

# "Throw-Away Ball" After Tag Creates Near Brawl at Game

A Greenville infielder threw away the ball on a sure-fire out at the plate and his team threw away a chance to advance into the second round of the ORSA Int. "B" playoffs in the "rubber match" of a series against Greenwood on Saturday night.

The hectic play occurred in the 3rd inning with the visiting Greenville team leading 1-0. With Grant Jones and John Wilson parked on base, Greenwood batter, Brian McTaggart was out on an unassisted tag at 1st. On the relay to the plate to nab Wilson, the ball went wild. Jones then streaked for home. An infielder raced in to cover and had Jones "cold" but according to umpire Gord Todd, he failed to retain possession of the ball. The player argued that it was third out and he purposely threw the ball out to the mound. He charged at the official and had to be restrained by four of his mates. Greenwood went on to win the game and the series by a score of 8-4. They now meet Omagh who ousted Brougham in a three-game series.

**Paved The Way**  
The third inning rally for Greenwood put them in the driver's seat and they never were headed. Doug Webb and Grant Jones scored in the 5th to make it 4-1. Bob and Brian McTaggart and Grant Jones sewed up the victory with runs in the 7th. Jim Wilson was given a rousing ovation when he smashed a tremendous triple to deep right field in the 8th and romped home when Doug Webb fled to centre.

Greenville counted 1 in the sixth and a pair in the 8th. Grant Pascoe went the 9-inning distance on the Greenwood mound and hurled good ball all the way. Costly errors hurt the Greenville club as they bobbed the ball all over the park. The McTaggart brothers were outstanding, both on the defensive and at bat.

# Claremont Midgets Lose 6-5 In Eleven Innings

Eleven innings of hard work ended in heartbreak for the Claremont Midgets Monday night at Claremont Park. Only after the two extra innings had been played did they give up a 6-5 contest to Bay Ridges.

Although his team lost, pitcher Ken Vernon put up a valiant battle. He went the stretch for his club, giving up nine well-spaced hits. To add to the cause, the fifteen year old hurler belted a solid home run.

Bob Cranston, tossing for Bay Ridges, was tapped for 11 hits, but most of the runners were stranded on base.

The score was deadlocked at five runs apiece as the regular nine innings drew to a close.

Both teams fought through a scoreless 10th inning, then, in the top of the 11th, the roof caved in for Claremont.

Ron Slater, the first batter to

face Vernon in that inning, knocked out a solid double. The following batter singled, while the third batsman walked. This scored Slater and the game ended.

Next game in the Bantam "A" series will be played Monday at Claremont park. Game time is 8:30 p.m.

**Aces Win Opener**  
Markham "Aces" by virtue of a 1-0 win took the first game of the Ontario Amateur Softball Association playoffs against East Gwillimbury Tuesday night. The game was played in East Gwillimbury.

Second game in the series is scheduled for Markham's Morgan Park Thursday (tonight). Game time is 8 p.m.

A third game will be played on a neutral park.

# Over The Top



Susan Nigh, conc. 7, Markham, continues to set the pace in high jump events. Last week she took another 1st in competition at Scarboro. She leaves on Thursday (today) to take part in another meet in New Brunswick.

# Violence Threatens; Jr. Game Stopped

A Junior baseball game in the Stouffville Park between the local I.G.A. club and Oshawa was halted by the umpire in the 7th inning on Wednesday night when an infield brawl threatened.

The initial skirmish occurred when Murray Godfrey of Oshawa and Dave Slack of Stouffville collided at 1st base. An Oshawa man came off the bench to challenge Slack and was immediately given the old heave-ho.

To add fuel to the fire, Ron Blockett of Oshawa was clipped by a pitched ball and he raced towards the mound to get in a little batting practice on Mike Cadieux's head. The official immediately halted the contest. Oshawa was leading at this point, 5-2 but who really won the game, no one seemed to know.

Barry McLean and Larry Spang counted the two Stouffville runs, both in the 1st inning. Oshawa rallied with sin-

gles in the 4th and 6th and three in the 7th.

**Susan Nigh First Again**  
Although she claims to be in a slump, Susan Nigh continues to place first in high jump events.

Last weekend at Birchmont arena and park in Scarborough, Sue paced the competitors with a 5'2" jump and aided in Central Ontario's win over Western Ontario.

Regulations in the meet provided for four entrants in each event, and Sue, while topping the high jump category, also placed second in the long jump.

Sue leaves Thursday (today) for the National Age Class competitions in New Brunswick, where, she expects, to meet her match. She will compete Friday and Saturday, returning on Sunday.

# Girls Edge Mt. Albert Team In Last Inning

Known for pulling ball games out of the fire, the Stouffville girls did just that Thursday night at the park. But, they almost waited too long to make their move. It was the bottom half of the last inning, with the score tied 10-10, when Stouffville turned on their offensive. The opponents, Mount Albert, held the upper hand throughout the game, but failed to break the tie in the top half of the seventh. This left the field wide open for the local girls, who immediately scored two runs on singles by Coleen Hisey and Anne Brown, ending the game at 12-10.

Mount Albert came on strong in the initial inning, scoring five runs off three Stouffville errors. The visitors added a run in the second, three in the fourth and one in the fifth to complete their scoring.

Stouffville, on the other hand, started to nibble on Mount Albert lead in the second inning with a single run, then added four in the third, two in the fourth, four in the fifth, and finally two in the seventh to end the ball game.

Stouffville committed a total of four errors in the game while Mount Albert was tagged for one.

Hurling for the winners, Nancy Hopkins allowed ten runs off four hits. However, she walked 10 batters, which accounted for the majority of the runs. Nancy mowed down eight rivals on strikeouts.

Side-arm pitcher, Diane Risebrough was tapped for eight hits, while she struck out three batters.

Stouffville's next home game is Thursday (tonight) at the park when they meet Jersey. Game time is 8 p.m.

# In This Corner

By RON WALLACE

On June 24th, in this column, I distinctly remember writing an article regarding the poor attendance at the local baseball games. Today, with baseball drawing to a close for the season, I am convinced that I laid the blame on the wrong shoulder.

You'll recall I accused the locals of sitting on their derrieres in front of a TV set, with no interest whatsoever in what was happening in the local ball loop.

No, the reason for the poor crowds is not the disinterested spectator, not is it the two local teams, the Juniors and Intermediates. The fault lies, we believe, with the organizers of the leagues. They call themselves organizers, but, I haven't seen a shred of organization this summer.

That is mainly the reason for our sports page where it should carry long, detailed stories of how our local boys are doing, it carries reports on teams as far away as Brooklin, Port Perry, Richmond Hill, and Newmarket. The reason is simple. Every newspaper is supposed to have a sports page, and, if the local ball officials are not interested in contributing, then, we will have to go elsewhere for our news. Which we did.

Things were looking pretty good at the start of the ball season. Members, determined to have complete coverage of the games, brought in a neatly typed schedule, for the first month, with solemn promises that the rest of the itinerary would be sent in later.

Stouffville was trying to get an Intermediate team going again after an absence of three years, and everything was going nicely until another team, Little Britain, dropped out of the league. That did it. The schedule that hung on our reference list became as useless as ice cream in Alaska.

After the withdrawal of that one team, we had to depend on the ball players themselves to supply the information for upcoming games, and some of the answers we received would make Davey Jones roll over in his locker.

"As far as I know, we should have a game between Monday and Friday, providing the opposition shows up, or if they feel they want to play, or if there's a blue moon in the sky," they answer.

From another source, "no, we're not in the playoffs, uh, yes, we are, well anyhow, we should be."

Or, "think we can get coverage on the game? When? Oh, sometime, before Labor Day."

Or we would ask, "is there a game tonight?" And receive something like, "wal, I'm not sure. Yes, I'm on the team, but nobody's told me anything."

And so it goes. Now, how can we be expected to get fans out to the games, if the players don't even know whether they're playing themselves? We can't and we don't.

Now that playoffs have begun in numerous centres in the area, we could attend three games a night, seven nights a week, and still not cover them all. But they would all become secondary if we knew there was a game here in town.

On last week's sports page, we have ball games from Markham, Claremont, Brougham, Port Perry and Goodwood. We also make mention of teams from Squire's Beach, Omagh, Heron Greenville, and Brooklin. Half those places, I've never heard of before. Out of town baseball gets better coverage than a good Beatle Press Conference. In town, baseball is almost unheard of.

This of course, makes the local sports reader rebel. Why, he asks, should we print from all those places, and not say a word about Stouffville? Now you know.

The men responsible for these out of town ball clubs have an interest in their teams, and they want people to see them play. So, they advertise, through town talk, window posters, and the newspaper media, . . . and they get results. Last week, more than 300 spectators turned up for a game in Claremont. Their stands won't even hold that many, but some sat, some stood, and all stayed for the duration of the game.

In Stouffville, it looks like the Bloor Street subway station the way people come and go. If the lights are on, they'll meander down to the park to see what all the commotion is about; but once they get there, they're not sure who's playing, what league it is, or what the score is, so, they continue their stroll to other points.

There's another reason why I say the spectators are not to blame for this. Checking the back files, I noticed a number of sports heads that read "600 See Clippers Win, or Packed House As Playoffs Begin." This is hockey, in the cold of the winter, where on some occasions, the snow is so deep, the arena doors won't open properly. This is when people should want to stay at home watching T.V., where the fireplace is more exciting than Diana Dors in a bikini. Yet, in their stroll, by the hundreds, paying a set admission, that increases during the playoffs.

Stouffville citizens are interested in sports; they want to see their friends and relatives in action; and they'll make sacrifices to do just that. The Clippers Management advertises every week in this paper; they paste enough posters around town to wallpaper the White House, and they even broadcast, via a PA system. It pays off. The team gets its support; the arena comes out in the black; and the fans see good hockey.

It all boils down to the fact that the organizers of any sport must have some interest in what they're doing. As far as I can see, there is more interest in the Terry-town Turtle Races than there is in baseball here.

Therefore, spectators, you have been wrongfully accused, and you are now rightfully reprieved. There is no hope this season for baseball in Stouffville. All is lost, as they say.

But, fret not, winter is coming, and perhaps next season, who can say for sure, they might place someone with a little responsibility in the organizer's chair.

You want to know if there are any more games this season?? Don't ask me, I'm only a reporter.

# Ball Games Of The Week

Thursday, Aug. 26  
East Gwillimbury at Markham (O.A.S.A. playoffs) Morgan Park 8 p.m.  
Jersey at Stouffville (girls) 8 p.m. Stouffville Park.  
Port Perry vs. Goodwood, 8 p.m. Claremont Park (Claremont Community Lg. Playoffs).

Friday, Aug. 27  
Greenwood at Omagh (Intermediate "C" ORSA playoffs). Saturday, Aug. 28  
Omagh at Greenwood (return game) Brougham Park 8 p.m. Pickering vs. Squires Beach (Int. "A" ORSA).

Monday, Aug. 30  
Claremont vs. Bay Ridges (Midget "A" ORSA playoffs) Claremont Park 8:30 p.m.  
Greenwood vs. Pickering (Claremont Comm. Lge. Playoffs) Brougham Park.

# Defending Champs Take 2-Game Lead

Pickering took a strangle hold on their Community League playoff series against Greenwood Monday night, with a 5-2 victory.

The best of five series now stands at two games to none in favour of the Pickering team.

Pickering used two pitchers in their winning efforts. Bob Carlisle started but was relieved by Tom Robinson when Greenwood started to threaten.

Neil Pascoe went the distance for the losers.

Next game scheduled for the series will be played on Monday at Brougham. Greenwood needs a win to stay alive. Game time is 8 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Greenwood Bantams were ousted from their Ontario Rural Softball Association Playoffs by Jarvis in two straight games.

# Mount Albert Edges Markham

Mount Albert Mounties tied their Ontario Amateur Softball Association Intermediate "C" Zone 3 playoff series when they edged Markham Hawks 3-2 on Tuesday night.

Jerry Case threw a five-hitter and struck out 19 to beat Hawks' Murray McDowell. McDowell allowed eight hits. Roger McElroy, George Green and Arnold Smith drove home winner's runs. Bill Offord collected three hits to pace Hawks.

# In Semi-Finals



Mrs. Donna Barkey, Claremont R.R.3, has advanced to the semi-finals of the Ontario Dairy Princess Competition. She was the winner of her class in competition on Monday at the C.N.E. Donna is representing Ontario County. —Staff Photo.

# Brougham Blanked By Omagh 15-0

The softball season ended for Brougham on Thursday night of last week. In a do-or-die contest with Omagh in the Intermediate "C" division of the Ontario Rural Softball Association, Brougham was blanked 15-0.

Brougham took the first game of the series 9-6 only to have Omagh tie the round with a 4-3, 10-inning match.

In Thursday's game, played in Omagh, Brougham's Bob Miller was tapped for the first six runs. He was relieved at the end of the sixth inning, by John Carson, who suffered through the remaining nine runs.

John Willmott recorded the shutout for Omagh as he pitched near-perfect ball.

Omagh will now meet Greenwood Friday in the first game of their series. The opener will be played in Omagh with the return match slated for the Brougham Park on Saturday.

Always drive as if the other driver may be crazy, and hope he follows the same rule.

# Goodwood Could Take Series Thursday Night

A 3-1 decision Monday night in Port Perry increased Goodwood's quarter-final best of seven playoff series to three games to one over Port Perry. The winner will meet either Greenwood or Pickering for the Community League Title.

Goodwood scored 2 of their three runs in the second inning when they caught Port Perry napping. The Port team was charged for five errors in that inning, and when they finally

did out three Goodwood batters, the bases were still loaded.

Doug MacMillan's triple in the bottom of the eighth inning was the only run Port Perry could count.

Ken May, who went the distance for Goodwood, was the winning pitcher.

It's do or die for Port Perry Thursday night at Claremont. A win would prolong the series. Game time is 8 p.m.

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BY TOM DORR

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