

R.H. Indians Capture League Championship 27 - 19

By RON CRAINE
 The local football scene drew to a dramatic close last Saturday afternoon as the Richmond Hill Indians defeated Northwestern Ghosts 27-19 on the round to win the Metro Rugby Football League Championship.

Going into the last game of the two game total point series the Indians were on the long end of a 20-7 score by virtue of their win in the series opener. Northwestern made a gallant bid to overcome the big lead and outscored the Indians 12-7 in the game.

A fired-up Indian defensive unit piled up Northwestern hopes as they began to scent

the sweet smell of victory. It was the stout work of the defensive stalwarts that won the championship for the Indians.

Prior to the game, a light fall of snow was removed from the field. By game time rising temperatures and a warm sun had turned the playing area into a slippery bog.

Despite the poor footing both teams played wide open football in a bid to capture the Earl Selkirk Trophy.

In the opening moments of the first quarter a wide open razzle dazzle Northwestern passing display had the Indians hanging on the ropes.

Their pass defence was pitiful as over-anxious Indians were charging the centre of the line only to have a short pass beat them for a long gain.

A forty-yard sleeper pass culminated in a Northwestern touchdown as the receiver was all alone and unnoticed along the side lines.

The score on the round was 20-13 and stayed that way as a pass for the conversion attempt was good but the receiver was unable to get over the goal line.

The Indian offense was stung into action and began a steady downfield march. From the outset of the game the Indians were hampered

offensively as quarterback Al Fleming was on the limp with a badly damaged left knee. He was not figured to get into the play as Bill Dunn took over the play calling spot.

Jump passes from Dunn to Ron Sheridan, who was also on the limp, produced some valuable gains. Some of the catches made by Sheridan were fantastic as he twisted and spun through a maze of defenders to haul in the slippery ball.

Early in the second quarter Ian McIntosh was able to boot a single point as the attack stalled at the Northwestern 40-yard-line.

Once again the Indian de-

fensive unit kept relentless pressure on the Northwestern squad and regained possession of the ball.

Some fine winning plays featuring Bill Dunn and Ian McIntosh plus a roughing call against Northwestern carried play to the 8 yard line. An explosive run by McIntosh carried into the Northwestern end zone for the major score as the half ended with the score 27-13 in favor of the Indians.

An aroused Northwestern team came out to play in the third quarter and started a drive that resulted in the last scoring play of the game.

A rough play call against the Indians and some fine running by Northwestern backs carried to the Indian 5-yard line.

Two smashes into the line and the Ghosts had a six pointer. The convert was not good and the Indians still led 27-19.

With time running out in the fourth quarter Northwestern gambled on a daring passing attack. They had limited success as the Indians were covering receivers and conceding only very short passes which resulted in small gains.

Two long passes were

picked off and on one of them Bill Wilson went 70 yards for a touchdown only to have his men called back on a clipping infraction.

The Ghosts fought gamely to the end but were not able to penetrate into any kind of scoring position.

As time ran out a jubilant Indian team mobbed coaches Del Madeley and Charlie Dunn. For some of them it was the first championship in six years of play and victory was never sweeter.

After the game itself a muddy, tired lot of players still imbued with the excitement of the day rode through Richmond Hill in two trucks.

Clutched in grimy hands was the Selkirk Trophy. This was their day of triumph and they wanted everyone to know it. After the fierce competition it took to win it, who can blame them?

From the outset of the

game it was apparent that no quarter would be asked or given. At times it was almost a war of attrition as players hit like run-away tanks.

Many were forced to limp off or be helped to the sidelines. In the opening moment of the first quarter the worst injury occurred as a Ghost player broke his leg in a vicious pile-up of a line play. This was tough, hard-nosed football all the way, make no mistake about that.

To single out any individual player on either team would be a downright injustice. Each and every player on both teams gave everything there was to give and an extra 10 per cent.

Al Fleming, despite a bad leg held together with a brace, went in for three plays while Ron Sheridan had both knees strapped and braced.

It was the "Gotta Go"

spirit that carried the Indians to victory. They all had the same spirit in good measure.

The Richmond Hill Hockey Association headed by president Eric Charity deserve a vote of thanks for their co-operation. As dressing room facilities are non-existent at the present time they made two hockey dressing rooms available to the teams in the arena.

Saturday is the busiest day at the arena and it was a real sacrifice on the part of the hockey association, a sacrifice much appreciated by all concerned.

A victory banquet will be held at the Lions Hall this Friday night with the formal presentation of the trophies to a great Indian team.

Football is finally over after a long, gruelling season and the Indians are enjoying the heady wine of victory in generous measures.



SPORT SPOTS

BY RON CRAINE

This is being written two days before the final game to decide the 1962 Metro Rugby Football League Championship. Northwestern Ghosts and Richmond Hill Indians are the two teams who engaged in a two game total points to count series to decide the winner. The final game was played in Richmond Hill last Saturday and, without any reservations, we'll have to give the title to the Indians.

Over the long football season the Indians tied one game and lost one game by a one-point margin on the last play of the game. Going into the last game the Indians had a 20-7 lead over the Ghosts and by now they've won another game and the championship. It's a very impressive record for any football team and is especially impressive when you consider how the Indians operate.

Most of the teams in the league are very comfortably financed. The Indians on the other hand operate with the lowest budget of any team, out of sheer necessity. Players dig deep into their own pockets and go out and beat the bushes for a little extra cash. A small grant from the Richmond Hill Recreation eases the burden somewhat, but football costs are necessarily high and the grant is soon gone. To keep going in the league the players have to really want to play. They're a hungry club and play football just that way as the rest of the league found out.

It hasn't been all smooth sailing on the way to the championship. Coach Del Madeley has come close to the big win in other years and began to feel like a perennial bridesmaid. He thought that he was the kiss of death to the team. When you take football as seriously as this man does you're bound to explode sometimes at what you consider inept play. Del Madeley has exploded on several occasions but the players seemed to understand and accepted tongue lashings that must have stung. Team spirit on the club remained high and, as the championship loomed closer, increased to a fever pitch. Halt and lame players begged to be put back into action.

With spirit like this, how can any team fail to succeed? Now they've won their first championship and have had a heady taste of the wine of victory. Most of them will be back to play when the 1963 season rolls around but they'll never enjoy a bigger moment than they did when they won the championship last Saturday. Congratulations to all the Indians, a really fine football team!

SPORTS SPOTS

Jim Mansbridge was recently elected president of the Richmond Hill Minor Ball Association. Jim is a very capable and personable individual and has a very lively interest in minor softball. For many years he has been mixed up in the minor ball program and has done his share of coaching, convening and umpiring.

This year it will be his chore to guide not only the minor softball program but also to head up the sports day parade committee. He will have plenty of help from his executive, a hardworking group with the kids' interests at heart. Last year was a most successful one for minor ball and there's no reason to

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Setting a torrid pace for the Tiger Cubs Team in the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association are these three speed merchants who have been giving rival goalkeepers nightmares all season long. Stacey Richard, fast skating centre is flanked by Richard McArthur, left, and Stephen Fifield, right. The club is sponsored by Wilson-Niblett Motors.

Roy Currie High Single At Opening

The first men's open bonspiel of the new season was curling at the Richmond Hill Curling Club on November 27.

9:00 draw - The Toronto-Dominion Bank rink skipped by R. Dunn captured first prize. Second prize was taken by D. Laughlin's rink from the Royal Canadian Curling Club. R. Boddy and his foursome from Dixie tied for third prize with a Richmond Hill rink skipped by Bert Vance and aided by Bob Austin, Munroe Ashkanase and Dave Bruce.

11:00 draw - First prize went to the Oakville Rink skipped by D. Layfield, in second place was Bill Olzowy and his foursome from the Heather Curling Club and the third place winner was a rink from Birchmount Curling Club, skipped by Bill Bates.

Another win for a Richmond Hill Rink was for the high single, awarded to Roy Currie, skip, assisted by Wilson Beresford, Harold Loudon and Cecil Tuck.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Richmond Hill High
 The only school with anything to report this week is the Richmond Hill High School. They have just concluded an intramural volleyball program in which over two hundred students have taken part. A really good effort.

Winners of the various classes were grade 9 Harrison House followed by Richmond, Miles and Stewart. Harrison also captured junior honors trailed by Richmond, Stewart and Miles in that order. The senior crown was won by Stewart House with Miles, Harrison and Richmond trailing.

In the mixed volleyball league Richmond won the championship of league number one with Stewart winning the marbles in league number two. Stewart and Richmond will now play off to declare an overall winner.

House intramural standings to the present are as follows:
 Harrison 730 Miles Stewart

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