPORT SPOTS —

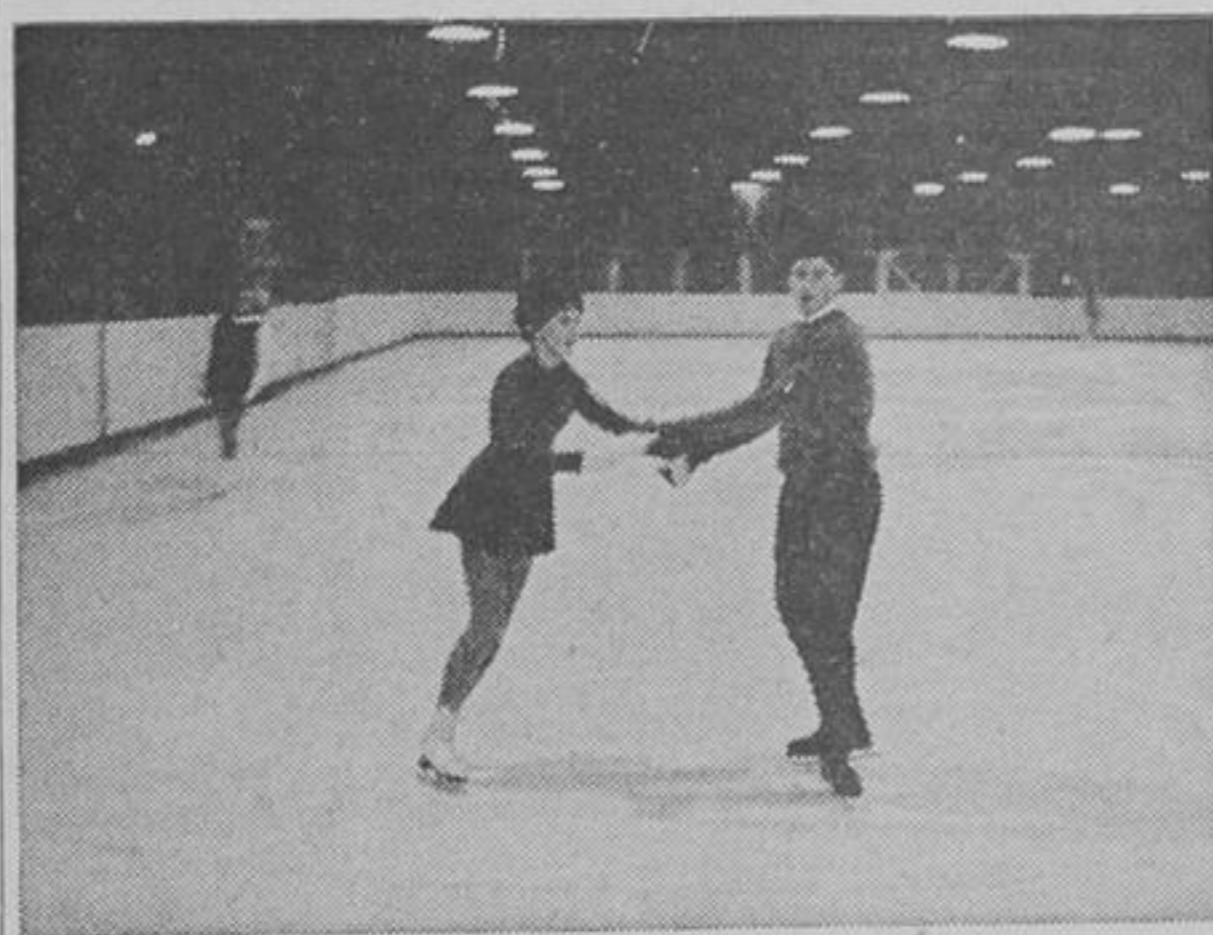
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Local figure skating stars Beverly Fumerton and Paul Craine are busy practicing the swing dance prior to the recent C.F.S.A. tests which were held at the local arena.

Craigies And Orphans Are Tied Treemen Trim Insulators 10-4

In a game that was one of the fastest and cleanest played in the Richmond Hill Senior Hockey League this season, the surprising Orphans played the high-flying Craigie team to a 5-5 tie. Only two penalties were assessed in the game, one to each team, both being handed out in the third period.

Keith Lawes opened the scoring for the Orphans as he found the range on a pass from Dave Hopper. Ken Sinclair evened things up as he finished off a play set up by Earl Cairns and Johnny Drummond. Ron Bailey scored on a solo effort just before the end of the first period to give the Orphans a 2-1 bulge. Bob Wright tallied for Craigies in the second period with Craigies going to Chick Webster and Rene Jallet. George Doige gave the Orphans the lead again by cashing in on a pass from Ron Bailey.

Lawes, Hopper and Bailey combined in the third period to put the Orphans ahead 4-2 with Lawes being the triggerman, went to Ken Sinclair and Harold Fish-Knox.

Helping Hand Appreciated

Tom Byberg scored two goals for the Wise team, to pace the play for his club. Single goals were scored by Ron Defoe and Bruce Ken Sinclair and Harold Fish-Knox.

Policemen Have Pulled Juveniles From Defeat

For two years the Richmond Hill Juvenile Hockey team struggled along valiantly sans sponsorship. At times the team teetered on the edge of extinction as the financial burden became overwhelming. Thanks to the Police Association of Richmond Hill, the team is now on a sound financial base.

Ted McBrien is team coach and is assisted by Brian Turner. Both men are being given an assist in their duties by Wally Stothers, a confirmed "rink rat" if there ever was such a thing. Russ Hause and Tony Fuelling never miss a game and are unofficial team managers. Since the police have taken the juvenile club under their wing it is the most improved hockey team in the North York League.

Wayne Jackson is the netminder of the team. In the last four games he has given up only nine goals for an average of 2.25 goals per game, an excellent average in juvenile hockey. On the defense, Dave Blair, Bob Mustard, Robin Craig and Sandy Keith are giving the opposition plenty of trouble.

Tom Reynolds centres a line with Roger Kelson at left wing and Denny Richardson on right wing. This is the number one scoring punch of the team with Reynolds and Kelson being the leading scorers. Roy Baker is the centre on the second line with Joe Pirri at left wing and Ted Ross patrolling the right side.

Rotary Money To Help Pond Area Change House, Crosby Park, Named To Be Priority Projects For Parks

Two projects will be treated on a priority basis, members of Richmond Hill Parks Board decided at their recent meeting. One of them will be the building of a change house at the town park. This will be discussed with the arena board, which may help to turn the venture into a joint effort. It is the parks board's hope that the work can be completed by spring, said Chairman Russell Tilt.

The other is the preparation of Crosby Park. Realizing the need for park facilities in that section of the town, the board will expedite it as much as possible.

Some time ago the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill offered the parks board \$500 to be used on a winter works program. This amount will mushroom to approximately \$2,500 with government subsidies. With this money, the board to carry on a general improvement program in the Mill Pond area.

Minor Hockey Night Success

Parental, Spectator Support Tops

Bobby Baun, injured Maple Leaf hockey star, was the special guest at Minor Hockey night in Richmond Hill last Friday night. He signed enough autographs for local moppets to paper a good-sized living-room. If you hear that Baun autographs are going for two Con-way Twitty's, don't be too surprised!

A crowd of over 600 packed into Richmond Hill Arena and cheered young hockey players to the echo. Two house league mite games preceded the scheduled games and the young devotees of the game put on a real show. Spectators loved every second of it as the kids attempted to display the knowledge learned at hockey school.

Games were exciting. Two exciting games followed the mite exhibition as the squirt Sing Alongs and the pee-wee age Hornets played against their counterparts from Don Mills Arena.

Don Mills won both games by a 3-2 score. In both games, Richmond Hill goal tenders were removed in the final minute for an extra forward. As the final bell sounded the knell of both games, Richmond Hill players were pouring in on the Don Mills net, but the elusive puck went everywhere but where it counted.

The final game of the night pitted the bantam Flyers against the Newmarket in a scheduled North York League game. Flyers had a fair share of the play everywhere but on the score sheets as Newmarket went on to a 4-0 shutout win.

Support Was Good. Parental support of the hockey night was very gratifying to R.H.H.A. executive members who were responsible for the planning of the big night. Fan response was terrific and has encouraged additional special events during the remainder of the season.

Our Blueliners Get Win And Tie In Aurora Series

Ted Terry's Richmond Hill Blueliners paid a visit to Aurora Thursday night of last week and after an encounter with the Aurora Midgets, considered themselves lucky to escape with their lives and a 5 to tie. It was a typical Blueliner-Aurora game with the action fast and furious from the first to the last bell. It was a ding-dong battle, with first one team and then the other taking the lead. At the end of the first period it was Aurora by 2 to 1. At the end of the second it was 4 to 4, with Aurora spotting one goal to the Blueliners, making it 5 to 4 for the Hill, right up until the last 35 seconds, when the Aurora coach pulled his goal tender to even it up, on a slider that Bobby Ritchie didn't even see.

Goal getters for the Terry-men were Jackie Dubrowski, Frankie Perri, Peter Hiscott, Bruce Sim, and Wayne Zubeck.

Blueliners 3, Aurora 2. Richmond Hill Blueliners had to come from behind twice to edge out a fast skating Aurora club last Monday night at the local arena. The second place Aurora team which is currently trailing the Terry-men by a scant two points, counted first at five minutes of the first period, only to have Bob Booth of the Blueliners even it up at the 10 minute mark. In the second period, Cooper of Aurora pushed a soft one in by Bob Ritchie in the local net to make it 2 to 1 for his club. Then in the last stanza, Jackie Dubrowski, who has been playing well for the local midgets tied it up at four minutes of the last period, with little Frankie Perri getting the winning goal with only a few minutes remaining in the game. This was one of the fastest games played at the Richmond Hill Arena this or any other season and was certainly enjoyed by the fans.

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February 7th will see a hockey benefit night in aid of the Richmond Hill March of Dimes campaign at the local arena. Games start at 7 p.m. and admission is 50c for adults, with children being admitted for 25c.

A game that will set hockey back to the dark past will feature the nurses from Branson Hospital pitted against the lady teachers of Richmond Hill Schools. If everyone survives this crucial struggle the doctors on the Branson staff will challenge the Richmond Hill Police. Many other novel spectator treats will be provided during the evening.

Hockey Benefit March Of Dimes

Former Markham Resident Is Given 1 Year For Theft

A former Markham Village resident drew a sentence of one year imprisonment definite and one year indefinite in Richmond Hill Magistrate's Court.

John DesLaurier, a one-time book-keeper - paymaster with Raymond Concrete Pile Co. Ltd. of Unionville, was found guilty of theft of approximately \$6,000 taken over a period during his employment with the company, by Magistrate O. S. Hollinrake.

Because of his position, DesLaurier was able to take the money without the loss being detected, however after his transfer to the company's Montreal office last year, an audit of the Unionville office books found the shortage.

Company officials questioned the accused about the shortage and when he denied knowing anything about the missing money the case was turned over to police. A warrant was issued and he was picked up in Montreal. He came up for trial in Richmond Hill, January 18 and was remanded for sentence until later in the month.

At the time of his arrest DesLaurier was unemployed.

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MORE SPORTS ON PAGE 8

Holes In Simcoe Ice Reported Not Marked Conservation officers have reported that numerous holes cut in the ice in Lake Simcoe have not been marked. Such conditions, they say, should be reported to the Ontario Provincial Police since it is an offence under the Criminal Code to cut holes and leave them unmarked.

Complaints have also been received that some fishermen have cut holes outside of but within the area which the but owner has baited.

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