

Sport Spots

By Fred Simpson

Hockey Time, Yes

Just the mere passing-thought of oncoming winter is enough to make the keys of my Smith-Corona start to chatter uncontrollably so don't blame me if what follows is a bad case of the shivers. What I mean is it's hockey time again. It says right here in this publicity blurb staring up at me from among the debris on my desk.

It says that Richmond Hill Junior "B" hockey Rams open their exhibition season this Tuesday (mmh, that's right) at the town arena against last year's regular season champion St. Michael's Buzzers. Game time is 8 pm.

We'll go into the makeup of the team at a later date. In the meantime we'll spray a few quick-facts at you:

Another three exhibition games are scheduled, two of them at home. The Rams will host Aurora Tigers (swinging rivalry this be) September 29 and Weston Dodgers October 4.

Opening game of the regular Metro Junior "B" schedule will be October 6 with Whitby providing the opposition. The locals will play every Tuesday thereafter until the completion of their 44-game schedule in the middle of February.

Two Sunday night home games will also be played to bring the total of home appearances to 22.

The league this year is made up of 12 teams with the addition of the Scarboro Sabres. Etobicoke Nationals of last year will play as the York Mills Millers.

Club General Manager Earl Methe reports a large number of outstanding candidates are currently vying for the positions available at the practices which are already underway.

It's my opinion that if the juniors can come up with a respectable showing (it takes time, mind you) they should draw some pretty fair crowds this season. It's good, rough hockey with a sprinkling of finesse and large gobs of muscle. Like exciting.

Oh, by the way, admission to all the home exhibition games has been set at 50 cents per adult. So come out, take a look.

Must mush on to other things, now.

JEWELLERS WIN

Congrats to two Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers-sponsored teams — the fastball team and the soccer squad — who won their respective tournaments over the weekend.

The Fastball Jewellers copped the St. Catharines Grape Festival in St. Kitts and the minor soccer boys the Newmarket Tournament.

The Jewellers, fastball version (phew) also played an exhibition against the famed Eddie Feigner King and His Court foursome Saturday night at the CNE.

They lost 4-3 but from all reports it was a wounding game. Billy Drennan pitched for Richmond Hill and at one point struck out Eddie Feigner Jr. three times in a row on 12 pitches with the bases loaded. That's different.

HORSE SHOW

Finally, the horses (and riders) had their day on the weekend in the international junior horse competition at Ambercroft Farms near here.

Michel Vaillancourt and Peter Stoekel led Canada to victory in the Nations Cup. Joining Vaillancourt, 16, of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, and Stoekel, 17, of Ottawa, on the Canadian team were Chris Lindvik, 16, of Oakville and Nancy Mc Kercher, 17, of Saskatoon.

Must mention the excellent facilities at the Ambercroft Farms and the hospitality that went with them. Everyone, but everyone, had a fine time and the weather was very co-operative.

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Last year's bowlers with 75% attendance will be given priority at this time. New bowlers accepted on a first come first served basis provided there are vacancies. Senior bowlers must attend meeting Sunday, Sept. 13th at 1:30 p.m.

Larry Brown's Grand-Slam Homer Gives Dynes St. Kitt's Tournament

A final inning bases loaded homerun by Larry Brown won the Labor Day Weekend St. Catharines Grape Festival Fastball Tournament for Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers in dramatic fashion Monday afternoon.

The Jewellers went into the top of the seventh inning trailing Welland Dycks by 4-3 when the big blow-up came.

A loss to Welland would have required Richmond Hill — the only undefeated team at the time — to play against the same Welland squad to decide the winner.

The Jewellers won their first game by default when Niagara Falls couldn't field a team, their second one by 5-0 over St. Catharines Blue Boys and the third by 3-0 over Burlington Provisioners.

That seventh inning saw Mickey Hancock fly out to centre-field for the first out. Catcher George Dickey singled and went to second on Joe O'Neill's single. Both runners advanced on a wild pitch. Les Downing popped to short for the second out. Vere Small walked to load the bases.

The sixth inning on a two-run homerun off Drennan in the fourth inning by DeRuter. Welland scored its third run in the fifth on a hit, an error, and passed ball.

The Oshawa Gales downed Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers 4-3 Tuesday night of last week in Oshawa in a controversial opening game of the best-of-three Oshawa City and District quarter final playoffs.

At the centre of the controversy was the base umpire whose decisions on two or three calls concerning the Dynes as well as the Gales resulted in some bitter complaints from players and management.

"It was the worse base calling I've come across in some time," was the angry comment of Dynes Manager Russell "Casey" Cripps. "We were jobbed right out of the game."

His comments followed Oshawa's ninth inning game winning run with two men out and a man at first base.

Lloyd Mape grounded a Billy Drennan pitch to Second Baseman Vere Small who tossed to First Baseman Joe O'Neill and appeared to have Mape by at least a foot for the third out. Mape was ruled safe and Larry Marshall raced home with the winning run.

The same umpire was also involved in a disputed call at third base earlier in the game when a Gales' player appeared to be easily caught off base but was also called safe. This also eventually resulted in a run.

The game saw Drennan tagged with the loss after replacing Bob Domik in the eighth inning with the score tied at 3-3. Drennan allowed two hits in his stint while striking out three. Domik was tagged for three runs and eight hits during his chore.

Winning pitcher was Larry Marshall who pitched steady if unspectacular ball most of the way allowing seven hits.

Dynes opened the scoring in the first inning as leadoff batter Mickey Hancock walked. O'Neill struck out and George Dickey grounded out sending Hancock to second base. He then came home on the first of three hits by Rightfielder Glen Van Every.

The Jewellers took a 2-0 lead in the second inning with two out when Duane Reid reached first on a throwing error to the shortstop. He went to second on a passed ball and scored on Hancock's single to centrefield. Oshawa got one run back in

A key pinch-hit single by Glen Van Every in the top of the sixth scored two runs. The Jewellers picked up another in that inning to tie the game.

Welland moved out in front in the bottom of the sixth as DeRuter reached first on an error to Shortstop Les Downing. He went to second on a passed ball, and eventually scored on Downing's second error of the inning.

Domik pitched Richmond Hill to a three-hit, 12 strikeout 5-0 win over St. Kitt's in the second game. He followed this with a 3-0 win over Burlington allowing six hits and striking out nine.

Gales Over Dynes 4-3: Playoffs

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Paul Philip Pitches 9 Hit Ball

Baker's Over Gwillimbury 10 - 7 Now Have Stranglehold On Title

Baker's Sales and Service Squirts moved one step closer to the North York championship as they defeated East Gwillimbury 10-7 in Newmarket, September 1, behind the nine-hit pitching of Paul Philip.

Baker's now lead the best-of-five series two games to zero with one tie.

As usual, Baker's stormed out to an early lead scoring five runs in the first inning.

Pete Tipold led off with a single. Dave Forbes walked and Glen Moreland reached first on an error. Dependable Dale Strang doubled and Greg MacMillan, Rick Berzowski, and Steve Bond all singled for five runs as 10 men went to bat.

Baker's added two more runs in the third inning as MacMillan singled, Berzowski singled, and Philip lashed a double to score the two runs.

Philip was pitching a two hitter for four innings when the persistent Gwillimbury batters scored three runs on four hits in the fifth to reduce Richmond Hill's lead to 7-4.

Richmond Hill took a 10-4 lead in the sixth as Dave Forbes reached first on an error, Moreland singled, and Strang reached first on a dropped third strike as each runner scored.

East Gwillimbury kept pecking away scoring three more runs in the sixth on four hits. Moreland relieved Philip with none out and struck out the side after allowing one single.

Darkness hampered play from therein as Baker's went scoreless in the seventh. East Gwillimbury scored one run in the seventh and had two runners on base with none out in almost total darkness.

Coach Syd Moreland advised the umpire it was pitch black, that it was 8:30 pm, and that the street lights were on. The

umpire called the game at this point and the score reverted to the sixth inning with Baker's winning 10-7.

Richmond Hill now has a stranglehold on the championship as the team requires only a tie or win in the next three games to take the championship.

Eppie Wietzes Wins Trois Rivières Race

Eppie Wietzes of Thornhill, owner of a Willowdale car dealership, won his second consecutive Canadian road racing championship for Formula "A" and "B" cars Sunday. Driving a McLaren M10B he won the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières.

Eppie completed the 75-mile race over 60 laps of a twisting, turning 1 1/4-mile course through the downtown streets of that Quebec city in one hour, one minute and seven seconds.

Starting in the 24th position on the grid, he worked his way through the pack to third place by the end of the first lap, then took the lead from Bill Brack of Toronto on the sixth lap and stayed out in front for the remainder of the race.

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MEMO FROM A CAR DEALER

ARE "CALL BACK" CARS UNSAFE?



Don Strupat

Unfortunately, the public sometimes gets that impression, though the opposite is true.

In a recent call back on a very popular model from one of the major makers, for instance, less than one percent of all units required the replacement, which took less than ten minutes to make.

Another mistaken impression is that call backs are the result of government safety legislation or the Ralph Nader crusade.

The policy of call backs has been in effect for decades and is not new in any way. The only thing new is the publicity.

Call backs are an effort by the safety-conscious auto industry to make an already safe car super safe. They are the result of an exhaustive search to find possible weaknesses of parts that could possibly cause a breakdown.

The dealer's area of safety responsibility lies in the servicing of a new car when it arrives from the factory and before the customer ever gets it. It is not uncommon to find ten or more faults that must be corrected in the dealer's shop because they were missed in the mass production process.

The cost of new car preparation is out of dealer profits and you are well advised to buy from a service-oriented dealer who delivers this service to his customers to the full because he desires their future satisfaction and repeat business.

See you next week.

D. J. Strupat

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IMPORT Auto TALK



—IAN NEILL

BUCKLE UP

Of all the facets of automotive safety, seat belts seem to have generated the most controversy. Do they really save lives? I've met people who swear they do. Here's another look at seat belts by DuPont of Canada.

Q. Do seat belts really save lives?

A. Yes, most definitely. One third of Canada's traffic fatalities could have been prevented by seat belts, according to research by the Canadian Highway Safety Council... and the use of seat belts by all motorists would actually reduce the rate of accident injuries by more than 50%.

Q. Are seat belts necessary for local driving?

A. Yes. In fact, the majority of serious accidents occur at speeds under 40 m.p.h. and 70% of automobile accident fatalities occur within 25 miles of home. For maximum assurance of safety, fastening of seat belts should become a permanent and regular habit upon entering the automobile.

Q. Is it true that the occupant is safer by being thrown from the car in an accident?

A. The chances of injury or death are five times greater for a person who is thrown from a car than for one who remains inside.

Q. Why are seat belts so effective in preventing deaths and injuries?

A. The restraining strength of nylon seat belts works against the forces of collision by preventing ejection from the car; protecting the occupants from harmful impacts due to tossing within the car; spreading and absorbing the immediate force of the impact of collision; keeping the driver behind the steering wheel, giving greater opportunity of control to lessen the extent of further serious damage.

All this makes a lot of sense. That's why all Datsun cars and trucks have proper safety harnesses. But it's interesting to learn from a recent report that only 2% of new car buyers in the U.S. will order shoulder harnesses if given the option. Can it be that 98% of the people just don't care enough about their safety- It's a frightening thought.



DATSUN 1600

Combination lap and shoulder seat belts are standard equipment in the new Datsun

A word of advice . . .

A woman in Antwerp, Belgium, has a thief to thank for the better running condition of her car. One day when Anne Breyer left her office to go to lunch, her parked car wouldn't start — so she went for a mechanic. When she returned her car was gone. That evening, however, the car was back in its parking place and functioning perfectly. On the car was a note from the thief explaining the trouble and suggesting she buy some new tires, too.

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IN PRAISE OF STEVE GENTLES

Dear Mr. Editor:
As summer draws to a close and with it the summer swimming season, I would like to express my personal thanks and those, I am sure of many parents and teachers in Richmond Hill, to the coach of Richmond Hill Swim Team, Steve Gentles.

Steve, who has worked with our children for four summers now, has shown all the dedication, determination and enthusiasm of true leadership.

Not only has he coached our team to the top place in the York County Summer Swim League for two consecutive years, but he has seen to it that the Richmond Hill team is one of which we can be justly proud in other ways. Always first to

arrive on the deck at a meet — sometimes even before the home team put in an appearance — our team was usually last to leave after picking up all the waste paper, pop cans, etc. in their own corner of the deck and very often a bit more besides.

I cannot say enough in praise of a young man who has done so much to imbue our youngsters with a true spirit of sporting competition, and as he now draws to the end of his college training and, unfortunately for us, leaves the Richmond Hill Centennial Pool staff, I would like to wish him every success in the future, which he so richly deserves.

(MRS.) SHELAGH HARRIS,
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