

.. District Sports News ..



BY
RON CRAINE

At this particular time of year there are a great many things going on in the local sporting world. Some six hundred boys and girls are involved in softball leagues run by the Richmond Hill Minor Ball Association, while four older teams are engaged in provincial playdowns. Soccer is in full swing, tennis bugs are swinging away like crazy, rugger and football practices are being held for the upcoming season with golfers and lawn bowlers all enjoying their favourite recreational pastime. Things are fairly buzzing.

One day last week we began to wonder if there was more activity twenty-five years ago than there is today. We also wondered if, as we often hear, people supported sporting activities more in the "good old days" than they do today. Some very surprising answers turned up and conditions in 1937-38 weren't much different from what they are today and it was a real bull going through all those old newspaper files for information!

In 1937 the Ontario Department of Highways raised the speed limit on highways from 35 to 50 m.p.h. An editorial hue and cry was raised about excessive speed and the fatal consequences that would befall. Almost every issue of the paper carried an advertisement by the Department of Highways complete with ghastly pictures of the end result. The Cornwall Standard Freeholder ran an editorial which stated that "most accidents occur from 80 m.p.h. speeds on 40 m.p.h. roads with 20 m.p.h. drivers at the wheel!" So what else is new?

This summer, after a brief revival of two years, lacrosse bowed out of the Richmond Hill sport scene. Same thing in 1937. In both cases the reason given was lack of fan support and the impossibility of carrying on in the face of public apathy. Hockey teams of the era played a spirited brand of hockey but they, too, were hamstrung for operating expenses. At one key game they had a total of eight paid admissions — adults 25c, children 10c. Wonder if they collected only 80c.

The Richmond Hill Senior Hockey League have experienced and probably will continue to experience the same general apathy. An excuse is often made that these days there are just too many other distractions (or attractions—whichever you prefer) and television is cited as the number one bugbear. What TV programs were you watching in 1937?

An editorial column in "The Liberal" stated that Premier Mitchell Hepburn's firm stand against the C.I.O. would have big American industrial firms racing into Ontario to set up shop. The editorial made mention of the fact that this industry would be warmly welcomed in Richmond Hill. And you know it still would. These Americans are slow starters. Twenty-five years and the influx hasn't begun yet!

The Barrie Examiner got into the act in 1937 by picking an all-star softball team from players in the Simcoe County Softball Association. Five towns were represented in the league, Allandale, Alliston, Aurora, Newmarket and Richmond Hill. Three Richmond Hill players made the all-star team — Pitcher Ted Bennett, Catcher Charlie Proctor and First Baseman Harold Echlin. How many of you know these gentlemen?

(Continued on page 8)

Richmond Hill Minor Ball Results

Girls 11-15	W	L	T	P	Teams	W	L	T	P
Rubies	5	1	1	11	Jerseys	6	3	0	12
Diamonds	3	4	0	6	Virginians	5	4	0	10
Pearls	3	4	0	6	Buff's	4	5	0	8
Emeralds	2	4	1	5	Red Wings	3	6	0	6
Rubies 19 - Diamonds 6					Marlins	3	6	0	6
Pearls 13 - Emeralds 10					Buff's 19 - Bears 10				
Boys 15-18					Marlins 9 - Virginians 0				
Bayview B. A.	6	1	0	12	Jerseys 33 - Red Wings 6				
Beresford	4	3	0	8	Playoffs — Boys 10-11				
Bork	3	4	0	6	Series A —				
Union Fuels	1	6	0	2	Cubs 20 - Mets 8				
Beresford 11 - Union Fuels 7					Cubs receive bye into finals				
Bork 6 - Bayview B.A. 2					Series B —				
(Replayed July 23)					Dodgers 20 - Giants 18				
Beresford 10 - Bork 2					Series C —				
Bayview BA 7 - Union Fuels 5					Red Legs 9 - Phillies 7				
Boys 10-11					Series D —				
Note: Final Standings					Dodgers vs Red Legs				
Mets	7	2	0	14	Winner to meet Cubs in two game, total runs final				
Giants	7	2	0	14					
Phillies	7	2	0	14					
Cubs	5	4	0	10					
Dodgers	5	4	0	10					
Red Legs	5	4	0	10					
Braves	3	5	1	7					
Colts	2	6	1	5					
Cardinals	2	7	0	4					
Pirates	1	8	0	2					
Giants 26 - Cubs 19									
Braves 14 - Colts 14									
Cardinals 25 - Pirates 9									
Red Legs 12 - Dodgers 4									
Phillies 20 - Mets 4									
Boys 12-14									
Senators	7	1	0	14					
Indians	6	2	0	12					
Red Sox	5	4	0	10					
Yankees	3	3	0	10					
Twins	2	6	0	4					
Tigers	0	9	0	0					
Indians 11 - Yankees 8									
Twins 18 - Tigers 15									
Senators 19 - Red Sox 6									
Boys 8-9 Division A									
Chiefs	6	3	0	12					
Jets	6	3	0	12					
Royals	6	3	0	12					
Colonels	4	5	0	8					
Maple Leafs	3	6	0	6					
Bisons	2	7	0	4					
Jets 19 - Bisons 18									
Royals 20 - Colonels 12									
Maple Leafs 23 - Chiefs 11									
Boys 8-9 Division B									
Bears	6	3	0	12					

Brighton Gals Star Swamp Heights 20-0

Saturday was a bleak day for Richmond Hill softball teams. The Richmond Hill Ladies kept the sad record intact by dropping a 20-0 decision to Brighton in the opening game of the Intermediate P.W.S.U. Playdowns.

Brighton were just too much softball team for the local ladies to cope with and completely outclassed the Richmond Heights Centre team. Don't count the Richmond Hill team out yet. There is still another game to be played and the local lassies can give a good account of themselves yet. They've a lot better team than the 20-0 score would indicate.

Bob Wall To Get N.H.L. Tryout

Bob Wall, Oak Rides hockey star, will report to the training camp of the Detroit Red Wings, National Hockey League on September 8. Bob is eligible for another year with his team of the last three years, the Hamilton Red Wings, and feels this may not mean a berth on the N.H.L. team this year.

Bob, son of Mrs. Ganna Wall, Bond Ave., has won his team's best defenceman award three years straight, and as a boy from this area we wish him all the very best this fall on his journey to the big time.

"Casey" Cripps Is On The Rampage

Aurora Trounces Dynes 17 - 2 To Even Up Series

Aurora inflicted a 17-2 trouncing on Dynes Jewellers in Aurora last Saturday night. The win evened up the best three out of five series at two games each forcing a fifth and deciding game. This was the worst defeat ever taken by a Dynes-sponsored softball team as a hard-fighting Aurora team just refused to roll over and play dead.

The Jewellers opened up the mound Hill, the Aurora club, series with a conving win in with elimination from the O.A. Richmond Hill, won a close 3-2 S.A. Playdowns starting them in decision in ten innings in Aurora and seemed to be in command of the situation. Fourth game of the series was Last Thursday night in Rich-

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