

SPORTS

NEWS and VIEWS

Chas. Nolan

Better Baseball Plan Gets Underway Monday

School Runs 2 Weeks in City, Province

Toronto, July 28—“Better Baseball for Young Canada,” a two-week series of baseball schools for the youth of Toronto and Ontario, starts next Monday.

Michael J. O'Neill, one-time big league pitcher and brother of famed Steve O'Neill, former Toronto manager and now coach of the Cleveland Indians, will be head instructor.

Six Hours Daily

This, the most comprehensive program of education in the diamond sport ever attempted in this country, will operate six hours daily at next week in parks in the metropolitan area and the following week in parks in the western, central and eastern sections of southern Ontario.

The school will be climaxed by a doubleheader at Maple Leaf stadium Saturday night, August 6, when the Toronto junior and senior all-stars will meet the Ontario junior and senior all-stars. Gross receipts from these games will be donated to the Toronto Minor Baseball Association for the promotion of the sport among the boys of this city.

These announcements were made today by Joe Ziegler, general manager of the Toronto Maple Leaf Baseball Club, on behalf of the three co-sponsors—the Philadelphia Phillies, of the National League, the Maple Leafs of the International League and The Telegram.

Ready to Go

“All details of the project have been ironed out and we're now ready to educate thousands of Canadian boys in the fundamentals and finer points of the game—an opportunity which they've missed in previous years because of the lack of former big league players in this country,” explained Ziegler.

“The educational school has been formally and enthusiastically endorsed by Baseball Commissioner B. Chandler. Due to the interest of Robert Carpenter, president and owner of the Phillies, and Joe Reardon, general manager of the Phillies farm clubs, we were fortunate in obtaining Michael J. O'Neill as head instructor.”

Said Reardon yesterday in a wire to the Toronto general manager: “O'Neill is the best man in our organization for the type of schools planned in Toronto and Ontario centres and the Phillies are only too pleased to assign him to the Maple Leafs and The Telegram for the two-week program.”

The Toronto Club's Dynamo

Expressed that the schools are designed to assist ball players of all ages—the junior section being for boys 17 years and under the senior section for youths 18 and over.

Season's Finale

“This will cap our program of minor baseball for the season,” he continued. “I believe that at the final doubleheader under the lights at our park—that's the night of Saturday, Aug. 6—even the oldest of our fans will be amazed at the progress being made by our boys both here in the city and throughout the province. We're going to charge the regular prices for that doubleheader because we sincerely believe that the attraction is worth and because every cent the public pays at the gate goes to the Toronto Minor Baseball Association. For that occasion our club is glad to contribute the park, the staff and the lights, because we don't think there is a worthier cause than minor baseball to assure a happy and healthy future for the youth of the country.”

All schools will open at 10 a.m. and continue until at least 4 p.m. No written application is necessary for attendance at any of the sessions but all players are asked to wear a baseball uniform, if possible, baseball shoes and a love.

Dates and Sites

Following are the dates and sites of the schools in metropolitan Toronto: Monday, July 25—Gibson Park, Weston Rd., Mount Dennis. Tuesday, July 26—Riverdale Park, Gerrard St. E. and Broadview Ave. Wednesday, July 27—Eglinton Pears Park, Eglinton Ave. W. and Edith Drive. Thursday, July 28—Millen Stadium in Viaduct Park, Danforth and Broadview Aves. Friday, July 29—St. Clair Stadium in Earlscourt Park, St. Clair Ave. W. and Lansdowne Ave. Saturday, July 30—Maple Leaf stadium, Fleet and Bathurst Sts.

And Here are the dates and sites of the schools throughout the province—

Monday, Aug. 1—Due to the fact that this is Civic Holiday, this date is not scheduled but the school is available for any municipality or league which would like it as an attraction.

Tuesday, Aug. 2—Oakes Stadium, Niagara Falls.

Wednesday, Aug. 3—Civic Stadium, Brantford.

Thursday, Aug. 4—Exhibition Park, Barrie.

Friday, Aug. 5—Exhibition Grounds, Belleville.

Saturday, Aug. 6—Doubleheader between Toronto junior and senior all-stars and Ontario junior and senior all-stars.

The winners of the doubleheaders will be presented with the Peter G. Campbell trophies, donated by George McCullagh, publisher of The Telegram, in memory of the late president of the Toronto Maple Leaf Baseball Club.

Laurie Thoms, forward with Aurora Junior hockey team last winter will be at either Galt or North Bay for a trial with the Chicago Black Hawks this fall. Thoms won the O.H.A. most valuable player award with Aurora last season.

Stouffville Bantams

dropped an 8-6 decision to Markham on Wednesday evening in an exhibition game in Memorial Park. Stouffville's younger lads made a good showing against the older Markham nine.

Goodwood is now topping

the Uxbridge Twp. softball league, with Uxbridge Jr. Farmers, Udora and Siloam following in that order. Greenbank has dropped from the running. Only one point separated Goodwood and Uxbridge as the schedule stood last week.

The need for that home-run

fence as suggested in our ball park was further emphasized in the game on Saturday night, when long drives which would have surely gone for home runs, had there been a fence 250 to 300 ft. out in the park, scarcely allowed the runner to get around to third. It's a real feat to hit a homer in this park when the fielder can scamper after the ball in any direction, and return it to the infield in quick time.

Norm Stunden with Unionville

Junior O.H.A. squad last winter, will be available for net duty with Intermediate or Senior hockey club this fall. Mac Clement, ex-Stouffville Junior, last year with Varsity Bees, missed his year at Toronto Varsity and may be available for some district Intermediate or Senior Club, we are told.

Several Juvenile ball players

are waiting Stouffville's entry into the O.B.A. playdowns, when they'll be added to the local Intermediate roster, to give some much-needed strength to the infield. The younger lads in question, are entered in the O.B.A. series in both Juvenile or Intermediate, and will be available for duty on both teams. However, they were not entered as members of the Intermediate Club in the Tri-County League, and therefore cannot participate in the current playoffs.

Too many players with Stouffville's

Athletic Club sponsored teams still seem to have the twisted idea that they're doing the team or community a favour by turning out for games and practices, and according to the managers of both the girls' and boys' give considerable trouble in this regard. It would be better for all concerned, and better for the fans, if players who had to be catered to, in regard to transportation and punctuality at games, were dropped. Times were, when a girl or boy was only too happy to wear the uniform, and the idea of demanding transportation, in the form of free gas, taxis and so forth, would have appeared absurd. Certainly, those were the “good old days.”

Intermediates Blow Up

And Lose 10-5 After Winning First Game Of Playoffs 18-7

After handing Sunderland an 18-7 trimming on Friday night in the first game of their group Intermediate Tri-County semi-final, Stouffville Intermediates blew up before one of the largest crowds of the season here on Saturday night and lost 10-5.

It was a good ball game here for three innings, when Stouffville's catcher “Butch” Schell, in his haste to make a double play at first, threw wild, and no less than three runs scored.

The locals came back in their half of the same innings, when Hassard stole home on a passed ball at the plate. Only moments before Polly Minton was outkicked when he drove a sizzler down inside first. Raxlin, who was on first at the time, was doubled off when Welsh made a neat catch of the hot drive.

Stouffville drove into the lead in the fifth when Miller drove in two runs, and Hassard brought in the fourth run with a long fly.

From then on, Stouffville infield errors were too numerous to count. Wild throws, booted balls, double-play balls muffed, all added up to Sunderland's rally which netted them seven runs.

Ken Laushway went in to pinch-hit in the 7th, and drove in Stouffville's remaining run. Miller was on the mound for Stouffville for seven innings, when he was relieved by Hassard. The loss, however, was no fault of the pitchers, but the inconsistent playing of the infield. Campbell went the distance for Sunderland.

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Intermediate Ball Game Here Saturday Night

Stouffville Intermediates, who are awaiting the O.B.A. playdowns will go against Newmarket Intermediates in Memorial Park here at 6:30 this Saturday night, July 30th.

Like Stouffville, Newmarket also has a bye into the Ontario playdowns, and Saturday night's game here could be a preview of things to come.

Girls Lose Close One 6-5

Stouffville Girls Softball team dropped a close league game to Elgin Mills 6-5, on Monday evening. The local girls were minus two of their strong arms, Audrey Jennings and Blanche Paxton, both away on holidays.

Stouffville will play at Woodbridge on Aug. 4th, with the next home game here against Langstaff on August 8th.

Stouffville Out Tri-County League Triple Play Nips 9th Inning Rally

Stouffville bowed out of the Tri-County League on Monday night, losing their rubber game to Sunderland 9-6. A 9th inning rally by the locals was nipped in the bud by a fancy triple play, to blast Stouffville's final hopes.

Ken Laushway started the 9th off for Stouffville, with a single. He went to second on Manager Holdren's single, Murray having gone in to pinch-hit. The third batter, Wally Nicholson, lined a sizzler to short, for what looked to everybody, including the runners, like at least a double. However, Brandon speared the drive at short, and smartly doubled the runner at second, then nipped the runner at first to complete the triple-play, and the game.

Stouffville trailed 8-1 in the fifth innings. Miller relieved Hassard on the mound, and set Sunderland down with only one hit in the last four innings. Campbell for Sunderland weakened just a shade in the sixth and seventh, and Stouffville pounded out several base hits, which, coupled with one or two errors, netted them a total of five runs.

Stouffville's infield was off colour right from the drop of the hat, dropping easy pop flies, missing ground balls, and making wild throws to the bases. Sunderland scored two in the first, three in the third, and another three in the fourth, chiefly on errors.

The home crew nearly broke the jinx on several occasions, early in the game, but just couldn't get a man across the plate. They left the bases loaded in the third, when Miller popped out, Hassard grounded out, and Procenko went down on an easy fly to centre.

Bud Watson, who made his first appearance in a uniform in several weeks, was back at short, but was badly out of practice. He singled in the fourth, and the local supporters believed they were off for a rally at last; but a lapse by the runner at first, and he let himself be picked off by the pitcher.

Miller, Hassard and Laushway were top batters for Stouffville, each hitting every trip up but once. Laushway singled in the sixth to start the boys off for two runs. Miller singled in the seventh, and Hassard followed with a smashing triple that bounced off the end of the rink. While three runs were chalked up in this innings, three more possibilities were left stranded.

Sunderland will now advance into the group finals with Port Perry who have eliminated Sutton. Stouffville, meanwhile, will await their chances in the Ontario O.B.A. playdowns which will not get underway for several weeks.

PINE ORCHARD

Mrs. Wm. Pingle has been visiting at the homes of W. Johnston and R. Chapman.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Boake and family have been visiting their brother Albert and family here.

Little Sandra Davies has returned to her home in Toronto after spending the past three and a half years at the Shepperd home.

Mrs. J. Sytema and Carl have returned home after spending three months with relatives in Holland. Mrs. Sytema reports the weather is much cooler in Holland and price of food is very high.

Mrs. W. Chapman of Aurora is

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The Beginning Of Ice Hockey

(Courtesy Linde Canadian Refrigeration Company)

The when, where, and how of the origin of Ice Hockey will, perhaps, be a debatable point forever.

There are many stories about the origin of the game and many claims to originating the rules. One story states that it was played very early on the playgrounds of College-St. Marie. There is no doubt that McGill took up the game about 1874 and seems to have played its games on the river or canal. An article appeared in the College paper of December 1875 setting forth the need for a rink on the campus similar to the one that the Jesuit College had for a number of years. About the same time the Victoria Skating and Hockey Club of Montreal was originated and had a continuous existence until quite recently.

Another story, for which Captain James Sutherland is the authority, has it that in 1867 the Royal Canadian Rifles stationed at Kingston, Ontario, cleared the snow from the ice in Kingston Harbour and played a game requiring skates, sticks, pucks, and goal posts. Apparently, however, rules regulating the game were quite simple; in fact the objective of putting the puck into the goal, no matter how, was the beginning and end of the game.

The following is condensed from an article by W. L. Hurray and appeared in the winter 1936 number of the McGill News.

“As a small boy I played ‘shinny’ on the ice, opposite the City of Montreal, early in each winter—probably from the middle of November until early in January for, after that time, the heavy snows of winter made it impossible to skate on the river.

“To play ‘shinny’ one had to have a good stick—no umbrella handle, or any stick that was of cross-grained wood, would do. So, early in the fall, boys who contemplated playing later on, would go up the sides of the mountain to hunt for small maple trees growing on the steeper slopes—for those trees invariably had roots that curved sharply into the bank, and when trimmed and dried they made ideal strong sticks with which to play the game.

Only One Rule in Shinny “The ‘shinny’ season seldom lasted over six weeks, but we took advantage of every opportunity. Holidays and often times after school we were on the ice. ‘Shinny’ at that time, was a small boy's game. The ages of the player averaged from eleven to sixteen years. One had to be a fine skater or he could not enjoy the game. It was played by groups of boys, of no particular number, who would chase a puck of some kind, usually a small block of wood, a battered tin can or any similar object which could be batted along the ice. The object of the game was to try to keep ahead of the rest of the boys by skating in any direction until some other player took the ‘puck’ away from you. As there were no goals, it did not matter where the puck was being driven; a player merely tried to keep it as long as he could.

“There was one inflexible rule in ‘shinny’ and only one: It was to never hit the puck left-handed. If you did so, the rule was for the nearest player to you, unless he was a close personal friend, to say, ‘shinny on your own side’ and then to give you a smart crack on the shins with his stick. Naturally, if he was not much bigger than you, you would drop your stick, and pitch into him as hard as you could.

How Shinny Became Ice Hockey “W. F. Robertson, who graduated from McGill University in Applied Science in 1880 spent the summer of 1879 visiting relatives in England, returning to his home in Montreal on November 9. At that time I was a freshman at McGill and, on the morning of the 10th, I met ‘Bobbie’ and he told me that he had picked up a fine game over in England that he thought would keep our football team in perfect condition during the ‘off’ season. That evening ‘Bobbie’ showed me one of the heavy field hockey sticks, and the large ball, with which the game was played in England, explaining its fine points and how popular it had become throughout the country, and repeating his idea that the McGill football team could keep in condition by playing this game during the ‘off’ season. I pointed out that football was played until the snow covered the ground in the fall and that practices began again in the late spring, and suggested playing the new game on the ice adapting English rugby football rules to it, and using lacrosse goal posts by freezing them into holes in the ice and a large rubber ball made flat on both sides by slicing off its top and bottom. ‘Shinny’ was played

visiting the Chapman home here. Miss Eileen Fair visited her aunt and uncle, Mrs. and Mrs. W. Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Allen, also Mr. and Mrs. Almer Allen are visiting their father's home here.

Mr. Wilbert Widdfield, also Mr. and Mrs. Colin Widdfield, were Sunday guests with Miss Aleta Widdfield and Mr. and Mrs. R. Allen.



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in

‘When My Baby Smiles at Me’

usually with small, square block of wood obtained in the carpenters' shops, so when we sliced off the top and bottom of the large rubber balls, we always made the puck square. The game was played for over a year with square pucks until the Victoria Hockey Club introduced the round one. (continued next week)

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