

Sports

Jack McLaren

Ramblings



The Metcalfe Jets are having an outstanding season. This might imply that the area minor hockey associations are finally producing high calibre players from their midget ranks. Such doesn't appear to be the case. A quick scan of the Jets roster reveals that very few boys on the team are graduates of either Metcalfe and District or the Russell Minor Hockey systems. While some of the boys may have been raised in these areas, they, in fact, developed their hockey skills while playing for other hockey associations. The ideal situation would be for the Jets to draw heavily on these two areas for more hometown boys.

Apparently, midget graduates from these areas are not good enough to make the Jets competitive and if you don't win, you don't draw fans. And without fans, you don't pay the bills.

On the other hand, minor hockey associations in Osgoode, Chesterville and Winchester, to name a few, appear to be providing their fair share of players to the Junior B system. Osgoode this year has provided the Jets with some excellent players from their midget graduates while Winchester Hawks appear to have drawn heavily on their hometown minor hockey association as well as that from Chesterville.

Most Junior B clubs would much prefer to use local area boys and I know that the lack of this is, and has been, of some concern to the Jets organization but I'm afraid they are not left with any other choice. I said at the start of the year that the Jets would provide area fans with an exciting brand of hockey and indeed they have. Barring any further injuries to their top players they should cruise through the rest of the schedule without any further losses.

There are a number of area boys at the lower age level who, if they continue to improve, will certainly be capable of performing at the Junior B level. This is something they should continue to strive for.

One of the main deficiencies in the past has been, I think, the lack of skating ability. This facet is not stressed nearly enough. There is very little value in learning puck control before you learn how to skate and yet in a lot of cases that is what is being taught. Kids are facing competition before they have mastered basic skills. Game situations provide very little ice time per individual — more time should be spent on well organized practices and most of this, at least at the very young age, spent on skating skills. Boys at this age should be registered in power skating classes — not hockey school. By the time you reach age 16 or 17, you are too late. Coaches at this level don't have the time to teach you how to skate.

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Metcalfe curlers off to Vernon?

By Hal Potter

Metcalfe's curling club may be moving to Vernon.

The Metcalfe building has been condemned because the structure has been weakened by snow accumulating on the roof and walls during its 27-year history.

Before the club can be moved to a Vernon site, however, Archie Sayant says discussions will have to take place between the Vernon Community Association and the Metcalfe Agriculture Society.

Syant, chairman of the Vernon association, says the club may be accommodated at a new building planned for Vernon.

"There is nothing definite at the moment," he says. "There is a plan in Vernon to either build a community hall, a curling club or a combination of the two.

Russell Minor Hockey News

Half way point in the schedule and Russell minor hockey teams, in most cases, are holding down second or third spots in each level of the "A" and "B" Divisions. Following stats are as of 11 Jan. 81.

A Division

Atom: Holding down 4th spot. Chesterville in top spot with only one loss. Russell has no scorers in top seven.

Pee Wee: A real tight race with Russell, Metcalfe and Dist. and Chesterville all tied for top spot with 17 points. Darcy Provost is the league's top scorer with 39 points. Brian Carscadden is in 3rd spot with 31 points. Pat Paquette and Trevor Storrington tied for 4th spot with 22 points.

Bantam: Russell in third position. Winchester in 1st place after 14 games with only one loss. Peter Latimer is in 5th spot in the scoring with 10 goals and 9 assists.

Midget: Russell Boys in third position behind Metcalfe and Winchester. No scorers in top six.

B Division

Atom: Team in second place with a 10 and 2 record just three points behind Winchester. Doug Davies is third in league scoring with 22 points. Jamie Paulhus and Michel Geerts are tied for fifth spot with 13 points.

Pee Wee: Solidly entrenched in second spot behind Morrisburg. Paul Straby is league's second top scorer with 23 points followed by William Cooper and Marty Eggum in third and fourth spot, respectively.

Bantam: Currently tied for third spot with Morrisburg. First place Chrysler has yet to lose a game. Shawn O'Reilly and Matthew Cook are league's fifth and sixth place scorers.

Metcalfe and District Hockey News

Metcalfe and District minor hockey teams continue to dominate the CDMHL A Division with three teams holding down 1st spot in their respective age categories and second place in the other two. B Division teams are about mid-way in the league standings as of 11 Jan. 81.

A Division

Atom: Currently in second place. Chesterville proving to be a very strong team with only 1 loss in thirteen games. Brent Johnston is in 7th place in the scoring with 23 points.

Pee Wee: Metcalfe team tied for first place with Russell and Chesterville with 17 points. No scorers in league's top five.

Bantam: Trail first place Winchester by 6 points. Jeff Baird is in third spot with 21 points. Robbie Melenhorst tied for sixth position with 18 points.

Midget: Team in first spot with only 1 loss in 12 games. Mark Patterson leads all scorers with 31 points followed by David Hatherall with 24, Charles Adams and John Kingsbury with 18 and Richard Corlyon with 17.

Juvenile: Top spot again with a well balanced effort and a 11 and 3 record. They also have the four top scorers: Jeff Quinn with 20 points, Shane Patterson with 18, John Wyszynski with 15 and Mike Anderson with 13.

B Division

Atom: Third spot. Ghislain Trudel is team's top scorer with 18 points good enough for number 4 in the league.

Pee Wee: Currently in 3rd spot with 4 and 6 record plus 2 ties. Brian Dow is number 7 in the league with 14 points on 8 goals and 6 assists.

Bantam: Currently 6 points behind undefeated Chrysler and have played 4 more games than Chrysler. No scorers in top 7 which is dominated by Chrysler.

Midget: Top spot again. Steven Page is team's top scorer with 11 points followed by Robbin Welk and Dean McKeown with 10. Larry Brookson is tied for 6th spot with 9.

NOTICE

The "Supplement" to the Russell Fair Book is now available. It will be of interest to those people who wish to enter their work in the Russell Fair, August 7, 8, & 9, 1981 and it contains a list of the different items in the handicraft and sewing sections which require considerable amount of time to complete. To obtain a copy, please contact: Mona Saunders — 445-5788, Merrill McVey — 445-2824, or George Young — 445-5461.

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