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PETERBORO WINNERS OF EASTERN HONORS

Beat Brockville 15-11—Will Meet Welland in Intermediate O.B.A.A. Final.

(By Staff Reporter.)

The Peterboro C.G.E. team won the right to represent Eastern Ontario against Welland, winners of the Western series, in the final round of the intermediate O.B.A.A. playoffs by virtue of a decisive win over Brockville at Napanee on Friday afternoon by the score of 15 to 11.

The 1922 champions played like veterans and came out on top in a duel featured with good errors, hard-lifting and good and bad pitching and which was finally halted in semi-darkness in the eighth inning.

Peterboro won the toss and elected to take the field, retiring Brockville without a run after the bases were loaded. Rose showed his calibre in the pinch, retiring the last two batters by the strike-out route.

Barrie, the first man up for Peterboro, reached first on McLean's error; McCorney walked; Dugan was called out when his batted ball struck him while hitting for first.

In the 6th inning, three Peterboro men walked, a two-bagger by Ross and a triple by Jackson helping along the good work and forcing the retirement of Howson from the mound.

a base on balls, the third out was finally made by the third Brockville twirler.

Brockville made a real bid for the honors in the 5th. Oakley walked but was caught going to second. Ranger to Barrie. Relyly reached first when Dugan muffed. Hunter ditto on Ranger's wild peg, and Taber was hit by a pitched ball, filling the bases. Simon struck out, but Lane, the peppery Brockville catcher, came through with a terrific drive for a homer, tallying four runs and placing Brockville in the lead. Rose retired to short for a rest, Ranger was benched, and Frost went to the mound, and the rally was nipped without further damage.

The winners clearly outplayed their rivals, the earned runs, outside of all the misplays, being enough to win the struggle by a safe margin. The Brockville twirlers were not given a great deal of support, however, and the highly touted sluggers from "down East" failed to come through when hits meant runs.

Leperance starred for the losers, while Rose played brilliantly throughout. The box score:

Table with columns: Brockville, AB, R, H, PO, A, E. Rows: Hunter, rf; Taber, 2b; Simon, cf; Lane, c; McLean, ss; Whiting, p; Howson, p; Singleton, p; Leperance, 3b; Oakley, lf; Relyly, 1b; Ryder, c.

xxHowson replaced Whiting in fifth. xxSingleton replaced Howson in sixth.

xxxBatted for Relyly in eighth. Barrie out for interference in fifth; Dugan, out, hit by batted ball in first.

Table with columns: Peterboro, AB, R, H, PO, A, E. Rows: Barrie, 2b; McCorney, cf; Dugan, 1b; Rose, p; xFrost, p; Ross, c; McPherson, rf; Jackson, 3b; "H", lf; Ranger, ss.

36 15 12 24 8 5

xReplaced Ranger in the fifth.

Summary.

Earned runs—Brockville 6; Peterboro 7; two-base hits—Rose, Hunter; three-base hits—Ranger, Frost, Jackson; home run—Lane; sacrifice hit—Rose; stolen bases—Rose (2), McCorney, Taber, Leperance; double plays—McLean to Taber to Relyly, third; base on balls—off Whiting 4, off Howson 3, off Singleton 1; off Rose 7; struck out—by Whiting 2, by Singleton 2, by Rose 10; hit by pitcher—Rose (Hunter and Taber); wild pitch—Rose, Whiting; passed balls—Rose (2), Lane (2); left on bases—Brockville 14, Peterboro 9; umpires—Howard, of Ottawa, and Skitch, of Cobourg; time of game—2:15.

xxInnings: Brockville.....02304110—11 Peterboro.....5003160x—15 Game called in eighth on account of darkness.

Willie Hoppe, world's champion billiard champion, has filed his entry papers for the International 18.2 tournament to be held at New York, Oct. 29th.

AUTOMOBILE IS NOW RIVAL OF BASEBALL

People Go to the Country Instead of to the Ball Grounds—Or Golf.

Minor league baseball, in practically every section of the United States, is in dire straits. The season of 1923, which has been less profitable in the majors, but which shows only normal slump in attendance due to lack of interest in the races and bad teams in some cities, has been one continual story of poor attendance and heavy losses in the minors.

There are half a dozen leagues carrying on the finish with some difficulty and a number of clubs are hanging on hoping to sell players to the major leagues to recoup the losses of the season.

The reason for the failures and the lack of interest in minor baseball is a mystery to many baseball men.

The Southern and the Coast Leagues, both the big things in their sections and near major quality, have done well enough. But baseball men all over the country admit that attendance at games, even to the semi-pro contests, has decreased to a point where conducting a minor league club is practically a certain loss, unless it can develop a few players to sell at high prices.

The majority of the minor league owners and managers declare that the big reason for the falling off in attendance and in the interest in the automobile, I talked recently with the owner of a club in one of the richest and most prosperous towns in the middle west. The plant of this club is a beautiful one, better than that of any major league club of twenty years ago, although the team is in class B. The merchants of the town subscribed to the support of the club and carry it for the sake of the town. The club president said that even season ticket holders and pass holders did not attend games.

"In our league," he said, "the trouble is double, automobiles and golf. The wealthy citizens either drive out to the country club and golf, or out to the lake for Sunday. The merchants put up money to support the club, but even they will not come to games. The town now has one auto to every four, and a half inhabitants. The factory and store workers who used to support the team now load their families and friends into the cars and are off to the lake or into the country from Saturday to Monday—and busy working the rest of the week. Our two real paying days are entirely lost. I find conditions much the same in every city in the country."

Billy Nissen, the well-known Chicago veteran leader of independent teams, who takes his club into many of the smaller cities of the central west, says: "I do not think interest in baseball has declined, but it seems to me that the majority of people have too many other amusements. The fellows who used to attend games regularly now go once a month and attend to their golf or their auto riding the rest of the time. The situation is serious for the smaller leagues, and the small towns which formerly supported independent teams and poured out to games when there was a good attraction are dead.

"I think that the automobile is the big cause. The fellow who has a car not only prefers riding on Sunday, but takes his neighbor with him, which takes two or more away from the games. I notice that the crowds in one town will be largely composed of people from nearby towns. A lot of them prefer riding twenty-five or thirty miles and attending a game somewhere else than to attend a game at home."

The situation indirectly affects the major leagues and the larger minors as the supply of young ball players appears to be diminishing steadily, and if the minor leagues do not function the development of new material to replace the worn-out veterans of the majors will cease.

Elmer Bracher, former Rutgers college football player, was killed Sunday at Rahway, N. J., when the car he was driving crashed into a truck that was standing on Lincoln highway. George Richardson Scott was painfully injured.

In the first of the professional rugby international games played under the Northern Union auspices, a team representative of England defeated Wales by a score of 18 points to 11.

Mr. McEwyn, owned by W. R. L. Courlie, Dallas, Texas, won the thirty-first renewal of the \$7,000 division of the Kentucky Futurity.

Eddie Oatman, for the past five years captain of the Victoria hockey club, will be playing manager of the Calgary Tigers this winter.

Ferguson, star lineman, has joined the University of Toronto football team.

Angel Firpo has filed an application in New York for U. S. citizenship.

Tex Rickard has everything ready for the match between Battling Siki and Kid Norfolk, Oct. 10th.

However we toil, or whosoever we wander, our fatigued wisens still recur to home for tranquillity.

MAY PUT HORNSBY ON AUCTION BLOCK

Manager Hickey, of Cardinals, Silent Since the Recent Rumpus.

The latest sensation in the National League concerns a right hook delivered by Rogers Hornsby, against the jaw of Branch Rickey, manager of the Cardinals.

Of course, Rickey was not on the receiving end throughout the hectic battle, for reports have it that after Hornsby challenged with the first blow there was a wild exchange of hooks and uppercuts that only came to a finish when players in the clubhouse separated the two batters.

And the final result may be that Hornsby, admired for years by the manager of the Cardinals, held up by Rickey as one of the most ideal players he has ever seen in his career, may be put on the auction block this winter.

Imagine the scrambling to the pit to bid for Rogers Hornsby!

What sweet words to John J. McGraw and the Giants.

For whenever anything is offered for sale, who in the league has a chance in competitive bidding against the Giants? No one.

If McGraw paid \$100,000 for Pitcher Hugh McQuillan of the Braves, how much in cash would be put out for Hornsby?

During the middle of the 1921 season the Giants, trying to regain their feet as a pennant contender, offered \$250,000 for Hornsby. This was refused by Rickey and President Samuel Breadon of the Cardinals.

It is reported that the Cubs were in communication with Rickey a few hours after the news leaked out announcing the row between Rickey and Hornsby. Charley Hollocher and others form the bait Bill Killefer is ready to exchange for Hornsby.

While the Cubs have not stirred the financial market to much of an extent, there are as many millions behind them as the Giants.

A player of Hornsby's ability would balance the Cubs and make them a legitimate pennant contender for 1924. Killefer already has been given credit for rebuilding a snappy young ball club.

Following the rumpus with Hornsby, Rickey has been silent. He has refused to say whether peace will be declared or whether Hornsby will be offered for trade.

Reliable information says that Rickey's pride has been hurt and that he will accept a fair bargain offered for one of the greatest hitters the game has ever developed. Rickey is planning a big shake-up in his St. Louis organization. He intends to knock off the dead timber and develop youngsters. He recently handed Catcher Eddie Ainsmith his unconditional release.

Pitcher Ed Pfeffer, a belligerent, will be traded during the winter, not because he is slipping but because he objected to obeying rules put down by the Cardinal's manager. Milton Stock is also booked for trade. Johnny Lavan will not return to the knotholes and other veterans are due to pass out.

THRILLING MOMENTS IN RUGBY.

The Ottawa Journal carries the following: Those who saw the final game between Queen's and Argonauts at Toronto last year will never forget it. They will always recall that great stand of the Argos, led by Conacher, who finally pressed ahead after being soundly beaten in the first half. The moment when the Argos, huddled on their side of centre, tossed off the chance of victory through a mental slip by Connie is well remembered. Dismore had just burst away for a 30 yard run, and two downs had gained nothing. The obvious way was to kick, but Dismore, Conacher, or somebody, on the Argos elected to try a run. Lost out, and had to turn over the ball. Queen's, two points behind, sent Leadley, skirting his end, and the letter finished up 35 yards from the Argo posts. The ball was put into play near the right touchline. It was worked by two crossfield plays, directly in front of the posts. Sixteen thousand voices were hushed, and 32,000 eyes strained as Leadley prepared for a drop kick. Would he make it? The ball left his foot, and the impact of toe to leather was audible in all the reaches of the stand. The ball soared straight as a dart and split the uprights for a three point gain, and Queen's had won. We can still feel that mighty thump on the back that Bill Garvoek, most loyal alumnus of Queen's, gave us, and his lusty intonation of the Queen's anthem rang in our ears for some time after. Also a ten spot that he knocked from its moorings in our pocket caused the saddest recollection of a thrilling moment in the Brooklyn Nationals from the Richmond club of the Virginia League, will report to the Dodgers this week.

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