

# Sports

## Forty teams played broomball

By J.C. Empey

Russell's Second Annual Invitational Broomball Tournament got off to a roaring start on Friday evening, April 2, with an exhibition broomball game between C.F.R.A.'s Happy Blunderers and the Russell Misfits.

Just how tasty was that cream pie, Don? Shelley Emond from C.F.R.A. laughed so hard that Stephen Cherry and Roy Garbutt presented him with a cream pie of his own.

Armed with hockey sticks, shovels and mops, our Russell Misfits sure showed C.F.R.A. 'the finer points of broomball.' The Misfits scored the winning goal — of course the fact that Don Empey was tied to a stretcher (courtesy of John Tyo, Pat Shea and Doug Johnson) and shoved down the ice to end up in C.F.R.A.'s net backwards, didn't ruffle even the scorekeeper.

Everyone enjoyed having C.F.R.A. help kick off our Tournament and we owe thanks to Shelley Emond and the Happy Blunderers for coming out to Russell.

Friday evening the Virtronics provided music for the disco dance. Our own Russell Group '60' Cycles entertained on Saturday evening with a variety of the

60's music.

The Tournament itself was a terrific success with 40 hours of participation — eight Women's Recreational, 24 Men's Recreational and eight Men's Open Division.

Games started on Friday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. with the last and final game being played at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, April 4.

The calibre of play was top notch, especially the final game in the Men's Open Division where Pop Shoppe from Cornwall went up against Free Enterprise. These two teams will be the Ontario representatives competing in the Canadian National Broomball Championships to be held in Cornwall this month.

Mr. Moe Racine, a former Ottawa Rough Rider, was on hand Sunday evening to help in the presentation of the following awards:

**Women's Recreational:** Winner was Fitzroy; Finalist: Auberge Mony-Blanc.

**Men's Recreational:** "A" Winner: Finch; Finalist: O.C. Conangers; and, Semi-Finalist: Luskville; "B" Winner: Cryslar; Finalist: Metcalfe; and Semi-Finalist; Russell Hazzards.

**Men's Open Division:** Winner: Free Enterprise; Finalist: Pop



Broomball referee Don Empey is escorted off the ice in grand style during the first game of the recent Russell Broomball Tournament at the Dr. Kinnaird Community Centre. Empey returned to complete his officiating duties in the game between the CFRA Happy Blunderers and the Russell Misfits. Helping Don on his way are (left to right) Norm Paquette, Doug Johnston, John Tyo and Pat Shea.

Dennis McGann photo

Shoppe.

Fifty per cent of the proceeds from this Tournament will be given to the Russell Recreational Association, while the rest will be disbursed by the Russell Broom-

ball Tournament Committee to various Russell community programmes, primarily youth-oriented.

To put together a Tournament of this calibre, it takes a lot of ef-

fort and special dedication. Thanks are extended to the many people whose efforts ensured the immense success of the 2nd Annual Russell Invitational Broomball Tournament.

## Ramblings

### Play-offs are a new season

By Jack McLaren

I find it most amusing to hear all the negative reaction to the present NHL play off system. Undoubtedly most of the criticism has surfaced as a result of three or four of the so-called top teams quick exit from the hockey scene. But isn't that what play offs are all about?

In my view, upsets create new interest by adding a new, and unexpected, dimension to any sport. Quite often we get very tired of seeing the same faces in the finals.

The impression left by a number of expert sportscasters is that without the Montreal Canadiens, Edmonton Oilers, Calgary Flames and Winnipeg Jets, Canadians will lose interest in the remaining play off series.

Not so — there is plenty of good hockey left. Anyone who truly believes that this year's edition of the Montreal Canadiens possesses anywhere near the awesome power of years past is dreaming.

I believe upsets are good for any sport but then perhaps what many people view as an upset is not really an upset at all... it is simply just another slightly better-than-average hockey team. The extra effort and pride appears to have vanished.

Had the top teams eliminated their lowly opposition in three

games straight the same critics would have said that the first round of play offs were merely a formality and a waste of time but it didn't turn out that way.

Play offs are really an entire new season. Regular league play can be forgotten in most cases and upsets should be expected. There are plenty of people around Metcalfe who firmly believe that the

Jets are a superior hockey team over the Winchester Hawks and they may well be right based on the Hawks seemingly lacklustre effort against Kemptville.

But that is play off hockey and in the short series they deserved their victory over the Metcalfe club. Any team has to look at the season in two parts — the regular season and the play off season.



Moe Racine, former Ottawa Roughrider star, presents a trophy and cheque to Wayne Irven, captain of the Metcalfe broomball team — runners-up in the men's recreational division of Russell's Second Annual Invitational Broomball Tournament.

Ian Darragh photo

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**Phil Potter**  
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Registration Dates:

Thursday 3 June, 7-9 p.m.  
Saturday 5 June, 10-12 a.m.

Opening Date: Saturday 26 June

**Russell**  
RECREATION ASSOCIATION