



# SPORTS SHORTS

BY JIM THOMAS

## I RAN THE "MIRACLE MILE"

During the past few days we have heard much talk about Britain's Roger Bannister and his "miracle mile" run which he completed in less than four minutes at the British Empire Games at Vancouver on Saturday. Just how tough is such a race? How fast could the average runner cover such a gruelling course? In order to answer these questions I decided to run the one mile distance and clock myself over the course. In order to build up some extra energy for the run I downed a strawberry milk shake and slipped a chocolate bar into my rear pocket in case I should run out of steam at the half-way mark. I then proceeded to the race track at the Markham Fair Grounds and after scaling a half dozen fences I checked my watch to get an exact reading. The track was rough, an obstacle I knew I must overcome, but there were no fans in the stands and since I was alone I was able to set my own pace. I started out at a rapid clip but the pace decreased considerably as I approached the half-mile post. On the second lap my legs felt like chunks of lead and the perspiration stood out on my forehead but undaunted I continued on to the bitter end. At the end of the one mile jaunt I staggered over to check my watch to see if I had possibly set a new mile record. The time, 12 minutes and 32 seconds, or more than three times slower than Bannister's mark. No wonder the world was thrilled by such an exhibition of speed and courage as displayed by the "miracle mile" runners. It is certainly amazing that such a course could be covered in less than four minutes. If you think it's easy, try it yourself some day.

## "E" FOR EFFORT

The Stouffville Girls' Softball Team is planning an entry in the P.W.S.U. and everyone knows it's impossible to enter a club in such a league without financial support. The first big drain on the bank account will be the purchase of new uniforms. A few weeks ago the club held a bake sale but according to reports the profits from this undertaking were not too large. On Saturday night the girls aided by a number of sports-minded gentlemen around town, staged a Bingo in the Stouffville Arena in an effort to raise the necessary funds. At this Bingo practically every girl on the squad was on hand to help make the affair a success. One must give the local team credit for its interest, and it is to be hoped that the girls win one or two rounds in the forthcoming Provincial playoffs.

## A BATTLING BALL CLUB

Residents of Stouffville have a baseball club of which they can well be proud. The 1954 edition of the Stouffville Red Sox is probably one of the finest teams that this town has produced in many years. They take every game seriously and play just as hard against last place Bobcaygeon or second place Sutton. This season the local squad has lost only three games and is firmly entrenched in first place, but the boys take each defeat as though they were battling for a playoff position. On Friday evening the homesters dropped a 4-3 decision to Lindsay in a thrill-packed contest and they took the same attitude as the Brooklyn Dodgers after they were knocked out of the World Series by the Yankees. Fans like to see a team that goes out on the diamond and gives everything it's got and that is exactly the type of ball club we have in Stouffville. What makes the team's excellent record more unique, the entire squad comprises home brew talent, many who have played under the Stouffville colors for a number of years. As the Red Sox enter the Tri-County League playoffs every local sports enthusiast will be pulling for the home town squad to capture the second straight championship.

## NEXT WEEK IS ALL-STAR WEEK

Next week an all-star selection will be made out of the Men's and Ladies' Softball League. In the Men's League, a form has been sent to each of the seven coaches. They will select what they believe to be a first team and an alternate team. When the returns are received I will count up the votes and make the final selection. No coach is allowed to select one of his own players. The following week I will select what I believe to be a first and second all-star team. In the Girls' League I will pick a first team and an alternate squad from players with Stouffville, Peaches, Agincourt and Elgin Mills. At the close of the season a game between these two clubs would probably draw a good crowd.

## Peaches Topple Elgin Mills

Peaches scored their second straight victory in a row over Elgin Mills on Wednesday of last week as they upset the Yonge Street crew 8-1. It marked the wind-up of the regular schedule.

Fern Hoover came through with the key hit of the game in fourth innings as she pounded a double through the infield with the bases loaded. She was later picked off at third when she attempted to stretch the hit into extra bases. Both clubs were deadlocked at 3-3 going into the fourth. Peaches added

another in the sixth to complete the scoring. Elgin Mills scored a single run in the first, two in the third and one in the sixth.

Shirley Young went the distance for the rural squad with Shirley Jones handling the mound chores for the visitors. Pat Smith was the most potent batter for Peaches, hitting two for two and working the pitcher for two walks. May Spires and Irene Mashinter connected for four of the visitors seven safeties. The Elgin Mills squad were forced to use a number of substitute players to field team. Rena "Grandma" Morrison came in as a pinch-hitter in the fourth inning and were deadlocked at 3-3 going into the fourth. Peaches added

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## Four Teams In Unionville Tournament Sat.

A Field Day is being planned in the Unionville Park on Saturday afternoon. Four softball teams will take part in the tournament with the winners to meet for the tournament championship at 7 p.m. in the evening. First prize is \$25 and second prize \$15. Agincourt, Markham and Buttonville have accepted the invitation to play in the tourney. Another club is to be selected. The first game will commence at 1 p.m. and the second contest at 4 o'clock. Some time during the afternoon there will be a hardball game between Hamilton and Unionville Midgets. At 7 p.m. in the evening a giant Bingo will be staged.

## Senior OASA Plans Announced

Three teams out of the Markham Township Softball League are planning entries in OASA competition. Markham, Agincourt and Aurora have indicated their intentions to field teams. The teams comprising the first group will be Markham, Agincourt, Brampton and Dixie. Aurora have a bye in the first round and will meet the winners of the Markham-Agincourt series. The playoffs are expected to get underway around the first week in September.

## To Arrange Tri-County Playoffs Friday

A special meeting of the Tri-County Baseball League will be held on Friday night at Sunderland to arrange the dates for the forthcoming playoffs. At the present time the standings are still in doubt. The Stouffville Red Sox have definitely nailed down the No. 1 position while Lindsay and Sutton are waging a neck and neck race for second place. It's still a toss-up for the final spot between Sunderland and Port Perry. Bobcaygeon are mired deep in the League cellar. The playoffs will commence next week.

## Girls Beat Agincourt By Default

The Stouffville Girls Softball Team picked up two easy points on Wednesday night of last week as Agincourt defaulted.

## Lindsay Squeezes 9th Inning Victory From Local Squad

Three hits and two errors in the top half of the ninth inning spelled defeat for the Stouffville Red Sox on Friday night as Lindsay squeezed out a 4-3 victory in a thrill-packed contest. A good crowd watched the home town crew build up a convincing 3-0 lead, then watched it dwindle in the visitors' final turn at the plate.

The turning point in the game came in the fatal ninth with one out, a runner on first and the Red Sox leading 3-2. Pearson was sent in as a pinch-hitter and he lined a grass-cutter over second base. Short stop Les Clarke scooped the ball out of the dirt and fired to Ken Schell at first. The throw was low but Schell played it on the first hop and believed he had the runner in plenty of time. Base ump Bill Lennox called Pearson safe and the Red Sox' infield literally showered the official with protests on the call. No amount of arguing could change the umpire's ruling, however, and the inning continued. Crawford and Lewis tapped out safe hits counting the tying and winning runs.

The Red Sox had a final fling at the plate in their half of the ninth inning and although pitcher Lorne Schell worked righthander Williams for a walk Ken Schell grounded out third to first and Hassard and Raxlin were strike out victims.

The entire contest was a thrilling pitchers battle between Williams of Lindsay and Schell of the Red Sox. The visitors were limited to four hits while Stouffville connected for six. Schell had a no-hitter going until the sixth when he allowed one hit. Lindsay bunched three hits into the final inning to gain a one run advantage. On three occasions Stouffville batsmen failed to come through in the clutch and left the bases loaded.

Outfielder Lloyd Jennings was the only Red Sox batter to connect for two hits. Allan Edgar, Bud Lehman, Les Clarke and Bob Hassard clipped Williams for one hit apiece. For seven out of the nine innings Lorne Schell, Stouffville's drop-cure artist, sent the Lindsay batters down in one, two, three order. It was a thrilling wind-up to a thrilling game.

Education is a matter of provincial administration in Canada.

ed the final game of the schedule. The visitors arrived forty five minutes late and failed to field a full team. They borrowed one of the Stouffville pitchers and staged practice game.

## Large Trout from Local Waters



K. R. Davis, local tobacconist and town tax collector, is shown here displaying a mammoth speckled trout which he caught recently in the small stream which enters town west of Church St. This is not the first prize specimen Mr. Davis has hauled out of local waters. This one was well over a foot long, an angler's dream in the speckled trout class.

hits for Port Perry in the ninth accounted for Port Perry's final three runs.

Lorne Schell on the mound allowed seven hits, three walks and struck out fourteen. McTaggart on the hill for Port Perry gave up thirteen hits, eight walks and struck out five. Allan Edgar, Bob Hassard and Bud Lehman each connected for two hits in four official trips. Pitcher Lorne Schell worked his mound rival for five walks in five times at bat.

## Shamrocks Lose 4-3 Sat. Night

Stouffville Shamrocks played their first Saturday night game of the season last week and a good crowd saw one of the best softball games played here this season. "Red" Fleming started on the mound for Markham's Aces but had to seek relief from Peg O'Neill, the visitors' old reliable strike-out sensation. Markham squeezed out a 4-3 victory. Jack Sumner hurled superb ball for the homesters. The Markham batters attempted to rattle the Stouffville infield with a volley of bunts but Sumner was off the mound like a cat to throw out the runners at first. A couple of costly infield errors proved to be the difference between the two clubs. Coach Ted Edwards of the

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Shamrocks is planning another Saturday night contest with Markham which was rained out earlier in the schedule. On Thursday night Gordie Wright and his Thornhill squad will be in town.

## Red Sox Down Port Final Home Stand

Stouffville Red Sox completed their final home game of the current Tri-County League schedule as they downed Port Perry 11-5 here on Monday night. Righthander Lorne Schell held the visitors off the score sheet until the eighth inning when they scored two runs. They added three more in the ninth.

The homesters counted one run in the first inning on hits by third baseman Bud Lehman and short stop Les Clarke. Walks to pitcher Lorne Schell and catcher Bob Hassard proved costly in the second as both players romped home on a drive by centre fielder Lloyd Jennings. Walt Smith hit into a double play to retire the side. Lehman scored in the third inning to boost the Stouffville lead to 4-0 and Lorne Schell and Bob Hassard counted two more in the seventh.

The Scugog crew showed some signs of a rally in the eighth when a hit, two errors and a walk produced two runs. The Red Sox roared back, however, with five runs in their half of the eighth to run the score into the double figures. Bud Lehman, Les Clarke, Lorne Schell, Bob Hassard and Lou

Raxlin rounded the sacks for Stouffville. Two errors and two

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