

...Sport Spots...

(Continued from Page 19)

"We have to export to survive," he said. "Our main business is with Japan, England and Australia. We shipped half a million pins to Japan alone last year."

When Oskar talks of "pins" to Europe he's referring to the 10-pin variety.

"Five pin is strictly a Canadian phenomena," he said. "It's all 10 pins in Europe. We tried to promote five pins over there but the interest was nil. However, I hope to change their minds before I die. In the meanwhile, we do a lively business in five pins over here."

Oskar's firm also produces the automatic pin setters for the five pin business in Canada and, at full production, turns out four or five a day at a market value of \$3,000 each.

Began in Richmond Hill

When did it all begin? The Richmond Hill part of it began in 1960 when Oskar, and two partners, Percy Blanchard and Roy Richards, bought a 2,500 square foot building on Enford Road.

The space has grown to 30,000 square feet and the business totals more than a million dollars a year. At full production, he employs from 38 to 40 people, turns out 2,500 pins a day, 6,000 balls a year.

He finds it impossible to put a value on the machines that make the balls and pins simply because "you just can't go out and buy them on the market. We had to develop and build our own."

That includes the machines that put the shape to the pins and the balls and the conveyor-belt system which dips the finished pins into vats of liquid plastic.

"We used to employ people to do the actual dipping by hand," he said, "and then we developed the automatic conveyor belt and it saves on labor as well as speeds up the operation."

No romance here

How did Oskar get into the business? Simple. He arrived from Germany in the 1950's and, well, got a job in a bowling factory. Darn. I was hoping he would have started out as a pin boy. Just the old romantic in my soul.

Oskar sold out his Professional Bowling Service Limited interest (although he still controls operations) to Firan International Limited of which he is a director. Firan is also involved with injection moulding although all the bowling labor is performed on Enford Road.

As for the future?

Oskar, who is 50 and lives in Oak Ridges, thinks he should start relaxing. "There's a lot of travel involved but I enjoy it. That's the business. Travelling. But I'd like to sell five pins in Europe before I bow out."

It would be less than poetic justice to forget to mention that Oskar doesn't bowl.

Hasn't got the time.

Notes here

The Richmond Hill District Minor Soccer Association will hold its annual general meeting November 25 at the "Blue Flame Room" at the Consumers Gas Building on Elgin Mills Road East at 7 pm. Everyone welcome. That means be there.

Bad news

Finally, the bad news. Oshawa will be the scene of the Canadian fastball finals next year. Sob, sob. Oh well, we tried. The decision was made Saturday in Calgary by the C.A.S.A. Attending were Glen Philip and Angus Philip of the Richmond Hill Ball Association and Richmond Hill Dynes Sponsor Vern Dynes.

The voting saw Oshawa first, Calgary second, and, yea, Richmond Hill third. One consolation: It's a short trip to Oshawa. The Jewellers will have to do it the hard way. As usual.

The big hang-up, apparently, was the facilities. Facilities such as motels, parks, etc. Oshawa has them and they're ready to go.

Provincial O.H.A. Junior "A"

Hockey

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vs.
Rams

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APPEARING
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Brothers**

Rams find way out of woods, whip Seneca 5-4, North Bay 6-4

By Fred Simpson
Richmond Hill Rams' Goalie Brian Stankiewicz from Thornhill did the stopping and six of his teammates the scoring Sunday night in Provincial Junior 'A' hockey at North Bay.

It was more than enough to carry the suddenly rejuvenated Rams to a 6-4 win over the Trappers and make it two straight victories.

The same Rams and the same Stankiewicz did it to the Seneca Flyers by 5-4 in a Friday night game at Richmond Hill Arena in a thriller which also saw Seneca foiled on a penalty shot in the climactic closing minutes.

Star of both contests had to be Stankiewicz who stopped 44 shots Sunday night against North Bay, 16 of them in the last 20 minutes with the Rams holding onto a two goal lead.

Stops penalty shot
His most heroic moment came in Friday night's game against Seneca when a penalty shot was called on Richmond Hill's Scott Mabley for falling on the puck in the crease with just 17 seconds remaining in the game and the Rams leading by one goal.

Stankiewicz came out to meet Gord Bartley who attempted to deke him initially and then blasted a shot which Stankiewicz deflected off his arm.

Richmond Hill wasn't home free even then as Stankiewicz came up with a superlative glove grab off a Seneca player standing in the clear with three seconds left to preserve the game.

Stankiewicz shines
"He was fabulous in both games but particularly Friday night," said Rams' Coach Karl Brimblecombe. "He saved us."

The Rams were outshot 43-32 in that game.

It was a continuing Rams oddity that the team was outshot in both games and yet won both of them. In previous games this season they've lost the games to the teams they have outshot.

Rams lead 2-0
Sunday's clash in North Bay before 3,000 rabid North Bays fans saw the Rams jump into a 2-0 lead after

five minutes of the first period on goals by Dave "Digger" Dunkley and Dave Stuart. Dunkley scored his on a back-hander off a Stuart rebound and Stuart's came as he deflected a Steve Morrison shot from the point past goalie Bill Thompson.

North Bay narrowed the lead to one goal on an effort by Tim Heale and then tied



BRIAN STANKIEWICZ
Hot weekend in goal

it at the 17 minute mark of the first period on a goal by Joe Omiccioli.

Both teams exchanged goals in an even second period which saw the Rams outshot 13-12.

North Bay went ahead initially on a shot by David Nadeau but Richmond Hill's Mitch Edward tied the game on a tip-in following a scramble.

The last 20 minutes saw the Rams on the defensive but they still managed to outscore the fired up opposition three goals to two to win it.

They took an early 5-3 lead on goals by Randy Herrington and Jim Graham only to see North Bay's Barry Callahan make it 5-4.

Dunkley scores
Then came the assurance

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Bone Fence wins

The Richmond Hill Bone Fencing Atom Major AA team edged Newmarket 2-1 last week after losing earlier to Orillia by 4-3.

The Newmarket encounter saw Richmond Hill come out flying and keep the pressure on throughout the game. Carl Boyle and Mark Stevens scored for Richmond Hill.

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