



PROFESSIONALISM
Professionalism in sport is described as being "the highest standard of proficiency that can be attained in the field of athletics." I wonder if this statement is really correct. In a recent issue of Maclean's magazine, Roderick Haig-Brown, a writer, attacks professionalism in sport and his summary is very interesting. Breaking it down, I will quote a few of his statements.

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"The winning or losing of a game is not important — but the professional doesn't play for fun — he works at it for a living."

"He may be a lighthearted individual who likes to enjoy himself; he may be an honorable man who wants to observe every rule faithfully — but he had better not let these considerations interfere too much with the business of winning or he won't be earning a living very long." The Maclean writer asserts that the need for amateur sport in its true sense was never greater than it is today. "We need to develop a Canadian philosophy of sport and not borrow from the American deviation where anything goes."

Says Haig-Brown: "If Canadian sport, from its earliest to its most advanced stages, would turn resolutely away from professional models and standards and learn to play games for fun, it would attract more players and we should grow a better people." I cannot help but agree.

PRO WRESTLING
It is no secret that wrestling here during the summer has not gained too much fan support. The reason for this lack of interest is not really known. In other towns of similar size, the grunt and grown artists draw well but in Stouffville the attendance has, in past seasons, been quite small. Perhaps the one reason for the lack of interest has been the number of other sports attractions here. There is something going on in the Park every night of the week and spectators just can't be two places at the same time. However, I have come to the conclusion that wrestling enthusiasts would like to see a higher class of bonemeat on the card. In Whitby and Oshawa, all the big names in the wrestling business perform before good crowds and that's what we should have here. It has been reported that this is the type of wrestling we may see here this summer. Although still in the rumour stage, a Toronto promoter has informed Arena Manager W. T. Rennie that he plans to bring professional wrestling to Stouffville some time in June. Such names as Pat Flannigan, "Hard-boiled" Haggerty, Whipper Billy Watson, the Mills Brothers and many more would be on the card if the plan is carried through. I for one, like to see a good wrestling match, but, like many other followers of the sport, I like to see it at its best as is provided at Maple Leaf Gardens on Thursday nights.

IT'S COLD OUTSIDE
One can hardly blame players for any lack of enthusiasm that has prevailed during the past month. With temperatures hovering around the thirty-two degree mark in the evenings and remaining in the low fifties during the day it is hardly good weather to loosen up the old right arm. In addition to the frigid temperatures, the park has been too wet for much soccer practice and with the schedule less than two weeks away, the boys aren't going to have too much time to take the kinks out of their legs. The Red Sox have held one practice session this week. They swing into action on May 21st. The Midgets are probably in the best shape having held two warm-ups. Buttonville will take to the diamond on Thursday evening at 7 o'clock for their initial start.

Due to the lateness of the season, the Markham Township Softball League has been pushed on almost two weeks to Tuesday, May 23rd. Last year the schedule opened on May 17th. It would be very foolish for any local league to operate under the present conditions. It would not only be hard on the players to give their best but the near-freezing temperatures would not tend to attract too many cash customers down to watch the games. It would seem that the various leagues are starting under exactly the same conditions as some of them finished last fall — cold, wet weather. One of these days however, Old Sol will give us a much-needed break and Stouffville's summer sports program will be able to swing into high gear.

SOMETHING WRONG
There's something wrong with the sports organization. If a town of more than 4,000 population cannot field either a baseball or a softball team. In Aurora, this is apparently the case. When the annual meeting of the Tri-County League was held at Sunderland recently, Aurora could not definitely say if they would be filing an entry this season. An additional meeting was arranged at Sutton last week to draw up the schedule, but Aurora was not represented. The same story was true at the Markham Twp. Softball meeting. It was stated that the Yonge Street squad would be back in the group again this summer. At the first meeting a representative was not in attendance nor was a phone call made to the Secretary to explain the reason for the absence. In order to give Aurora an opportunity to reach a decision, the League Executive elected to hold another meeting this week and the Secretary sent out the necessary notices. Still Aurora was not represented. Some thought they still intended to enter the league but their plans were strangely indefinite. The Executive felt that they couldn't hold up the organization of the schedule any longer, so the subject was dropped. The coaches of the remaining four clubs expressed regret at Aurora's withdrawal from the group. Although their team finished out of the playoffs last year, they had some excellent players on the roster and always put up a good game.

Red Sox to Meet Orillia in Holiday Baseball Opener
The Tri-County League schedule was drawn up at a special meeting held at Sutton last week. There are five teams in the group, including Orillia, Newmarket, Port Perry, Sunderland and Stouffville. Aurora did not file an entry and Lindsay have moved into the Lakeshore loop.

The schedule will open on Monday, May 21st. The Red Sox will visit Orillia for the Holiday afternoon contest. Following the game, the Couchiching squad have invited the Stouffville players and their wives or girlfriends to a party that will be held in the town.

It is expected that Orillia will field a strong club in the Tri-County circuit. Their team boasts a number of good pitchers, something that other clubs in the loop haven't been able to find. The Red Sox at the present time are placing their hopes of the throwing arms of right-hander Lorne Schell and south-paw Dave Hammersley. The intentions of speedballer Stan Miller are not known. In the "receiving" department, Stouffville is well equipped with catchers with Hal Gibson, Don Haynes, Derek Chadwick and Bob Hassard all able to fill this position. Ken McFarlane, an employee at the local Bank of Commerce, is also trying out for a chance to don the big dekker. Fred Ellis, a new prospect from Agincourt, was out to practice on Monday evening along with some other new recruits.

In the hitting department, Stouffville is expected to be a real match for their Orillia rivals, with some potent batsmen in the lineup. Besides such long-ball clouters as Ken Schell, Les Clarke, Hal Gibson, Bob Hassard they may obtain the services of Harold Hodgson and Graham Frisby who are no strangers at clubbing the offerings of opposing pitchers. Harold played softball for Altona for the greater part of last season while Graham performed with the Junior Cardinals.

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| Toilet Tissue - 2 for .23 | |
| Cudney Peaches, 20 oz. - .21 | |
| Ginger Ale, 2 bottles - .35 plus deposit | |

CARLOAD
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Four-Team Markham Township League To Open May 29th
The Markham Township Softball League will open its schedule on Tuesday, May 29th. The group has been reduced from six to four teams, due to the withdrawal of Aurora and Unionville from the loop. Agincourt have not filed an entry but they have been replaced by Newmarket. The other three clubs will be Buttonville, Markham and Thornhill.

At a special meeting called on Tuesday night of this week, it was decided to draw up a schedule. Each club appointed a member to the Executive. Buttonville named Jack Watson; Markham—Doug O'Neill; Newmarket—Doug James, and Thornhill—Keith Jamieson. Secretary Will Bundy informed the representatives that there was a balance of \$239.00 in the league treasury.

Buttonville and Markham will play their home games on Thursday nights while Newmarket and Thornhill will play at home on Tuesday evenings. Twilight games at Thornhill will commence at 7 o'clock and floodlight contests will start at 8:30. The home team will supply both the plate and base umpires. In a park without lights, seven innings will constitute a game. Floodlight games will go nine-innings. All-playoff games will be nine-inning contests.

All player certificates must be signed by June 15th. Each team will be allowed to sign 18 players. All four teams are planning to enter their clubs in O.A.S.A. competition.

Following the completion of the regular schedule, the top three teams will engage in a round-robin playoff. After this series, the two top clubs will play a best three-out-of-five games for the League Championship.

Claremont Opens Soccer Season on Sat., May 12
The Claremont Legionaires will take to the field on Saturday evening of this week to officially open the soccer season. Their first game will be at home against Oshawa "Kickers". The local squad will comprise the following players: Earl Pilkey, Ivan Beverley, Ross Redshaw, Stan Benson, Walt Murray, Charles Camilbou, Chris Brophy, Bill Gunn, Stan Godell and Ron Godell. Either Earl Pilkey or Ivan Beverley will guard the goal in Saturday's opener. The team manager is Randy Caruthers. The coach is Gord Benson. Claremont's home contests will be played on Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

The schedule was expected to start on Saturday, May 6th, but due to the frigid temperatures and unseasonable weather, it was delayed for one week. There are nine clubs in the group, including five from Oshawa and one from Peterboro. John Mansville, Ajax and Claremont.

Girls' Teams to Merge, Play on Local Grounds
The two local girls softball teams that operated in the Markham Township group last season, Stouffville and Peach's, plan to join forces this summer and enter a league with Agincourt, Brooklin and Oshawa. The new club will use the Stouffville Park for home contests. They plan to play on Wednesday evenings.

At the present time, a coach is badly needed to handle the job of organizing the local entry. Bill Nichols, Stouffville's coach last season, feels he can't afford the time to look after the club again this summer. A practice will be called as soon as weather conditions become a little more favorable.

With a few exceptions, both teams will have the majority of their last year's players back. Stouffville will have Joan Haynes and Joyce Byer for mound duty while Mary Cole, Pat Skinner, Muriel Byer, Helen Lemon, Lavina Malcolm, Joan Elson, Joan Chadwick and Ruth Pennanen will be trying to catch a spot on the squad. With the exception of Marg Smith, Peach's expect to have all their girls out to the initial practise, including Marj Barber, Audrey Murison, Gwen Kennedy, Dorcen Jarvis, Helen Gayman, Eleanor Sproxtion, Edna Stickley, Marion Gayman, Fern Hoover and Joan Gayman. The last year's Stouffville club have fine uniforms, and both teams have enough funds left over to give them a good start this season.

Claremont Soccer Schedule
Saturday, May 12th Claremont vs Kickers
Wednesday, May 16th Claremont vs Dowty's
Saturday, May 19th John Manville vs Claremont
Wednesday, May 23rd Claremont vs Dowty's
Saturday, May 26th Peterboro vs Claremont
Tuesday, June 5th Hollandia vs Claremont
Saturday, June 9th Claremont vs Strila
Monday, June 18th Inter vs Claremont
Saturday, June 23rd Claremont vs Johns Manville (Labatt Trophy)
Tuesday, June 26th Kickers vs Claremont
Monday, July 2nd Thistle vs Claremont
Wednesday, July 4th Claremont vs Johns Manville
Wednesday, July 11th Dowty's vs Claremont
Saturday, July 14th Claremont vs Peterboro
Saturday, July 21st Claremont vs Hollandia
Saturday, July 28th Strila vs Claremont
Wednesday, Aug. 8th Claremont vs Inter.

The first club named will be the home team. Dowty's will play at Ajax, Hollandia in Fernhill Park, Oshawa; Inter at Lakeview Park, Oshawa; Johns Manville at Port Union; Peterboro in Peterboro Park; Kickers at Fernhill Park and Strila at Alexandra Park, Oshawa.

Twenty-Four Players Attend Ball Practice
Favored with slightly milder temperatures on Tuesday evening, 24 players were on hand for Modget baseball practice in the Stouffville Park. Coach Murray Stewart put the boys through a good early-season workout. The team will enter into the North York Minor League.

For some thirty minutes, the lads loosened up their arms with throwing practice. A little later, an infield warm-up was organized with ten selected players getting an opportunity of proving their worth around the bases. Gord Eckardt handled the dekker at the plate while Murray Holden and Roger Beazley took turns at first base. On 2nd, Lawrence Wildeman, Sandy Smith, Garry Usherwood and Norm Hendricks handled ground balls in order. Bob Stover and Jim Spang worked at short-stop and Ted Suzuki covered third base. Coach Stewart clouted the ground balls and pointed out any mistakes that showed up. It is expected that group convener, Mr. Geo. Haskett of Newmarket will call an organization meeting very shortly.

Flirt — A girl who got the boy you wanted.

Red Sox Hold Initial Practice
The Stouffville Red Sox, the present holders of the Tri-County League Championship, took to the field on Monday evening for their first practise session of the season. In spite of the frigid weather conditions, the majority of last year's players were in attendance along with a number of newcomers. Some of the men on hand were Bob Hassard, Don Haynes, Ken Schell, Lorne Scheil, Dave Hammersley, Harold Hodgson, Les Clarke, Bud Lehman, Ted Cadieux, Graham Frisby, Derek Chadwick, Fred Ellis and Ken McFarlane. The Red Sox plan to play their home games on Monday nights under the lights.

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Reservation Deadline For Park, May 12th
The Secretary of the Stouffville Park Board, Mr. Ted Cadieux, has set a deadline of Saturday, May 12th, for reservations to be filed by teams who intend to use the facilities here during the summer. To date, a number of clubs have stated their intentions while no word has been received from others. The Board will hold a meeting early next week to work out a schedule and decide what teams should have a priority should more than one club desire the same nights. At the present time it appears likely that five teams will be operating here namely, the Red Sox, Buttonville, the Midgets, the Girls' Team and the Soccer Club.

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SOFTBALL TEAM TO PRACTICE ON THURSDAY
The Buttonville "Sluggers" local softball entry in the Markham Twp. League, will hold their initial practice session on Thursday evening (10-night) at seven o'clock. Coach Jack Watson is anxious that all young players in the district wishing to play softball will attend the warm-up. Buttonville will play all their home games under the lights here in Stouffville. The other clubs in the group are Newmarket, Markham and Thornhill.

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CEDAR GROVE
The film made for the Saskatchewan Government to commemorate the province's 50th Anniversary was a highlight in Saturday's Schoolhouse program in Cedar Grove.

Interest was added to the movie through a series of slides taken before and during the actual shooting of this festive film. Christopher Chapman, who is well known in Cedar Grove, played a large part in photographing the Sask. film and his comments, both humorous and instructive, were much appreciated. By request, Mr. Chapman showed his own film, "The Seasons," a sensitive, artistic portrayal of nature in all her capricious beauty. The schoolhouse was filled for the occasion and the Hon. H. M. Nickle, Minister of Planning and Development, who was invited to attend, sent a letter of regret.

On Saturday morning Cedar Grove will have its first organized Nature hike. Adults and children are invited to meet at Jean Miller's at 8 a.m. for a walk through Woodland Park in search of birds and whatever wild flowers are in view. Recently a meadowlark, rare in this area, was spotted and if any other rare birds are around the hour chosen will be the time to spot them.

This late spring that is the butt of so many city jokes, is no joke in a farming area. If the farmers do not get on the land soon, there will be nothing but corn to harvest.

On the subject of spring—did

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