

... Sport Spots ...

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But what's done is done and Mr. Ham's opinions are here this week. I hope I've done justice to them.

As for myself, I make no claims to perfection as I can only assume no one in minor hockey does or any other man-made organization.

My criticisms were meant on a general basis assuming that whenever adults cannot control 13-year-old boys in minor hockey they should accept some of the blame for it. Whether it was Mr. Ham's or any individual's fault was immaterial in the sense I had no desire to pin anybody to the wall unjustly. Life's too short for that kind of foolishness.

But the fact that this was an extra-rough contest (as agreed to by both Mr. Brown and Mr. Ham) it would seem only logical the adults must accept some of the blame ... if only to a matter of degree.

This leads me to Mr. Ham's last statement in which he said he would never let his team play The Cardinals again. This is the crux of the matter.

I agree with him and would suggest that this be a general policy with any Richmond Hill minor hockey team. If the Toronto teams (the ones that do) insist on playing the cruder, NHL style hockey, then don't play them.

Keep It Fun

I've nothing against a good, solid bodycheck. It's part of the game and youngsters aren't that delicate. But when a game, a minor hockey "fun" game gets to the point where penalties are coming thick and fast — no matter who's to blame — that's the time for drawing lines. No game should be that vital for 13-year-olds. You can win, play hard, and play it clean. And no one gets hurt.

This leaves it up to the organization officials, coaches, and the referees to tell the kids — not ask them — to keep it clean or get off the ice for the game or forever if necessary.

In closing, I can only say I had no intention of getting into a dogfight over individuals and don't intend to now. Everyone has different opinions.

I can just see no reason why a parent should send his 13-year-old boy out on the ice in minor hockey and wonder if he's going to come home in one piece. Simply ridiculous. There's time enough for rough-house tactics when the boy hits the junior bracket if that's the norm, as it seems to be, with the professionals. Up to then, keep it fun, keep it clean.

That's about it except to say. No personal soul-destroying criticism was meant toward Mr. Ham or minor hockey in Richmond Hill. It's doing great things for the kids and it's run with considerable skill and devotion by adults contributing free time. And in the past it has received much, much favorable ink. Just remember, no one is above reproach. Thank heavens for that.

Now excuse me while I clean up the rest of these bricks.

Merry Christmas, everyone.

Football?

Now that winter's here (?) we'll add a little autumn flavoring to the scene by talking about football.

This is Civitan football with the youngsters in Richmond Hill. Civitan Jim Stockall reports the first year of operation in 1966 was so successful he hopes to expand the teams in '67.

The youngsters, says Jim, responded enthusiastically to the game "which we thought would go over and it did. There were some 96 youngsters participating this past season ranging from ages 10 to 15. Helping out were Civitans John Burton, Doug Hinchcliff, Bill Rice and Bruce Benn. Convener was Non-Civitan Bob Thomson.

Wrestling Buffs

And for you wrestling buffs: There's a grunt and groan show coming up at the Thornhill Farmers market December 29 commencing at 8.30 pm. Featured will be some big-name television matmen such as Whipper Billy Watson, Hans Schmidt and a special tag team bout featuring the four midgets. With guys like Schmidt around it should allow you to save on the "hate" pills and still work up a dislike.

Final Notes

I don't like to end this last column before Christmas on a sombre note but that happens to be the case.

First of all, there was the sudden death of Charles Van Zant, 56, of Newmarket, in a car accident over the weekend which took the life of his wife and a passenger. Charlie was president of the York Simcoe Fastball Association and will be sadly missed by sportsmen throughout the county.

This last note isn't a sports one but there's still a place for it here. The most sincere condolences to the wife and seven children of Richmond Hill Police Officer Peter Gosling who also died suddenly over the weekend. Words seem an empty gesture but it's the best that we can do.

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BOWLING RESULTS

ABC MEN'S MAJOR

The Hall's Fuel Oil team is showing good strength in the second series by winning seven of their first nine games for 17 points.

This is good enough for first place, three points better than ABC No. 2 team which is second with 14 points.

League standings: Hall's Fuel Oil 17; ABC No. 2 14; Team No. 6 12; Tony's Esso 12; Chase and Taylor Realtors 11; Richmond Inn 10; ABC No. 1 10; Allencourt Lanes 9; Michael's Gift 9; Donaghues BA 9; Wilson Niblett Motors 7; F. Powell Fencing 6.

Norm Roberts has opened up a six-pin spread in the average race and is presently sporting a 253 average followed by B. Julian with 247 and N. Thomas with 247.

High triples for the week were: N. Roberts 772; N. Thomas 752; T. Saul 741; J. Hall 740; F. Price 725; B. Mathewson 725; F. Ryan 716; R. Margerum 715; S. Smith 709; R. Lahey 709.

ALLEN COURT YOUTH LEAGUE

The Allencourt Youth League held its annual Christmas Party with Bantams and Juniors receiving gifts including fruit and candy.

Seniors bowled for alarm clocks and pen and pencil sets. Winners are as follows: (Pen and Pencils) Duane Reid, Brian Oliver, Janet MacDonald, Jerry MacDonald, Ian Murray, Linda Gilbert, Kathy Smith and Roger Ball.

Christmas Draw winner of the \$100 watch was Mr. Kernohan with Mrs. Dollery winning the \$50 watch.

The executive and coaches received a gift from the Allencourt staff.

At the Pro-Am Tournament Sandy Hoult and Robbie Barker bowled with Jim Hoult and came 11th to win wallets.

Janet MacDonald of 434 Fernleigh Crescent North was elected to represent our bowling centre in the National Youth Council "Centennial Bowling Queen" contest.

The next step will be the "Zone Bowling Queen Contest" to take place in our zone February 18 or 19.

If Miss MacDonald wins the zone title she will receive a ribbon and be eligible to go on to the provincial finals March 4 or 5 and then on to Scarborough March 26 for the National finals.

All provincial queens will receive an all expense trip to Scarborough, and many prizes. The national queen will receive a \$500 educational scholarship courtesy of the Coca Cola Company of Canada Limited, and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of Canada.

ALLEN COURT MEN'S MAJOR

Al Richardson was top man in this week's action with a 936 triple with games of 376, 324 and 236.

Scott Parke was next with 851 followed by Harold Howlett with 844; Jack Stanway 838; John Cruse 836; Andy Kovacs

833; Keith Jean-Marie 808; Les Chidley 794; and Bill Jackson 784.

Cardinal Insulation swept seven points from Allencourt Lanes. In 5-2 splits it was Manufacturing Life taking the measure of Tom Hughes; Richmond Auto Wreckers beat Allencourt Electronics; Turnbull Groceries over Bob's Delivery Service; and Allencourt IGA whipped ABC Bowl. In a 4-3 split Richmond Inn edged Watt's Real Estate which included a rarity — a tie game.

Gord Hobson continues to lead the high average with 278 followed by Al Richardson with 274; Stan Shadoff 264; Art Higgins 260; Tim Saul 256; Vic Reid 249; and John Cruse with 248.

It was also turkey roll night and the following hungry bowlers won turkeys: Al Richardson, Bob Weeks, Scott Parke, Jim Davidson, Harold Howlett, Jack Stanway, Lionel Gilbert, Mike Parrett, Jim Morley, Keith Jean-Marie, Ed Elliott and Ron Kimberly.

Standings: Cardinal Insulation 28; Manufacturers Life 27; Bob's Delivery Service 23; Richmond Auto Wreckers 21; Turnbull Groceries 21; Tom Hughes 20; Allencourt Electronics 12; Richmond Inn 11; Allencourt IGA 7; Watt's Real Estate 7.

Bayview Girls' Sports

By PIA SCHENK

On December 7, Bayview's Grade 9 Volleyball Team played at the Langstaff Secondary School Tournament.

Unfortunately they lost to Langstaff, Thornhill Secondary School, Markham High, Woodbridge High.

All was not lost though as the team knocked over Richmond Hill High School.

Referee and umpire for Bayview were Johanne Nugent and Carol Barfoot, respectively.

Bayview recently won the archery tournament with the high scorer being Sue Lalonde of this school. Congratulations are extended to her for a job well done.

Present color team standings for girls are: Gold is first with 140 points; Green second with 110 points; Red, third with 100 points; and Black, fourth with 50 points.

NEWMARKET: Town council has approved a bylaw to reduce the number of appointees to the recreation, parks and community centres committee. The committee had asked that only two members of council be appointed, rather than two members and the mayor (ex officio). Council added an amendment making the mayor an ex-officio member without voting privileges unless another appointed council member is not present at a meeting.

Local Novices, Midgets, Peewees, Juveniles Continue Winning Ways

(Continued from Page 13)

Last Friday and Sunday the Cleaners were knocked out of first place in the North York League with a 3-1 loss to Barrie and a 2-0 defeat by Newmarket and followed these with a 1-0 loss to Oakville Sunday afternoon.

At no time this season have the bantams been more than two goals away from victory and have usually come on in the final period to win most of their encounters.

The lack of scoring power has the players greatly concerned. They cannot understand why they are suddenly losing games they used to win with ease.

Part of the problem appears to be defence, as opposing forwards appear to roam at will to constantly test Ken Hughes in goal and eventually wear him down to pot sufficient counters for a win.

Super skaters of pee-wee fame, Daryl Rice, Steve Adley, Paul Brown and Gary Hall are finding themselves being deposited on their well-padded britches by opposing players with an ease and consistency that annoys the spectators and misses the keen(?) eye of the referees.

It is most significant that the recent losses have been against the heavy checking and banging type hockey as played by Barrie and Newmarket, which leaves the local boys confused and disorganized by rough tactics.

Team officials hope that the trip to Windsor to participate in the Riverside Bantam Tournament over the Christmas Holidays will prove that the latest losses are against isolated cases of body-checking hockey. If the same style of "bash-him and knock-him-down" shabby is played in Windsor, then Richmond Hill had better resign themselves to being a good bantam team that just didn't quite make it in 1966-67. Skating apparently is going out of hockey from the bantam level up to juveniles and the North End Cleaners are learning their trade the hard way, from the seat of their pants.

Oh yes, the one goal scored in the last three games was a well-executed pass attack against Barrie with Ian McKinley picking the top corner. After Ian picked himself up from the ice, he had the consolation of scoring to ease the pain of his bruised dignity.

Mike Evans was retained by the bantams and Paul Martin has been returned to the house league until his school marks improve. Chris Andrews, cast and all, has assumed the duties of trainer, runner, organizer and what have you, and as forecast last week has not missed one practice or game since his unfortunate accident.

Next Friday the North Enders host Wexford Bantams at the bandbox and a good free-skating contest is expected. Be sure to catch 14-year-olds in their last test before the Christmas Tournament.

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JUVENILES
 Sunday the Surf Marine Juveniles played Newmarket in a North York League game and won by a score of 6-2. Greg Sephton paced Richmond Hill

by netting three goals. Dave 11:02, assisted by Roy McBrien, Broderick, Brian Clark and John Brown scored the goals for the first period at 4:31 unassisted and Newmarket. The juveniles played without Defencemen Bob Grayer and Wayne O'Brien, as well as

Centre Wayne Harrington, who is still hospitalized due to an injured elbow resulting in blood poisoning. Steve Black and Jim Brass were brought up from the juvenile "B" team to fill the gap and both played a very good game. The juveniles will be playing in Whitby on Boxing Day, December 26, at 2:30 pm.



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