

Sports Report Sailors Scuttled At Home And Away

by Don Edwards

With the lacrosse season back in full swing, the Port Credit Sailors of the Senior Ontario Lacrosse Association have already served notice that they're going to provide a lot of excitement -- for the other five teams in the league as well as their fans -- this season.

Led by veterans Brian Aherne, Paul Henderson, 'Jug' McGaffey and Flori Tomchyschen, the Sailors have added five or six new men to the lineups and if first appearances are any indication the blend which they came up with could well make this team one of the top two in the league this year.

Cy McNeil, up from the Long Branch Juniors, looks like a real star in the making and before the season is half over next month he will be joined by his brother, Ron, who has been the scoring sensation of the Long Branch Juniors for the past two or three years. At the present time, Ron is sitting out the last portion of a one year suspension picked up last July for his part in a wild, stick-swinging brawl.

Another junior, Ross Othem, was a real standout in the Sailors' first league game. He moves the ball around well, runs all-out every minute he's on the floor, checks like a real veteran and doesn't take a backward step from anyone.

'Butch' Keegan and Jim Henderson are another couple of young newcomers who give this year's edition of the Sailors some added punch over last year's club.

Bill Kowalski (no-shrinking violet this fellow) who played with the Huntsville Hawks last summer has also made his presence known in no uncertain terms. As well as playing a very robust game in the league open against Brampton -- and that's the only way this fellow knows how to play them -- Bill also scored three goals.

For a real great evening's entertainment, drop into the Port Credit Arena any Thursday evening for some exciting senior lacrosse action with the Sailors. That's Thursday, evenings and game times at 8:30 p.m.

Sports Car Scene

By Bill Brack
Sports Cars Unlimited

The largest audience ever to watch a Sporting event in Canada saw World Grand Prix Champion and five times World Motorcycle Champion, John Surtees sweep to victory in his new Lola T-70 sports racing car in this year's running of the Players 200 at Mosport. Over 58,000 witnessed this gruelling test of men and machines around the tricky 2.5 mile course. Pre-race favorite and new holder of the track record Jim Hall in his automatic transmission Chaparral was plagued with carburetor problems in the second heat. Hall finished second and commented at the finish that one minor carburetor part worked loose, snatching certain victory, from him. Hall proved the capabilities of his Chaparral by winning the first heat easily and there was no doubt that if the car had performed equally as well as it had in the first heat, no one would have been able to catch him.

The first Canadian to finish the Players 200 was Canadian Champion Ludwig Heimrath driving his new McLaren Ford. He put on a good display of steady driving to finish third among the world's best drivers.

A disappointment to the large crowd was the bad luck experienced by former world champion and recent winner of the Indianapolis 500 Jimmy Clark. His Lotus 30 never seemed to run properly and was never in contention.

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Clark has appeared at Mosport on two previous occasions but has never been able to show his Championship form. Showing what a great champion he is, Clark flew to England immediately after the Players 200 and won a formula 2 race at Crystal Palace in his Lotus Cosworth and then to Belgium last Sunday to win the European Grand Prix putting Clark in the lead for the world driving championship.

The next event counting towards the Canadian driving championship is the Labatt 50 at Le Circuit de Mont Tremblant at St. Jovite high in the beautiful Laurentian mountains. A full report on this and the British Empire Motor Club Spring Trophy races will be forthcoming.

After being scuttled in St. Catharines last Wednesday, the Port Credit Sailors ran aground in their own home base at the Port Credit Arena the following night to extend their losing streak to three in a row.

In the game against St. Kitts the Sailors were simply out-hustled as the Athletics took a 13-10 decision. Against Peterboro, the visiting Speedy Erns used the final seconds of the first and second period to great advantage before tripping up the Sailors 11-10 in overtime.

Ross Othem started Port Credit off on the right foot against the Petes when he netted the first goal on a pass from Julie Kowalski. Dave Drummond tied the score for Peterboro but Brian Aherne put the Tars one up again by converting a McGaffey pass behind netminder Russ Dunn.

Larry Ferguson scored his first of four goals for the night to knot the count again and, shortly after, Jack Armour put Peterboro in the lead for the first time.

George McGaffey, Paul Henderson and Cy McNeil scored consecutive goals for the Sailors to give them a 5-3 lead and it looked like it was going to stay that way until the end of the first period. Big Ken Ruttan lashed out with a shot, however, that beat Sailors' netminder 'Porky' Russell just a split second before the buzzer sounded to end the period.

Early in the second period, Jack Armour scored his second goal of the night to pull the Petes back onto even terms. McGaffey got that one back on a pretty solo effort a little less than five minutes later.

Rookie Brian Keegan -- a really fine player, this boy -- scored on a great three-way passing combo with George Olah and Flori Tomchyschen

to give the home club a 7-5 lead.

Larry Ferguson got one back for Peterboro then Keegan connected again from Aherne and Paul Henderson.

Just to prove that lightning can strike twice in the same place, Ruttan beat the clock again as he scored at 19:58 of the second period to make the score read 8-7 for Port Credit. Ruttan's first period goal came at 19:59.

Ferguson and Ruttan each scored again in the first half of the third period to give Peterboro a 9-8 lead.

With a little more than two minutes left on the clock Aherne came through with the outstanding play of the game. Julie Kowalski of the Sailors was sitting out a foolish penalty when Aherne took a pass from Othem and dippy-doodled through three Peterboro players. The last one got a piece of the high-scoring Sailor star but, as he was falling face-forward Aherne snapped a shot that beat Dunn for the tying goal.

In the overtime, Ferguson beat Russell for the fourth time and, just past the seven minute mark, Masson added another for good measure.

Young Brian Keegan tallied his third of the night at the 7:30 mark and with less than a minute to go he just missed the target again by an eyelash.

On Sunday evening, the Sailors travelled to Brampton and, despite the fact that only eight players turned up for the game, they turned back the Brampton club 13-6 to snap their three-game

winless streak.

Julie Kowalski, who turned in a rather poor game against Peterboro last Thursday, bounced back with a very strong effort in this one. Big Julie led the scoring parade with four goals. He was followed closely by Ross Othem and Vern McCreary with three goals each.

Bob Haw led the Brampton scorers with two goals.

The Sailors' record now stands at three wins and six losses but they could improve their position considerably this week by coming up with a pair of

victories over St. Catharines, in the Port Credit Arena Thursday night and then Peterboro, at Peterboro, the following night.

Port Credit Sailors Lose Club President

The Port Credit Sailors not only lost a game to the Peterboro Erns last Thursday night but they also lost their president at the same time.

Immediately after the game, the team was informed that Bill Brailsford had tendered his resignation because of a series of setbacks with the Ontario Lacrosse Association.

Brailsford made his decision to resign when the OLA ruled that two over-age

juniors from Mimico were the property of the undefeated Brooklyn Merchants.

"I just couldn't take it any longer," Brailsford told this paper. "I gave the job everything I had but it just wasn't working out at all."

The Port Credit Sailors will miss Bill Brailsford. In our view he is one person who was completely dedicated to this sport and lacrosse can't afford to lose a man of his calibre.

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