

## SPORT SPOTS

BY RON CRAINE

Did you ever go out with never a thought in the world and suddenly strike gold? The members of the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee held a meeting on Wednesday of last week and they did strike recreational gold. And nary a string or gimmick connected with it!

Four members of the Irish-Canadian Rugger Club asked permission to attend the meeting and explain what they had in mind for the development of rugger. One gentleman lives in Willowdale, another in Agincourt, the third in Markham and the remaining member of the group makes his home in Toronto proper. They represent a group of 250 enthusiasts, all members of their club, who love the game of English rugger or rugger.

Mr. David Courtin acted as spokesman for the group and explained just what the Irish-Canadian Club had in mind. Their chief desire is to promote the playing of rugger in this and other Ontario sporting centres. To further this aim they want to introduce the game to the youth of the neighbourhood and they have quite a package to offer.

For a starter, rugger is a purely amateur game. No sponsor is ever asked to buy sweaters or to supply special equipment of any form. Rugger players wear no padding. A sweater, a pair of shorts and a pair of football boots or running shoes is the only equipment necessary. With this minimum of equipment and a desire to play, rugger can be a real sport. Club members pay dues of \$10.00 a year to keep the Irish-Canadian Club in action.

They propose to form junior, intermediate and senior teams of schoolboy age, right here in Richmond Hill. Coaching will be supplied, sweaters and shorts are available through the recreation committee and the police are 100 per cent behind the effort. At present a registration fee of 50c per player per season has been proposed. And that will be the total cost.

Rugger is the grandparent of our game of football. It is a much less glamorous and scientific game than the Canadian version and is played for the sheer fun of it. As no padding is worn, injuries are rare. That is not paradoxical at all. When a player is bedecked with padding he will charge into action like the Wild Bull of Basham. Remove the padding and he applies only the amount of force necessary to achieve a tackle. There is no blocking in this game.

Fifteen players on each side play two forty-five minute halves in regulation competition but time limits can be altered to suit the age of the players. No substitution is allowed and once a boy is elected to start a game, he plays the full time. The field itself is 110 yards long and the maximum width 75 yards. Goal posts look much like those used in Canadian football and points are scored for kicking field goals. Touchdowns are also scored but are called "trys".

On Monday, July 9th, the Irish-Canadian Rugger Club will play an exhibition match against the Ontario Rugger Union All Stars. The game will be played in the town park with kick-off time being 7.30 p.m. This will be a match played by some of the best rugger players in Ontario and it is hoped to have a commentator on hand to explain proceedings to spectators. And this is also free.

Back in the days of our youth we used to read the odd Chum's Annual. There were always stories about dear old St. Swithin's playing their arch rivals, those absolute cads from St. Trinian's. Or was that a girl's school? No matter, the St. Swithin's lads, pure of heart, always won while their double dealing rivals got paid off in spades. But we never did understand the game too well. So after all these years here's a good chance to find out all about it. And if St. Trinian's was a girls' school it's little wonder that those St. Swithin's lads won.

All joking aside this seems like a wonderful activity for our young boys. It's very cheap and everyone gets a chance to play. This is not a sport that breeds super stars. Success comes from a team effort and this alone is worth something. As there is no such thing as professional rugger to be found, parents need have no fear that little Johnny will be forced into doing anything that he doesn't want to do.

The endeavour has the complete blessing of the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee, members of the Richmond Hill Police, most particularly Sgt. Joe Rainey, an ex-rugger player, and the blessing of everyone who knows about the program. The game is catching on fast wherever it is played, even in the United States. Let's hope it has equal success right here in Richmond Hill.

—SPORTS SPOTS—  
We've said it before and we'll say it again. Who would ever want to be a softball umpire? Thank goodness that some dedicated souls do or there would be no game — but the abuse they take — it just doesn't seem worth it.

Sure, the players beef, they'll question the odd call and sometimes give the ump a bit of a ride. Not too much though or they're out of the game. Really avid softball fans will sometimes get pretty vocal but at least they stay within the bounds of decency. The real abuse comes usually from a group of parlor athletes who know more about marshmallow toasting than they'll ever know about softball.

What gives these jerks — and it's the only word that comes to mind — the right to say things to a softball umpire that would provoke a fight in a monastery beats us. They seem to think they're giving everyone else a big time and pass remarks that

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### Capture Thomas A. Keffer Trophy

Seen above are the members of the Concord School senior girls' relay team who captured top spot in their class at the Vaughan Township Public Schools Field Day at Woodbridge Fair Grounds June 19. Left to right, Sandra Smith, Sharman Edgar, Vondalee Edgar and Jean Reaman. The two sisters are holding the Thomas A. Keffer Trophy which they won over stiff competition. (Photo by Lagerquist)

## Pupils Vie For Honors At School Track Meet

Track and field events for the Lake Wilcox Public School were varied this year.

Among the sprints and junior and senior relays were the running broad jump, standing broad jump, high jump, soccer kick, ball throw for accuracy and other novelty events.

The shoe scramble was won by: Girls — Pat Newstead and Anja Kukkonen. Boys — J. Greavette and D. Draper.

Shot Kick winners: Girls — Nancy Wood and Janice Holmes. Boys — D. Farquharson and T. Henderson.

Slow bicycle race for girls was won by Madeline Cold. Gary Greavette won for the boys.

The egg throwing contest ended in a three-way tie; Mary Good and Linda Nicholls, Jack Friend and Leslie Simm, and Eddie Flint and Simpson Cherry.

Wheelbarrow race, Jr. Girls — Barbara Bell and Beryl Shaw. Sr. Girls — Anja Kukkonen. Jr. Boys — Harry

Woodward and Phillip Cherry, Sr. boys — J. Luebke and Gary Greavette.

Inverted race: Sr. Boys — J. Luebke; Sr. Girls — Anja Kukkonen; Jr. Boys — M. Thorn.

Winners of the day were: Jr. Girl, 9-10 yrs.: Beverley Fullerton. Jr. Boys, 9-10: Dennis Simm.

Girls 11-12: Barbara Bell. Boys, 11-12: Fred Brown.

Sr. girls, 13 and over, Janice Holmes. Sr. boys, 13 and over, Jurgen Luebke.

John Shearer planned the day's events assisted by Mrs. Burnside, Mr. Argent, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hall, principal of the school, Mr. Kite and Mr. Sanders.

Winners of certificates and sports flashes were Jurgen Luebke, Fred Brown, Dennis Simm, Janice Holmes, Barbara Bell and Beverley Fullerton.

### DEPT. OF HEALTH TWP. OF NORTH YORK

#### Poison Ivy

Avoid the plant - you can recognize it by the three leaves on each stem. If you do contact poison ivy, do the following: —

1. Immediately wash the exposed parts of the body with laundry soap and warm water. Make it a thorough washing but do not scrub with a brush. Rinse several times.
2. Apply rubbing alcohol liberally to the exposed areas.
3. Next take a complete shower or tub bath.
4. Dress in clean clothing and see that clothing which may have been contaminated is cleaned either by laundering or with a cleaning solvent.
5. If a rash appears consult your doctor at once.

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### Crarey Top Athlete

## McConaghy School Takes Field Day Championship

McConaghy Public School almost monopolized the results at the recent Richmond Hill Public Schools' Field Day held at the Town Park, June 26.

They copped the school championship, individual championship and six of the eight relay championships.

In the school standings, McConaghy finished first with 241 points, followed by Walter Scott Public School with 148 points. Beverley Acres (58), Crosby Heights (42), MacKillop (25), and Pleasantville (17), also took part in the meet.

Top athlete in the meet was Rubie Crarey of McConaghy School, who finished first in all five competitions for girls eight and under. She was presented with the Diane Hayes - David

Gibson Trophy. Following are the individual winners:

**Junior Events—**  
Standing Broad Jump - 8 and under: Rubie Crarey (McConaghy) and Rick James (Walter Scott).

Running Broad Jump - 8 and under: Rubie Crarey (McConaghy) and Rick James (Walter Scott).

Running Broad Jump - 9 and 10: Karen Hooper (Crosby Heights) and David Smith (McConaghy).

Standing Hop, Step and Jump - 8 and under: Rubie Crarey (McConaghy) and Jim McGee (McConaghy).

Standing Hop, Step and Jump - 9 and 10: Bette Fletcher (McConaghy) and Dave Danter (Walter Scott).

Running Hop, Step and Jump - 9 and 10: Bruce McGregor (Pleasantville).

High Jump - 8 and under: Rubie Crarey (McConaghy) and Jim Sexsmith (Walter Scott).

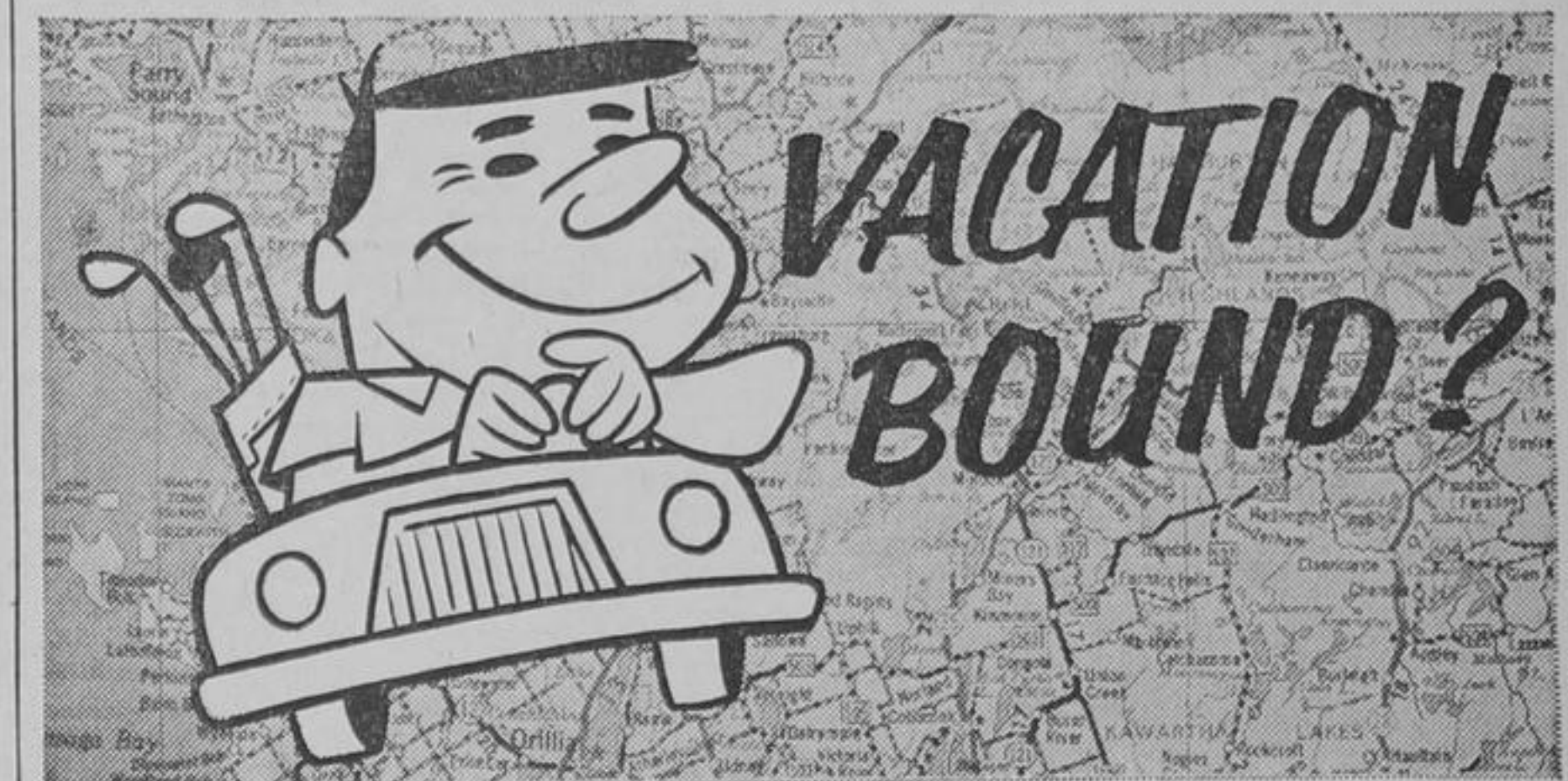
High Jump - 9 and 10: Bette Fletcher (McConaghy) and Jim Gordon (McConaghy).

Dashes - 8 and under: Rubie Crarey (McConaghy) and Jim McGee (McConaghy).

Dashes - 9 and 10: Pamela Sexsmith (Walter Scott) and David Smith (McConaghy).

Relay - 8 and under: McConaghy and McConaghy.

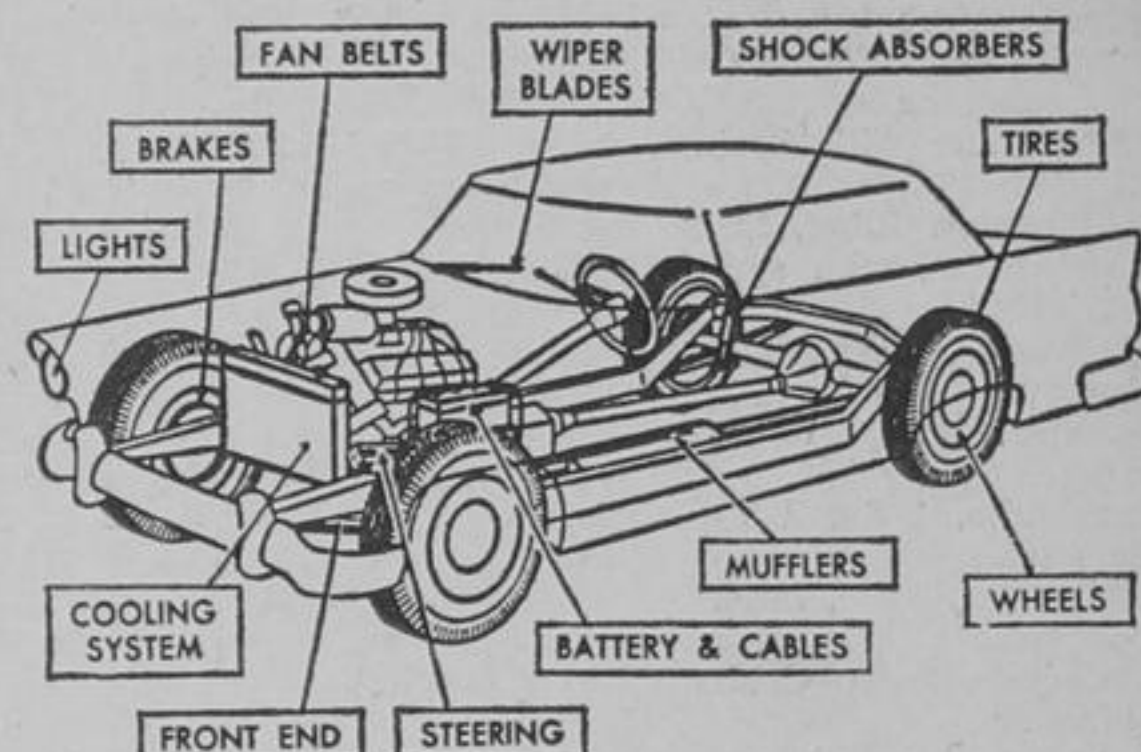
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