

Injuries, Exhaustion Hit Nats Manage Win, Tie In Four Games

Talking to Coach George Storey over the recent fates of his Provincial Junior "A" hockey Vaughan Nats is tantamount to discussing the latest casualty list with the chief surgeon at the local hospital.

In other words: The Nats are reeling with injuries. This along with four games in four nights is enough to make Storey wish his real trade was being a doctor.

"I've never seen such a list in 25 years I've been around hockey," he was groaning the other day.

He was also groaning over the fact that his dog-tired Nats had only managed three points out of a possible eight.

The Nats dropped a 7-5 game to Ajax Sunday night on the heels of an 8-5 loss to Kingston Saturday night in Kingston. Earlier in the week they tied Weston 7-7 Thursday night and managed to slip by a surprisingly improved North Bay Trappers squad by 5-3 right in North Bay.

"It sounds like a lot of excuses," conceded Storey, "but between injuries and four games in a row we just didn't have the conditioning. To make things worse our bus broke down coming back from North Bay Friday night and we were walking around in our sleep for the Kingston game. I was exhausted and I don't even play so I know what our players were going through."

The injury list reads like the line-up for a regular game.

Max Carter has a broken thumb, John Cook a pulled groin, Al Love a broken collarbone, Ron Bobbette a fractured nose with numerous other minor injuries to the rest of the team.

"It's been that way all season," said Storey. "We just

get one player back and another one goes out."

Sunday night's game against Ajax saw the Nats goals going to Robbie Harris with two, Jerry Gill two, and Paul Clark.

"We just ran out of steam in this one," said Storey. "But don't forget that any team can beat you on a given night in this league."

Storey was also impressed with the improved line-ups of both the North Bay Trappers and the Kingston Frontenacs.

"North Bay has strengthened defensively," he said, "while Kingston seems to have added a number of changes. They've got a big club and they might be the big surprises of the league before it's over."

The North Bay game saw Doug Burnett leading the Nats scorers with two goals with the others going to Lorne Allen, Mike Hammond and Robbie Harris.

John Sidey was brought up from the Toronto Nats "B" team to play goal.

According to Coach Storey he played "a terrific game."

The Nats play host to Downsview this Sunday at 7:30 pm at Maple Arena.

handlers in action between 10 am and 3 pm.

There will also be another in the series of turkey shoots at Cold Creek on Sunday, starting at 11 am. This competition is for 12-gauge shotguns without compensators. There is a small fee for each relay but ammunition and targets are supplied, and the prize for the best score is an oven-ready turkey. Host for the event will be the Weston Rod and Gun Club.

Saturday November 25 will be the last chance marksman will have to shoot centre fire rifles on the target range at Cold Creek until next May. However, small bore and trap facilities will operate throughout the winter months, weather permitting. A warm club house is available to public for their convenience and refreshments can be obtained.

For more information on these activities call the Metro Conservation Authority at 630-9780.

Dog Field Trials, Turkey Shoot Cold Creek Area Sunday

Winter weather will not deter members of the Labrador Owners Club from holding a series of field trials at Cold Creek Conservation Area during the coming months.

Starting Sunday and continuing every fourth Sunday until April, the club members will put their animals through their paces. The area is well suited for dog trials because it has plenty of open field and marsh area, and the public is invited to watch the dogs and their

'Untouchables' Untouchable

The Untouchables downed the Panthers 8-5 to win the Thornhill Non-Tackle Football League championship November 12 at Thornhill Secondary School.

It was a close game all the way as the Panthers almost pulled a win out in the dying seconds of the game on a long pass completion which carried to the one yard line.

The Untouchables' defence stiffened at this point and took over the ball and ran out the clock.

It was the final game of a 10 week season for the eight team loop which has been in operation for the past three years.

Captain John Mahaffey and Co-Captain Peter Beber received the winning trophy.

Most of the players in the league are in their mid 20's or older.

Kings Drop Two, Play Cobourg Monday

The previously unbeaten Oak Ridges King dropped a 6-4 game to Sutton and a 3-2 one to Lindsay last week.

This Monday they play host to Cobourg at the Bond Lake Arena.

Game time is 8:30 pm.

The Lindsay game Monday saw the locals trailing 2-0 at one point only to tie it at 2-2 and then lose it 3-2.

Al Bestard Prexy Oak Ridges Minor Ball

Al Bestard was re-elected president of the Oak Ridges Minor Ball Association at its annual meeting held recently in the new Bond Lake Arena.

Other members of the executive are:

First Vice-President Carl Griffith, Secretary Irene Griffith, Treasurer Norie Paxton, Publicity Convenor Connie Bestard, Equipment Manager William Bambridge, Girls' House League Convenor Elva Kidd, Boy's House League Convenor Don Smith, All-Star Convenor Don Wilkinson and Referee-In-Chief Basil Paxton.

BOWLING RESULTS

ABC BOWLING

The Happy Gang continued its lead in the standings with 49 points followed by Powell's Meatheads with 42, the Hotshots 36, Hell's Angels 29, Rover's 23, Cameos 10.

The three high ladies were Pat Curtis 675 (203, 213, 259); Frances Warner 634 (171, 242, 221); Kay Weber 621 (222, 223, 176).

Men's high saw John Filkus leading with 741 (278, 203, 260); Ron Price 717 (202, 255, 260); and Warner Kallus with 652 (193, 213, 246).

ABC MEN'S MAJORS

Hall's Fuel and Team No. 8 were the big winners last week as they swept all three games from their opponents and took over first and second spots in the league standings.

Team No. 1 took the odd game from Team No. 3 and ABC No. 1 gave Frank Engel's Gulf the same treatment to move into contention for top spot.

Bruce Palmer led all bowlers with an 844 triple followed by Bob Ohlis at 812; Jerry Lahey 806; Tony Celsie 803; Bryan Freeland 801; and Fred Hartwick 774.

Jerry Lahey had the high single at 328; Tony Celsie and Earl Freeland 326; Bob Ohlis 323; Bryan; Freeland 320; and Bruce Palmer 318.

Bob Julian didn't roll 800 this week but still continues on top of the high average list at 260. Garry Palmer is second at 240. Bob Ohlis has 237, Vic Tagwell and John Moore 233.

Standings: Hall's Fuel 5; Team No. 8, 5; Team No. 3, 4; ABC No. 1, 3; Team No. 1, 3; F. Engel's Gulf 3; Team No. 6, 1; Bill's Radio TV 0.

Snowmobile Draw Friday

The annual Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association Snowmobile Draw will take place tomorrow night (Friday) at the new Richmond Hill Arena at 9 pm.

It will be made between the Richmond Hill, Aurora OMHA games slated for that night.

Seller of the winning ticket will receive a 25-inch color television set.

All sellers are requested to have their tickets in by tonight (Thursday) to their convenor or at the arena box office.

LET GEORGE DO IT WARD 1

Sport Spots

By FRED SIMPSON



Hey, It's Touch Football

Imagine my surprise the other day to hear that there is a very active touch football league around these parts and has been for the past three years?

That a recent hard fought football game (as they say) was played out between the Untouchables and the Panthers at Thornhill Secondary School? With the Untouchables winning 8-5.

I hadn't thought much about touch football since those childhood days of yesteryear when we used to play three aside in the schoolyard and I was shiftest one around.

Was always too small for tackle so touch football was my game. But I thought it had died years ago.

Enter 34-year-old John Gardner of 36 John Street, Thornhill, who spent a half hour or so telling me that touch football is very much alive around here for young men and the odd older one (if we may phrase it that way).

It's called the Thornhill Non-Tackle Football League and as of writing there are some 200 fellows ranging from 18 years up to 40 odd years participating in the Thornhill area.

The league is broken up into three different brackets based on the particular player's age, his conditioning, and just how eager he is to relive his former days of glory.

PICK YOUR DIVISION

There's the Russ Jackson Division for the younger types who take their game pretty seriously (and John tells me they really do take it seriously); the Dave Raimey Division for the half-way between serious types and then finally the Joe Theissman Division for the adults who like playing touch football but have a more relaxed attitude to the game.

Just talking about touch football seemed to give me a lift. Here I've been looking for the perfect recreation for the past 100 years and it's been right under my nose. I've always loved the game.

1958 CHARLEY HORSE

Of course I'm slightly out of condition, I'm still nursing a charley horse I contracted back in 1958. As I recall I picked it up on a five yard run around end. Some times I think it's here to stay.

Anyway, I'm thinking of giving it another try especially since John informs me that they have a summer league also.

"We have six teams in this one and we play on the weekends during July and August at Thornhill Secondary School. Its a lot of fun."

How did all this get started?

When John moved up from the city where he used to play touch football. They apparently have quite a league down there and its growing.

"I thought I'd try it out here," he said. "We had four teams the first year, eight the next and 12 this past season. In fact I often think I've bitten off a little more than I can chew."

By this John means that he's a one man executive of his league and "I've really hadn't had a chance to get anyone else to help me."

The league is one of those you "pay to play" ones with higher rates for the ones playing in the highest classification.

"I think we fill a definite void in sports," he said. "Where do you go to play football after high school? And touch football is a lot cheaper than tackle."

All you need are cleats (you don't need these if you don't want to) and elbow pads and you're off and running. They wear elbow pads to save the other guy's teeth.

"I'd like to start a junior type of football also," he said, "which could eventually be as popular as minor soccer. It would be nice to have the teams sponsored but I'm still working on this angle."

There are two versions of touch football. One hand and two-hand. John's league used two hands which simply means you've got to touch the other guy with two hands instead of one.

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Glen Sharpley Scores At 19:30 As Rams Rally To Tie Trappers

The Richmond Hill Rams pulled out the come-from-behind dramatics again Sunday night as they scored a goal with 30 seconds remaining in the game to tie North Bay Trappers 5-5 in North Bay.

Playing the hero role in this Provincial Junior "A" encounter was Glen Sharpley as he picked up a loose puck and popped it home at the 19:30 mark. Assists went to Dave "Digger" Dunkley and Tony Bellavance.

The score came just as the Rams were taking Gary Carr out of the twines for a last ditch drive when Sharpley got the equalizer.

"It was undoubtedly Sharpley's best game of the season for the Rams", commented Coach Karl Brimblecombe. "He was a major force out there all through the game."

The coach was also happy with the play of Defencemen Jack Guest and Bellavance and Forward Dave Lumley.

It was an up hill battle all the way for the Rams who trailed 3-1 at the end of the first period and 5-2 into the first 10 minutes of the final session.

The much-improved Trappers outshot Richmond Hill 40-34 on the game although the latter team had the edge in play during the final 20 minutes.

North Bay jumped into an early 3-0 lead on goals by Rick Culham, Mitch Babin and Pete Driscoll at 2:11, 3:12, and 9:43.

An indication of their edge in play can be noted by the fact they outshot Richmond Hill 19-8 in those 20 minutes.

The Rams finally broke through for their only goal of the period when Pat Hughes scored from Dunkley and Alex Pirus.

Babin made it 4-1 at 8:46 of the second period with Dunkley coming back to score at 11:21 for the Rams from Lumley and Dave Hill.

It looked like a North Bay win all the way when Steve Wallace made it 5-2 after only 20 second of the third and final period.

That's when the Rams started coming back as Guest scored at 2:04 from Dunkley.

Pirus made it 5-4 at 18:26 on a pass from Sharpley which set the scene for the final Sharpley goal which sent the Rams home with a much-needed tie.

RAMS' NOTES

Dunkley played his usual hustle game and came up with a goal and three assists.

Coach Brimblecombe maintains he's generally happy with the way the team is going.

"Right at the moment I'm happy if we can manage to play 500 hockey up to the New Year", he said.

He said there was little doubt that "we're continuing to miss the presence of Craig Terry."

Terry has missed the past few weeks with a broken leg.

Richmond Hill is for people not developers. Elect CRACK Ward 4

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Car Talk

By IAN NEILL

A look into the future. Ever wonder what you'll be driving in the year 2000? Or if you'll still be driving? According to the experts, cars will still be around at the end of the century, but they'll be smaller.

This trend started in the '50s with a few attempts at building smaller American cars, which, for a variety of reasons, failed. At the same time, the imports began to slowly invade the scene without much publicity or advertising. The only things they really had going for them were high fuel economy, simplicity of design, efficient packaging and no annual model changes — the same selling features that had made such huge successes of the Model T and Model A in North America a quarter of a century earlier.

The early Sixties saw the introduction of "Compact" smaller American cars, which at first sold well, then grew larger and posher and offered more and more, and of course cost more, too. The small imports didn't grow... but their sales did. By 1968, full size American cars held only 50% of the market; the intermediates (overgrown compacts) held 40%; the small imports held a solid 10%. Since then, all major American auto manufacturers moved to import foreign cars to sell in domestic showrooms under domestic names. Most of these are manufactured in Japan.

The biggest single change in the scene is the introduction of sub-minis. By the year 2000, this market is expected to grow to 20% of total car sales. The sub-mini will adapt well to urban leasing plans under which a commuter's credit card would activate the car, releasing it from a locking device built into the wall of a downtown parking garage. After using the car, the commuter would return it to one of the leasing company's locking devices, his credit card would be returned and a computer would automatically bill him for the time the car was in use. This system will maximize the use of a minimum number of cars.

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