



BY JIM THOMAS

TAR OF THE WEEK

This week it's hats off to Ken Schell, hard hitting first baseman with the Stouffville Red Sox. On Friday night the local squad journeyed to Oakville as guests of the Intermediate club in that town. With one out and trailing 2-0, the Stouffville first sacker leaned into a fast ball and drove it 325 feet out of the park for a home run. The Red Sox dropped the game by a score of 2-1.

THE FISH THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

Mr. Ray Hills of 51 Hills View Ave., Toronto can boast of catching the season's largest fish in Musselman's Lake, a nine pound, three ounce pike, measuring three feet long. Last week he Toronto angler hooked a whopper but the fish broke free on the line just as he was ready to haul it into the boat. On Saturday morning however, he snared his prize and although the big beauty was reluctant in leaving his cool fresh water aunt, he had no choice but to give up the fight after a one hour battle. Later Mr. Hills added five others to his total and though slightly smaller than his first catch they too were availed by many around the resort area. The nine pounder was hauled in on a three pound line and small minnows were used for bait. The fish was caught just off the north shore at Cedar Beach.

HOCKEY AT 40 DEGREES BELOW ZERO

Many of us have played hockey on a frozen pond in the middle of an open pasture field when the temperature hovered around the zero mark and the north wind reddened our cheeks and nipped our ears, but can you imagine playing hockey at forty degrees below zero. Well it's been done and no one has it received a frost bite according to our information. Last week, Mr. Wm. McKay, formerly of Altona and now a resident of Green River during the summer vacation period, returned from the far northland where he has been teaching school for a past two years. Bill has been living at a small village called Abambica, near Auld, about 900 miles from here. At this settlement the main pastimes of the residents are fishing and playing but they also play hockey on a lake situated nearby. Temperatures of 40 degrees below zero the boys skate up and down the lake in their shirt sleeves. One must remember however that the air in the far north is very dry and consequently the sub zero temperatures are not as penetrating. During such cold spells the skies are usually clear and the sun is shining brightly thus providing considerable heat in protected areas. In under such conditions that hockey is played in the northern portion of the province. When the temperatures dip down to a 60 degrees below, all outdoor sports activities come to a standstill.

THE JOYS OF AN UMPIRE

Kill the umpire! Kill the umpire! That's a well-known slogan wherever the game of baseball is played and although there is seldom much thought or consideration behind the statement some players and fans tend to ride the officials to such an extent that the "men in black" will very soon be on a scarcity list. There are not many players today who would ride their place with the umpire back of the plate for all the money in the world. Everyone makes mistakes, even baseball umpires and while other participants in the sport are usually given a second chance, the poor umpire is threatened from all sides. If he makes one bad call on a play. On a split second play, an official is forced to make a decision, one which probably only high speed camera could truthfully decide whether the call is right or wrong and yet what happens? Someone jumps on his neck. An umpire is only a human being and not a machine. In the majority of cases he makes the calls as he sees them, if he is prejudiced one way or another he should never accept the position. In one week alone we have seen or heard tell of three instances where umpires have been subjected to criticism, whether justly or not we will not venture to say. On Wednesday night, the plate ump, left the game midway through the contest and left the teams to finish the remaining innings the best way they knew how. Here on Monday night when Sutton and Stouffville played their return engagement, the sparks began to fly between the players and the official. One competitor was banished from the game. Last week on the Stouffville Juniors and Aurora played in a bitterly fought battle, the outcome remained deadlocked after the game had been completed. The umpire decided on extra innings against the visitors' wishes and Aurora lost by one run. Umpires were blamed for the defeat. If you've got nerves of steel, a voice like a fog horn, a sharp eye, a deaf ear and can get out from one to five, the job's yours.

AMMOCKS GAIN POINT FROM PROTEST

Stouffville Shamrocks gained an extra point in the Markham Township Softball standing last week when the league officials held their protest and granted them a split with Buttonville. A game played early in the schedule. The protest was lodged owing to a contest in which the plate umpire, Bill Hood, overruled the base ump, Len Buckland, on a play at second base. Buttonville went on to win the game after the decision was made. The secretary of the league, Mr. Ernie Appleton suggested that the contest be re-played but it was thought that there were a number of postponed games in the league and there was not time to work it in.

RELIEF IN SIGHT

Relief seems in sight for the Stouffville Red Sox. For the past two weeks, the local squad has been scraping the bottom of the barrel in an effort to put together nine players for a game. Most of the scarcity was caused through summer vacation time to most working men comes but once a year, so you can't blame the players for taking advantage of a week's holidays. Nearly most of the regulars are back, including shortstop Les Leake, pitcher Lorne Bowdway, and outfielders Lou Raxlin and Lloyd Jennings. Haj Gibson, who suffered a badly injured hand a week ago is also back in action.

Gibson Banished in Sutton-Red Sox Clash

Stouffville Red Sox catcher, Hal Gibson found himself on the outside looking in following a heated argument with the Sutton plate umpire during a torrid seven innings battle on Monday evening. Sutton took the game by a score of 8-5. Tempers flared late in the game when Skip Taylor slid home on a close play. While the runner was streaking for the plate, Lorne Schell took a relay throw from Lloyd Jennings in centre field and pegged it with bullet-like accuracy to catcher Gibson. When the dust finally settled all hands were safe. Coach Hassard raced in from his coaching box at third and protested vigorously the umpire's decision.

When the contest was finally resumed, catcher Keith Dunn hoisted a long fly ball into the frog pond in deep centre field and Pollock standing at first raced home. Once more the fur began to fly as Gibson argued that the runner should have been limited to two bases. The ump immediately ordered Gibson from the game and Hassard took over his position for the remainder of the game. The game was a bitterly fought battle until the fourth innings when both clubs blew hot and cold. Stouffville led 1-0 at the end of the third but Sutton came back to take over the drivers seat with three runs in the fourth. The Red Sox rallied with four runs in the fifth but the roof collapsed in the seventh when the Lake Simcoe squad scored four times to win the see-saw game 8-5.

Two home runs for Sutton, one by Dunn over the centre field fence and one by Skip Taylor through the right field wall scored four of the winners' runs. Dunn's four bagger run in the fourth - innings with Holborne and Pollock parked on first and second. Lou Raxlin brought Hassard home with the first R.S. run when he tripped into left field. Jennings, Hassard Raxlin, and L. Schell counted the other runs in the locals big fourth innings.

Both Stouffville and Sutton outfielders could have made use of a canoe in the outfield while attempting to snare a couple of hard-hit balls. Both Johnny Leary and Skip Taylor of Sutton waded through ankle deep water in an effort to reach a ground ball and Ted Cadieux and Lloyd Jennings went for a brief sprint through the pool after another outfield hit.

Lorne Schell and Hal Gibson formed the battery for Stouffville with Dunn and Holborne combining for Sutton. Schell gave up twelve hits, walked one and struck out five. Holborne was clipped for six hits, issued two walks and struck out six.

K. Schell Homers But Red Sox Lose To Oakville 2-1

A 325 foot home run over the outfield fence by first baseman Ken Schell with the sacks empty wasn't enough as the Oakville Intermediate A squad salvaged an unearned 2-1 victory in their home park under the lights on Friday night. Schell's four bagger came in the top of the ninth and put both clubs on even terms but Oakville came through with a run in their last batting to win the game.

Geo. Holborne and Keith Dunn formed the battery for Stouffville and the Sutton two some performed well under the Red Sox colors. Holborne gave up six hits, walked five and struck out thirteen. Stouffville were able to clip the Oakville pitching staff for but four hits.

The Red Sox appeared headed for runs in the fifth when Cadieux and Holborne rifled the ball through the infield but they were left stranded on first and second when Hassard Frisby and Stewart went down on strikes. The Oakville short stop, Ken Pollack notched the first Oakville run as he stole home from third. He then scored the winner in the ninth on an error. Each club bobbed the ball on two occasions in the nine innings affair.

Leaside Blanks Juniors 8-0 in Exhibition Tilt

Stouffville Juniors were blanked 8-0 on Saturday evening here by Leaside in an exhibition tilt. The local squad appeared unusually nervous throughout the contest and consequently they committed a number of costly errors. Taylor on the mound for the East Toronto crew allowed Stouffville but one hit and that came in the seventh inning when Fortar connected for a single. He was left stranded on second however when Hamersley and Wagg fled out and Murphy struck out. Fifteen Stouffville batters went down on strikes. Harold Hodgson reached first on an error in the fifth while Morris, Stewart and Murphy were issued walks.

Hamersley on the mound for the home town squad gave up nine hits, walked two and struck out five. Leaside left eight runners stranded.

Markham Township Softball Standings

	W.	L.	T.	Pts.
Markham	14	2	2	30
Buttonville	13	1	2	28
Thornhill	12	3	3	27
Unionville	8	8	3	19
Richmond Hill	7	9	2	16
Stouffville	7	10	1	15
Peaches	1	17	1	3

Schedule

Tues., July 28th—
 Buttonville at Peaches
 Markham at Thornhill
 Richmond Hill at Stouffville

Thurs., July 30th—
 Richmond Hill at Markham
 Thornhill at Buttonville
 Unionville at Stouffville

Buttonville Shades Shamrocks 1-0

Normie Stunden and Jack Sumner waged a thrilling pitchers duel on Thursday night, each allowing but four hits in seven innings. Buttonville squeaked out a 1-0 victory. Sumner suffered torn ligaments in his leg near the end of the contest and had to seek relief. Wally Nicholson finished the game. The winning run was scored by Norm Stunden as George Stark singled on an error. In the first, second, fourth and sixth innings, the Shamrocks clipped the Buttonville mound star for safeties but on each occasion they left the runner stranded on the base paths. In the first inning, Nicholson doubled but Sumner and Collins went down on strikes. In the second, Carey singled but Nichols, Archibald and Oliver failed to get on base. In the fifth, Oliver scored a safety but he failed to move off first as the remaining batters went down.

Bob Bangay and Normie Stunden were the most potent batters for Bill Hood's squad. Both players credited themselves with a hit and a walk in three trips. Jack Rumney and Ronnie Bell were the other Buttonville hitters.

In other games around the circuit, Unionville scored a 10-2 upset over Thornhill and Richmond Hill downed Peaches 14-6.

Cedar Grove Wins Again Over Town Girls

Cedar Grove girls pulled their second big upset of the season over Stouffville on Wednesday evening of last week when they downed the local squad by a score of 10-6. A double in the sixth innings by catcher Marion Beare, with two on broke up a tight contest. Joan Haynes handled the hurling chores for Stouffville. In the other contest in the group, Elgin Mills turned on Peaches and soundly trounced them 18-6. Rena Morrison started on the mound for the winners and was relieved by Shirley Jones in the sixth. Shirley Young went seven innings for the seventh concession squad.

On Monday night, Cedar Grove continued to set the pace by edging Elgin Mills 4-3. The winners were trailing by one run in the latter part of the game but came through with two in the seventh to gain the victory. Audrey Murison and Marion Beare formed the battery for the winners. So far during the schedule, Cedar Grove have lost but one game. In the other contest, Stouffville whipped Unionville by a score of 26-11.

GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

	W.	L.	T.	Pts.
Cedar Grove	5	1	0	10
Stouffville	5	2	0	10
Elgin Mills	3	4	0	6
Peaches	3	4	0	6
Unionville	1	5	0	2

"The Tonga Islands in the Pacific, population 40,000, have no public debt, no crime, no drunkenness." Steps should be taken at once to carry civilization to these underprivileged people.

'Grandma' Morrison Elgin Mills Ball Hurler at 53

At 53 years of age, Mrs. Rena "Grandmaw" Morrison, ace pitcher for Elgin Mills in the Markham Township Girls Softball League has chalked up an enviable record during her 38 years on the mound.

Mrs. Morrison started her softball career in 1915 with Hope, a small community near King City, west of Richmond Hill. She and her sister, Effie thought nothing of walking 5 miles to play ball. Later, the veteran righthander played with Maple, Thornhill and finally with Elgin Mills where she has starred for the past ten years. The club is almost a family affair as her husband, Mr. Wm. Morrison coaches the team, her daughter Mrs. Esther Topp plays first base, a niece, Mrs. Irene Mashinter catches, another niece, Miss Shirley Jones is a relief pitcher while yet another one Miss Mae Jones holds down a centre field position.

"Grandmaw" as Mrs. Morrison is commonly known to the opposing players has played a number of exhibition contests with Aurora and Newmarket against Senior Clubs from Toronto. Such well-known names as Sunnyside, Kodaks and Lakeview have all faced the power of her sinking curve ball.

"My arm feels as good as ever," exclaimed the Yonge St. mound star, "and my legs will travel as fast as they did thirty years ago."

In order to get herself in shape at the beginning of a season, Rena and her daughter throw the softball back and forth for hours in their backyard at Richmond Hill.

The Elgin Mills pitcher has thrown literally dozens of shut out games during her career and her hurling skill has vaulted her team into a second place position this year in the Markham League. Other clubs in the group are Stouffville, Cedar Grove, Peaches and Unionville.

"I've never received a cent in my life for playing softball," said the 52 year old twirler, "I play the game only for the love of the sport and hope to continue for another twenty years."

Umpire Quits Game, Sutton Wins 10-6

Plate umpire Don Davis decided on Wednesday evening that he would no longer tolerate the criticism that baseball officials are sometimes subjected to, so midway through the Stouffville-Sutton game he vacated his position in favour of any bystander who might do the job. The contest was a hectic affair from start to finish. Like most Stouffville-Sutton games, the tension is usually high and the Red Sox were woefully short-handed and found it necessary to borrow a Sutton outfielder to complete their lineup. As the contest progressed, things seemed to go from bad to worse until the climax was reached. In order that the game might be completed, a spectator was called in from the crowd, and he called the balls and strikes from a position back of the mound. Sutton took the contest 10-6.

Unionville Out

According to reports the Unionville Jets Jr. B hockey team will not operate during the coming season. Many of the players who performed with the club last year are slated for Jr. A ranks. In the 1952-53 season the Jets brought in a considerable amount of revenue to the Unionville Arena, much higher than in the previous year. If the management of the Jets definitely decide to disband it is hoped that a Jr. C team might be organized where more local hockey talent might be able to play.

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