

Winning 'medals' off the field?

By Bob Thompson

RICHMOND HILL — "In the name of all competitors, I promise that we will take part in these Olympic games, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship for the glory of sport and the honor of our teams."

Olympic oath: 1896 - 1976. When this oath was intoned before thousands of athletes and officials at the start of the 21st Olympic games in Montreal, the boys of Room 209B, in Village Pyramid B, must have been late for the bus to the stadium. For they have missed the major points of this billion dollar extravaganza . . . 'Glory' and 'honor'.

Childish prank?

It could be called a childish prank when the 12 athletes in Room 209A adopted a code of silence which allowed an illegal visitor to stay within the confines of the Olympic Village.

But it becomes a much more serious affair when the athletes lie, or evade the truth of the situation, when Olympic, Canadian track, and Quebec security officials attempted to clarify the constant rumor of the illegal resident.

Fall guy

The 'fall guy' for this high school antic is Bob Martin, a 100-metre sprinter, who also has the dubious distinction of having a second reprimand and an early trip home from the last Olympics when he refused to run the 200 metres after enjoying almost two weeks in Europe at Canadian Track and Field Association expense.

With the intense security at the Olympic Village in Montreal, the inclusion of an illegal visitor would have to take more than one man's effort to maintain the secret.

And that's where the 12 athletes of Room 209A must share the loss of point number two in the Olympic oath . . . 'honor.'

Glory

As for the 'glory' part of the games,

the majority of our track and field athletes gained their share when they marched into the stadium on opening day.

For the boys in Room 209B this makes them double losers. No glory, no honor.

Of course, there are the unofficial games which are prevalent at all International meets, and I'm sure our track and field contestants are showing very well in this department.

Discipline?

Viewers of the Olympics must wonder why our track and field athletes do not measure up to the opposition from other countries and it could all be summed up in one word . . . discipline. Too many of our representatives look forward to the parties, and the 'hustling' with greater expectation than they do their Olympic competition.

The published comments of Leighton Hope, a member of the Canadian relay team, are typical of too many of the track athletes wearing Canada's colors at recent international meets.

Carousing

When interviewed by a Toronto

sports writer concerning the cramped living quarters in Montreal, Mr. Hope complained "it would be nice to do some carousing with women but there really isn't much room for it here."

Our track team may be shy of world class athletes on the field, but it ap-

pears we have a number of winning 'dumps' off the field who find the Olympic oath hard to understand.

Bob Thompson is head instructor of the Richmond Hill Athletic Club and also contributes a regular column on track and field).

The **Liberal** Section B

sports

Classified

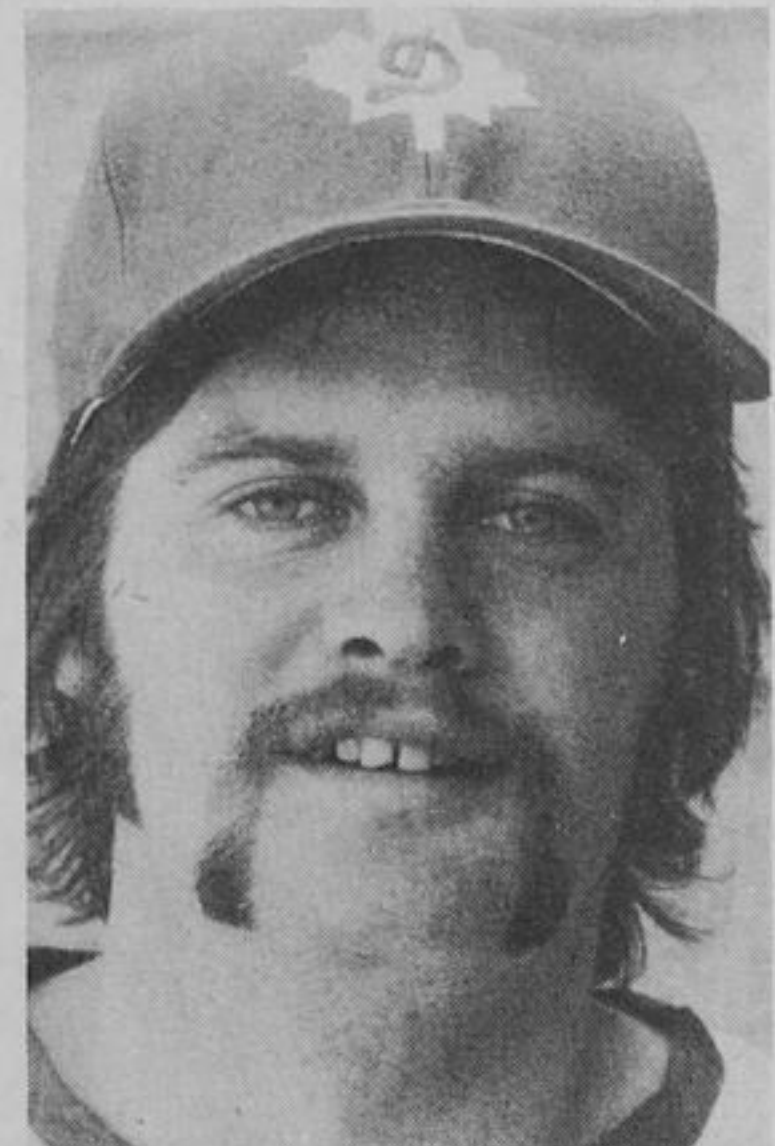
Wednesday, July 28, 1976



Bob Thompson
... his opinion



Scott Mabley
... three hits



Colin Wood
... four hits

Dynes out of iron lung, wallop Chiovitti by 7-0

KEW BEACH — The Thornhill Hill Dynes Jewellers left their iron lung of the past few weeks Friday night as they blasted Chiovitti Bananas 7-0 in Beaches Fastball action.

The Jewellers, who have been averaging three hits a game or less all season, broke out with a vengeance hammering out 16 hits behind the airtight two-hit pitching of Doug Webster.

Webster, a Richmond Hill product, had major help from two other Richmond Hill familiars by the name of Colin Wood and Scott Mabley who came up with no less than seven hits between them.

Local combo

Wood, better known in local and junior hockey circles, lashed out four

hits including a triple while Mabley, another ex-hockey notable in The Hill, managed the other three.

Other big batsmen were Terry McCool with three hits and veterans Mickey Hancock and John Ross with two each including a triple for the latter.

Plagued with the resulting migraine, was Chiovitti's Rick MacKenzie who went the full nine innings and felt every minute of it. He struck out one, walked one while his teammates committed five costly errors behind him.

Good night

Webster had everything going for him this time out as he walked none, naturally, and struck out 10.

The only hits off him came from the

lead-off man in the second and one more in third with one out.

Only one other man got on base in the game for Chiovitti and that was on an error and he succumbed at third base.

The Jewellers capitalized in the first inning as Rick Sisler was safe on an error, was singled to second by Hancock, and came home on McCool's single.

They scored one more in the third as McCool and Ross singled with McCool moving to third and then safely home as the throw was bad.

More action

The fourth inning saw Wood and Mabley lead off with singles. Wood scored as Alston's fly ball to centre was

misjudged and fell safely. Webster singled but Mabley was nailed going home on the play. Hancock fled to centre scoring Alston.

Ross led off the seventh with a triple and was singled home by Wood who then stole second and came home as Alston was safe on an error.

Finis

Dynes closed out the scoring in the ninth as that man Wood singled again with one out and came home on, yes, Mabley's single.

The Jewellers are in Newmarket tomorrow night (Thursday) against the league-leading and powerful Chubb crew and back home next Tuesday to Wear ever Aluminum for an 8:30 game at the town park.

Hockey Thunderbirds ready to leave nest

THORNHILL — The Thornhill Junior B Thunderbirds of the Mid-Ontario hockey league are preening their feathers for a flying start.

Coach Ralph Beer, a sales executive with E.D. Smith and Sons Ltd., will add sauce and spice to the birds who have most of last year's team eligible plus 140 other young hopefuls who will be attending training which opens Aug. 16 at the Thornhill Community Centre.

Coach Beer is conducting bi-weekly skating and conditioning drills throughout the summer preparing the potential candidates for 10 exhibition games in September.

Opening encounter will be a game against Etobicoke Sept. 1 followed by a visit Sept. 20 from local rivals, Markham.

Opposition in the Mid-Ontario this year will again come from Collingwood, Midland, Owen Sound, Orillia, Barrie and Oak Ridges.

Season tickets for the 26 home games are \$25 and may be obtained from Fisher Bros. Sports, 8159 Yonge Street, or by phoning Fred Disera at 889-5033, or John Perrins at 889-4763.

Special rate for students and senior citizens is \$10.



(Photo by Hogg)

Safe by a stomach

Ha, ha, you're too late. Dave Olsen of Mill's Roses is safe by a stomach at third base in this Richmond Hill Men's Softball game

Friday night with Jack Blyth Real Estate. Taking the throw too late is Blyth's Frank Kernon who has to settle for a dirty look.

Mill's ended up on the winning end of the game rallying from a 4-0 deficit to end up on top by 7-5.

Lake Wilcox on hot streak

By Dave Barbour

RICHMOND HILL — A suddenly red-hot Lake Wilcox squad extended its winning streak to seven games last week nipping McKinlay Drywall 3-2 in Richmond Hill Men's Softball League action.

The Lake jumped into an early lead as Loren Mayes reached base on a fielder's choice and Marcel Forget got a life on an error; Mayes scored on Rick Shaw's single and Neil Robert's sacrifice fly scored Forget. This in the top of the first inning.

In the bottom of two, McKinlay cut the margin in half when Phil Skinner tripled and scored on Blair Robson's single.

They knotted the count in the lower half of four as Dennis Loughhead, at third, took advantage of a fumbled catch by the Lake pitcher Luke Lefeuve from the catcher, to score home.

Big homer

With two out in the bottom of six, with the sacks empty Roberts socked a homer which decided the game in favour of the Lake. Lefeuve is the winning pitcher; Bob Carton takes the loss.

The night cap saw Town Auto Body and Jenkin's Garden Supply wrestle to a 1 all draw.

Steve Whitaker opened the top of one with a fielder's choice, he advanced on Gary Oliver's single and scored as John Rumble singled.

Jenkin's closed out the scoring in the bottom of four as Bruce Sampson bunt singled, advanced on a passed ball and tallied on Bernie Hough's single.

2 hitter for Madely

Brian Madely, in his first start with Jenkin's, hurled a two hitter. Oliver gave up 8 hits going the route for Town.

Ronald's Federated blasted McKinlay Drywall 8-2 in the first of the twin bill at the Town Park on Thursday.

In the top of one, Bob Bourke and Al Mounstevan singled and each came in to score on passed balls.

Hartnett homers

McKinlay narrowed the gap in the fourth on Barry Hartnett's home run. They got on even terms in the fifth as Bob Phillips walked and scored on a series of errors.

Came the top of six and Ronalds rattled off four big runs. Tom Ivany doubled, scored with Bob Hendricks courtesy scoring for him. Chuck Nelson scored on a passed ball Bill Robson sacrificed Dave Black, who singled, in, and pitcher Dave Tatum socked an in-the-park homer. Ronalds added to their lead with two more runs in the last frame. Hendricks got on an error and Mike Daggett homered.

Tatum all the way

It was Tatum all the way on the rubber for Ronald's while Ben Bourget started for McKinlay with Rick Carton, sporting a "brush cut" throwing 5 innings.

Jenkin's Garden Supply, in the following game, put an end to Lake Wilcox's 7 game winning streak with a 4-1 score.

The Lake picked the scoring in the top of one. Rick Collins doubled, advanced on a passed ball and scored as Tom Dukelow got a life on an error.

Sampson homers

The Gardeners tied up the game in the top of the next inning; Al McWilliams getting on with an error and sacrifices by Barry Pollard and Brian Madely scored him. In the Fifth Nelson singled, Bernie Hough got on with an error followed by Bruce Sampson's in-the-park home run.

Madely was the winning hurler. Dukelow went 5 innings before giving way to Luke Lefeuve who finished the game.

Over at Pearson Park, Jack Blyth Real Estate picked up their first ever

point as they drew three all with Town Auto Body.

Town, in the top of two, had Jim Henderson double, a sacrifice by Cliff Hartnett and Henderson scoring on an error.

Bounce back

Blyth bounced back in the bottom half, Glen Wright and Harold Degreer walking and Fred Strang singling home Wright. They went one up in the next frame as Len Bishop tripled and was cashed in on Hugh Lenneville's single.

Town had Hartnett with a double and C. Kall driving him in, in the fourth, and Gary Oliver singling and scoring on Steve Black's double in the fifth to give them the lead.

In the bottom of six, Strang walked, stole 2nd. base and scored the equalizer on a single by Brian Jones, pinch-hitting for the pitcher Jim Cook.

Another upset

Rob Clephan hurled for Town. Another upset, in the nightcap Richmond Hill Auto Body edged Joe's Garage 2-1.

Joe's grabbed the lead in the top of one, Steve Wood getting a life on an error and scoring on brother Jeff's single.

The Hillers moved until the sixth to make their move. Bob Viverette singled, Billy Hunter walked and a long single off the bat of Alex Smith drove in the third and winning runs.

Smith was the winning pitcher. Bill Fox, for Joe's, who had a no hitter going until that fateful sixth, was charged with the loss. Dave Berseht replaced Fox for the last batter.

Down the drain

On Friday at the Town Park, Jack Blyth Real Estate jumped in to a 4-0 lead over Mill's Roses by the fourth frame and they saw it go down the drain in the fourth as Mill's pumped in 7 big runs to claim the victory. Blyth got one run back in the sixth making the final score 7-5 for Mill's.

Mill's got their seven runs off singles by Kevin Mathews, Dave Olsen, Gerry Caume, Lorne McLean plus two runners on with errors and Terry Legge's home run. Gary Robinson contributed a run scoring sacrifice fly.

For Blyth, Len Bishop tripled and scored on a sacrifice by Reg. Armold Degeer. They got singles from Reg. Armold Degeer, Jack Vanderwalk, Rob Milligan and Frank Kernahan, all of whom scored a run.

Legge the winner

Legge took the win while Degeer takes the loss on the rubber. Over at Crosby, Ronald's Federated concluded a very successful week as they surprised the second place Barrow's Insurance team 3-2.

Barrow's opened the scoring as Dave Joslin walked, advanced as Dave Bell sacrificed and Dale Crouter singled in Joslin.

Daggett homers

In the bottom of four, Mike Daggett's homer knotted the count.

Chuck Nelson, Bob Bourke and Al Mounstevan each got a life on an error and Daggett drove in two runs with a two base hit.

Dave Tatum earned the pitching victory and Billy Hamilton was tagged with the loss for Barrow's.

The nightcap at each diamond was nicely under way when heavy rain sent everyone home in a hurry.

Standings

	G	W	L	T	P
Joe's Garage	15	11	4	0	22
Barrow's Insurance	15	10	5	0	20
Town Auto Body	16	8	6	2	18
Richmond Hill Auto Body	14	8	5	1	17
Lake Wilcox	14	8	6	0	16
McKinlay Drywall	15	8	7	0	16
Jenkin's Garden Supply	14	7	6	1	15
Ronald's Federated	17	7	9	1	15
Mill's Roses	15	6	9	0	12
Jack Blyth Real Estate	18	0	17	1	1



Fred Simpson

July doldrums

I've got a bad case of those end-of-July doldrums and I don't know if I'm up to facing it. I just might end it all by throwing myself at the mercy of some beautiful blonde. Something desperate like that.

It's probably been the weird weather so far this summer that's got to me, shrivelled my soul. Everywhere I turn I see rain. But it's more than that.

In the old days you could depend on the weather. Usually when it was rotten it was rotten for two or three days. The same when it was nice.

This summer it changes from hour to hour and actually laughs at you while it's doing it.

Washed up

Everywhere I turn I keep hearing about all those ball games that have been cancelled, washed out. The situation's getting desperate. Believe me.

There's a team in the Thornhill Minor Softball League which has already clinched first place and they haven't played yet.

Their record is no wins, no losses and 24 rain-outs. Still, they are in first place. You see, they get a point if they are rained out in that league so you can see the possibilities.

Grab your raincoats

The favorite cry of minor league coaches this year is: "It's almost ball time kids, don't forget your raincoats."

Nipped in the bud

One kid was actually threatened with suspension by his coach because he turned up at the game wearing an off-colour raincoat which conflicted with the ones worn by his teammates.

"This type of attitude has got to be nipped in the bud," said the coach. "We can't have individuals around here. We're a team." Some coaches are funny that way.

Let's see, where was I? Yeah, the rotten weather.

Complaints, complaints

Undoubtedly it's the reason I've been inundated with so many complaints and general grouching this year over the condition of the town park ball diamond.

One of them anyway. I must admit it's a shabby looking showcase to be bearing the name of the "Town Park." What are the reasons for it?

I suppose it depends on who you talk to but the big one, of course, is it's inability to drain off any more

water than can be carried on a teaspoon.

Mess

Something to do with poor soil conditions I'm told and I have no reason to believe otherwise. The thing that irritated me earlier in the season resulted from the parking of some big trucks on the outfield portion of the diamond.

Naturally, it rained, and just as naturally the trucks sunk in leaving the mess you see out there right now. I've seen similar cow pastures albeit slipper ones.

All the above occurred during the annual fair. I'm also informed that the trucks went in the wrong gates unbeknownst to officials, and it won't happen again. Fine. But it's still a lumpy mess.

Other annoyances

There are other annoyances such as the pools of water that collect around home plate (or did) during a rain and also directly in front of both players' benches.

And the stands, if you can call them, that look like they were put up as an afterthought.

New sod?

I hear plans are afoot to build new stands, soil tests are being made of the diamond area to determine what can be done, and maybe new sod will be placed in the fall.

There's no doubt the parks and recreation department have been getting their ears burned from the various ball people. I suppose there's the money problem, lack of it, and even manpower with the addition of new parklands.

Grubby looking

Still, it is a grubby looking place right now which is unfortunate because it is also the area where numerous out-of-town teams visit for tournaments of this and that kind.

Towns are always talking about putting their "best face" forward and town parks and diamonds are certainly part of that face.

Do something

What am I trying to say? Simply that you have a town park ball diamond out there so look after the damn thing. If it's not worth saving, get rid of it, and find a new park with a new name. I'm tired of hearing all those complaints.

If you are doing something with it all I can say is it's about time. Keep up with the good work.

Amen.