

Sports

Jack McLaren

Ramblings



I suppose at one time or another every sports fan has a sports hero. Athletes have had their hero worshippers since the beginning of time. So often, however, once their career had come to an end, they would soon be forgotten and eventually someone would come along to take their place. Such was not the case with the recent passing of one of the greatest legends the sports world has ever known, Joe Louis. Known equally as well as the "Brown Bomber", Louis was just as popular after his illustrious career had ended as he was during it. I can well remember listening to his fights on the radio and probably had a scrap book or two on newspaper clippings. It was indeed a sad time when age had caught up with him and he was forced to fight a young up and coming fighter by the name of Rocky Marciano. The end result of course was the disastrous and the punishment that Louis had so often dished out to his opponent was now being administered upon him. The final picture of him lying helpless on the bottom ring rope as the referee counted him out seemed to be a cruel way of bidding farewell to probably the greatest fighter the boxing game has ever known. But the public remembered him for what he had achieved and he maintained a level of popularity in retirement that he had known as an active fighter.

One young man who is fast becoming a sports hero is Wayne Gretzky. Barring serious injuries, this young fellow should rewrite just about every scoring record in the NHL before he has finished. Young players watching Gretzky can certainly learn a lot. First of all, he is a team player, not an individual, but that is not to say that he can't do it all himself. One of his main attributes is the fact that he never gives the puck away to the opposition — he controls it until one of his teammates is open and then it goes right to their stick. I think he may well be the best passer in the game today.

Before we leave the hockey scene for another year, I have a recommendation for all local minor hockey associations. I have always felt that every association needs a public relations person. By that I mean one person who is responsible for promoting activities, home and away tournaments and in general, telling the people of the community what is going on in their local association. If this sort of information was being disseminated, I think it might be easier for fund-raising activities. Don't be afraid to let your community know how well your teams are doing.

If done properly, this would be a very demanding position but the benefits it would reap would be worthwhile. Something worth thinking about for the new season. The Review would only be too glad to print your news — just let us know what's happening.

Take the Hamilton Tiger-Cats seriously this season. Quarterback Tom Clements has returned after a one-year stint with the Kansas City Chiefs of the National Football League in which he played only two quarters of football. Montreal Allouettes have to be the favorites to win the Eastern conference. Quarterback Vince Ferragamo is the reason. He's a great athlete and a pass completion average of 59 per cent makes him a capable leader to help the Als return to their dominance of the East.

The Ottawa Rough Riders are continuing to slip downhill and behind all other teams with the exception of the Saskatchewan Roughriders because of their owner's cheapness. Ottawa management (Jack Dunlap particularly) fails to realize the paltry salaries he offers top talent like Holloway, and fullback Mike Murphy, is too low. I don't advocate ridiculous salaries like Ferragamo is getting from Montreal, but Ottawa refuses to pay decent money to good talent. The Riders will deserve their last place finish I have predicted for them.

THE WINNERS ARE:



RUSSELL — Jack Twiname Memorial Trophy (Desire, Effort and Enthusiasm): Back Row, left to right: Robert Clark, Bantam B; David Latimer, Midget; Ken Carscadden, Bantam A; Benoit Marion, Pee wee B; Mrs. L. Twiname. Front row; Doug Davis, Atom B; Brian Carscadden, Pee wee A; David Fleming, Atom A. Missing: Jason Thompson, Novice.



RUSSELL — RMHA's Most Sportsmanlike. Back row, left to right: Jeff Groot-Lipman, Bantam B; Kevin O'Reilly, Midget; Bill Nyenkamp, Bantam A; Kirk Smith, Pee wee B. Front row: Eric Norris, Atom A; Dean Drevniok, Pee wee A; Stephane Drouin, Atom B. Missing is Owen Taylor, Novice.



RUSSELL — RMHA's Most Improved Players — Back row, left to right: Steven Scharf, Pee wee B; Marc Baillon, Midget; Ron Geerts, Bantam A; Steven Hendley, Pee wee A. Front row: Kirk Lanthier, Bantam B; Alain Deschamps, Atom B; Gregg Patterson. Missing from photo is Darren Lampman, Novice. (Garey Ris Photo)

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