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Wednesday, September 5, 1979

Just call it 'Scholarship Heaven'

Athletic scholarships to United States universities are but a dream to many young athletes but to four area young residents, such scholarships have become a reality.

Playoff hopes spluttering

The Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers are trying to get someone to make up their minds whether the team will make the Beaches Fastball League playoffs or not.

That's the simple part of the plot. The rest is complicated.

As of writing, the Jewellers are four points out of the last playoff berth currently held down by Fred's Sports, who have no games left.

They were slated to play Bradford last night (Tuesday) and, maybe, Scarborough, sometime during the week. This latter game depends on an executive decision to uphold an appeal by the Jewellers over whether the Hill team should get a chance to play it.

It seems the Jewellers had originally lost the game for failing to field enough players.

In any case, the Jewellers could end up tied for the final playoff spot if, and, maybe, and so forth, they won their final two games. That's if they played them.

On the exhibition front the Jewellers dubbed the King City Intermediates 7-1 in an exhibition game last Thursday night at the Town Park.

Dynes' Glen Moreland went the first four innings allowing the one run while giving up one hit. Blair McBratney went the next four allowing two hits while Doug Lewis, pitching for the first time this season, went the final inning. He retired the side in order.

The Jewellers got one run in the fourth on a single by Hal DeGeer and a sacrifice fly by Chris DeGeer.

TOURNAMENT

The Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers will be hosting a 12-team mixed-tournament September 14, 15, 16 at the Town Park. Crosby and Morgan Boyle. The double-knockout tournament will start Friday night at 7 p.m. Included in the tourney will be three teams from the Richmond Hill Men's Fastball League plus other junior and intermediate class area teams.

The Jewellers will play an exhibition game tomorrow night (Thursday) with Kinnear Leasing of the Richmond Hill Men's Fastball League beginning at 8 p.m., at the Town Park.

Dennis Limoges and Bill French of Maple will be returning for their second year at Dubuque University in Iowa. Thornhill's Graham MacDonald returns to Simon Fraser University while Richmond Hill's Jane Toporowski travels to Drake University to start her freshman (or is that freshman?) year at this Iowa institution.

MacDonald, a former student at Thornlea Secondary School, will rejoin the cross-country and steeplechase team which he has anchored for the past two years in competition against the U.S. colleges on the west coast.

British Columbia's Simon Fraser University is the only Canadian one offering athletic

scholarships to Canadian athletes. All the B.C. schools' athletic competitions are possible for such scholarships to be awarded.

Canadian university athletic rules forbid the awarding of financial assistance to students strictly on a sports basis.

MAPLE DUO

The Maple duo of Limoges and French return for their second year of schooling at Dubuque, located on the shores of the mighty Mississippi.

Bill French participated in cross country and distance events for the U.S. school during 1979 and Limoges doubled in football and track during his first year.

Toporowski, probably the most successful track and field athlete from Richmond Hill in many years, has commenced her four-year stay at Drake University where she will compete in track and volleyball.

To maintain their Division 2 eligibility, many U.S. colleges split scholarships between two sports. The awarding of a full

scholarship (tuition, room and board, etc.) for one sport would place that institute in the Division 1 or open division of college competition.

Drake University, which competes in the Missouri Valley Conference, is ranked as a Division 2 school for regional and National championships.

CRITICISM

There has been a sharp drop in the number of scholarships being offered athletes outside the U.S. Considerable criticism has been levelled at the use of State and Federal money, through the universities and colleges, to bring in outside students while ignoring American athletes.

70 PER CENT

Academic standing of 70 per cent is expected prior to acceptance and throughout the school year. Student-Athletes who drop below 65 per cent may not be offered a renewal of their scholarship the following year.

ADVICE

Local track and field coach Bob Thompson advises any young person interested in a scholarship south of the border to maintain a good school record.

"Grade 12 is a critical year for young people looking for a scholarship in the U.S.," Mr. Thompson told The Liberal. "There is no grade 13 and the grading system here confuses a good number of the college registrars."

"The better educational institutions in the States," he added, "insist on the student-athlete being an above-average scholar."

Toporowski qualified both as a student, and athlete, and has been accepted in the School of Fine Arts where she is majoring in Industrial Design.

BE SELECTIVE

Thompson has a last word for prospective scholarship seekers:

The event or sport chosen by the Canadian athlete is most important. Discus, Javelin, Volleyball, are competitions where Canadian athletes can be competitive with their American counterparts... while sports such as tennis, swimming and gymnastics have U.S. athletes lined up waiting for financial aid."



Richmond Hill's Jane Toporowski shows some of her artistry here in shotput during recent meet. Jane, and several area athletes, have won coveted scholarships to U.S. universities.

By DAVE BARBOUR

Kinnear Leasing, the 'Sleeping Giant' of the Richmond Hill Men's Fastball League, is definitely awake now.

Leasing disposed of first place Town Auto Body in two straight games in the opening league semi-finals last week by 5-0 and 3-0 scores.

The opening 5-0 victory saw Kinnear's hurler Dave Webster and Town's Wilf Diceman virtually unbeatable through the first five innings.

LOST CONTROL

Enter the sixth inning when Diceman lost his control walking Bob Smith. Mike Thompson singled and both runners scored as left-fielder Cliff Hartnett caught a Dave Webster fly ball but his resultant throw to home plate was way off the mark.

The final inning saw Thompson doubling off reliever Rob Clephan to score Bobby Howard and Gord Woolnough. Webster singled in Thompson to conclude the scoring. Town could only manage two hits off Webster.

The 3-0 loss saw Dave Berseth limit the losers to two hits. It was

Dave Webster scoring from third as Steve Woods was safe on a throwing error by Hartnett in the second inning. The fifth inning saw Bob Smith singling and then driven home by Webster. Reliever Rob Clephan took the loss. Diceman started the game.

SERIES B

The Series B playoff between Richmond Hill Auto Body and Barrow's Insurance is even at one game apiece with the deciding contest slated for tonight (Wednesday) at the Town Park, hopefully, or Crosby Park.

Barrow's Insurance romped over a rusty Richmond Hill Auto Body Club 7-2 in the first game.

Steve Whitaker opened with a double to score Dale Crouter. The fourth inning saw winning hurler Luke Lefevre doubling in Paul Hunter and John Rumble.

This was followed by a home run off the bat of Crouter scoring three runners including Dwight Powell and Lefevre. Their final run came as Rumble scored on a four-base error. Val Steffan, with relief from Gary Wilkinson, took the loss. Lefevre gave up just three hits.

It was a different story last Friday despite a fast beginning by Barrow's as Dale Crouter slammed the first pitch of the game out of the park.

RALLY

Richmond Hill Auto came back to win it 4-3 as Bob Forget tripled and scored on Val Steffan's single. Billy Hunter then singled in Steffan and scored himself on Ken Faulkner's sacrifice fly.

Barrow's fought back as Hunter singled and Rumble knocked him home.

Richmond Hill came back as Steffan's sacrifice scored Forget.

Barrow's final run resulted from a Steve Whitaker single scoring Crouter. Gary Wilkinson was the winning pitcher over Barrow's ace, Al Underhill.

Sleeping Giant now wide-awake

BARROW'S WINS

In the final two games of the regular schedule, Barrow's swept to a 15-3 win over Jack Blyth Real Estate and a 6-5 verdict over Kinnear Leasing.

The loss by Blyth handed fourth place to Kinnear on a silver platter.

Paul Hunter homered twice and Gord Wright socked one to pace the insurance man.

Rick Collins and Neil Roberts each scored for Blyth on errors while Jim Robinson poked home Doug Farrell. Al Underhill tossed the win while Jim Cook took the loss with help from Lenny Hughes and Bruce Stevens.

This is the second consecutive year that the Lake Wilcox team has missed the playoffs by a whisker. They missed it by one point.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Are Linear Sound and Video and the Pizza Press clubs really expansion teams? I say 'yes' and 'no'. I invite you to decide for yourself.

Linear is a descendant of the 'Centennial' team, organized by the league in 1967, to occupy the slot vacated by Barber Barrells, who had withdrawn in mid-season, following a dispute with the league. The Barber team was originally St. Gabriel's Anglican Church.

The powerhouse of the late 1960's, Reid's Auto Body, originally R. H. Presbyterian, left this league to join another one. About two years later a significant number of the Reid club returned to the league as the Black Hawk Motor Hotel. (R. H. Firefighters). This team is now Pizza Press which is still comprised mainly of firefighters.

Lake Wilcox and all the others are, or were, expansion clubs.



fred simpson

Pass the Salmon

I don't know if Charlie Smith of Richmond Hill packs a lunch bag when he goes to work these days. But, if he does, 10-to-one I know what's in it.

Salmon sandwiches. Red salmon sandwiches. Acres and acres of them.

Charlie is just back from a deep-sea fishing foray to darkest Kenai River in the Gulf of Alaska.

Guess what he and his partner, Mills Hay of Seattle, caught? You're right.

Charlie reeled in a 61-pound 'King Salmon' plus a 55-pounder in three days of fishing.

"I've been fishing for big ones for the past 23 years," states the 61-year-old Smith who lives at 278 Rumble Avenue. "For most of those years I've fished along the Northwest Pacific and the biggest catch I've ever come up with was 48 pounds."

"This summer my partner and I decided to try the Alaska area and we got lucky."

Smith got his 61-pounder from a flat-bottomed boat using a 30-pound test line while spin-casting. It took him an hour-and-a-half to land it.

TIRED OUT

"First I'd get tired, then he'd get tired," said Smith. "He was the last one to get tired and I gaffed him, pulled him in." The fish measured 53 inches in length with a 28-inch girth.

CAN IT

Charlie's next problem was what to do with his catches. He decided to can them at a cost of 75 cents a throw which turned out to be quite a bargain when you realize salmon retails at \$5.99 a pound.

Now he's the proud father of 91 tins of red salmon. Which is why any visitor to Charlie's place is apt to end up snacking on salmon sandwiches, salmon pie and, who knows, maybe even cereal and salmon if they stay overnight.

All I can say is congratulations, happy fishing, and pass the turkey sandwiches.

On to less weighty subjects.

EXHIBITION

To wit, the doubleheader game Monday night between two all-star teams from the Richmond Hill Men's Slo-Pitch league and the local umpire's association drew a good crowd despite the chill breezes that set in later on at the Town Park.

The umpires, led by rookie pitcher Tom Price, hung on to win the first game 18-16 over a combination team from the Ball Machine, Sudsers and Misfits. Communications broke down over who won the second game but, needless to say, there was one big winner.

Proceeds from the collection taken went to the York Central Association for the Mentally Retarded's recreation program.

HOCKEY

Hockey note here: Oak Ridges Dynes' Jewellers' coach Pete Artemchuk reports his Junior B squad will host Etobicoke at Bond Lake Arena for an 8 p.m. game Saturday night. A second exhibition game will be played at the same arena Monday night.

Incidentally, goalie Gerry Kofsky, who played with the Jewellers last season (as well as with the Rams) has been invited to the Winnipeg Jets' camp of the NHL.

MINOR BALL

Let's see now, the minor ball season is rapidly winding down with the championship games being held next Saturday at the Town park for the Richmond Hill loop. Things get underway in the morning and it should be a good day. Drop around and watch the youngsters.

It's Donkey Baseball time at Oak Ridges

The Oak Ridges Minor Ball Association is planning a big "fun day" September 15 involving a T-Ball tournament, Donkey Baseball, a carnival and a Beer Garden.

"Our aim is to bring back the Country Fair type of atmosphere," said ORMBA President Jack Ward, "and raise some money to pay for softball equipment bought this year and to go toward buying it in the future."

DONKEY BASEBALL

The scene of action will be the Bond Lake Arena and area with festivities commencing at noon hour with a T-Ball game. This will be followed at 2 p.m. by a Donkey Baseball Game and numerous other activities.

Ward noted that "we haven't had organized summer sports in Oak Ridges since the ball association folded in 1974."

"We started up again last year with \$90 and right now we have 14 teams containing 15 players each. We also play interlocking games with Richmond Hill and Richvale."

Ward said that "we have tried to teach our players sportsmanship and fellowship not only with the members of their own team, but with the opposing team as well."

"We started with six executives and now have the

community behind us. With the success of ball, it might give other groups in the community the desire to become successful also. The people who will benefit are our future generation.

Admission for the day is \$2 for adults, \$1 for youngsters.

Niblett's lose

The Richmond Hill Wilson Niblett fastball team closed out their 1979 Ontario Fastball League schedule last week in unspectacular fashion.

They pitched a doubleheader to the Kitchener Evergreens by 13-3 and 6-2.

The Niblett team, already out of the playoffs, was just playing out the string and it showed on the scoreboard.

CRASH

Bill Sunstrom was the ill-fated Niblett hurler in the first game and he was stung for 10 runs, 11 hits, and three walks in his four and two-thirds innings. He was replaced by Mike McLeod, who tolled for two-and-a-third innings giving up the rest of the runs and three hits.

The locals got all of their runs in the first inning as Enzo Fedrigo singled. Terry O'Krafka was safe on a fielder's choice and then Carl Alhsten singled Fedrigo home. Sunstrom then singled in O'Krafka. Colin Wood was then safe on an error scoring Alhsten.

After that it was all Kitchener with the starting key blow being a three-run homer in the second by Marry Musselman. John Hagey also hit a solo shot in the fifth inning.

One big inning killed starter McLeod in the second game with the visitors scoring all their six runs in that disastrous episode. It was low-lighted by a three-run shot by Peter Lapin and two-run homer by Jim Millen.



Thornhill's Steven O'Donnell heads the ball here as Richmond Hill players move in during Major Mosquito game in Thornhill.

The home team prevailed for a 5-0 victory. (Liberal photo by Bruce Hogg).