

SARNIA DEFEATED WATFORD SIX IN THE FASTEST GAME OF THE SEASON

NOTE:—To show the hockey fans of Watford and vicinity how very fair Brother "Red" Wilson, of the Sarnia Observer is, we are reproducing his report of the Sarnia-Watford game here last Friday evening. It will be remembered that "Red" is the boy who last winter gave our "Pill-Box" sufficient advertising to secure for us a real honest-to-goodness arena, for which we render him our sincere thanks!

Playing brilliant and, at times, lighting fast hockey, the Sarnia intermediates kept their lead in the O. H. A. district race by defeating Watford 3 to 1 here last Friday night. On the night's play the better team won, and should possibly have amassed an even greater lead, but when time was called they were well aware that they had been in a hockey game. The winners were ahead at all times.

Watford Was Fast

Watford celebrated the opening of their new arena by turning in the fastest game they have uncorked in years, but their efforts fell short of turning back the smoothest working intermediate crew that has worn the Sarnia sweaters since 1916. Watford's team would have ridden roughshod over last year's district winners but they were up against a different proposition last night.

New Players Out

Both teams trotted out new players. "Chick" Garvey turned out in a Sarnia uniform for the first time this year and put his foot into it right at the start by flipping the first goal of the festivities past Rogers with a backhanded slap from in front of the nets. Watford trotted out Brown, a brother of Newt Brown of the local squad and "Hec" Cowan, who is dispensing law, from Forest. These two players bolstered the team up considerably. Brown packs a wicked shot and Cowan's aggressiveness has not dimmed with the passing years. It was the former Sarnian who bounced in the lone Watford counter of the night on an end to end rush. Jim Grannary, with one of the defence men in the bull pen waiting for his penalty to expire, tried a poke check instead of stepping into him.

Game Was Clean

Fred Rogers, who handled the bell, was a little inclined to play safe on the rough stuff and if anything was a trifle on the strict side. Twice he banished players for what looked like perfectly legitimate body checks, but on the whole he handled the game in an impartial manner.

Cowan and Irwin were the pick of the Watford contingent, both playing hard hockey throughout. Cowan drew one penalty and Irwin was shunted to the pen twice, but while they were on the ice they were making their presence felt on the visiting forwards. The whole Watford team staged one of the finest exhibitions they have ever been guilty of and they were ably backed by little Stan Rogers in the nets. The Sarnia forwards held their fire till they were in close and the shots the Watford goalie had to handle were, as a rule, hard ones. Rogers has turned in some nice games against Sarnia but last night's was the best yet.

Defence Was Strong

McAllister stopped 25 shots to the 16 Rogers handled, but the Crouman-Grannary defence had the Watford sharpshooters blazing away at the Sarnia net from well out. Barring Cowan's lone rush and about two shots the Watford forwards could not pierce the Sarnia outer defence to get at McAllister. The Sarnia forwards, on the other hand, bored in close before they let the puck go and the result was a little less for Rogers to do. Both Crouman and Grannary rushed well, the big French man scoring one of the goals and narrowly missing another when he blazed away from a few feet and missed an open net. That was a Sarnia habit last night, Finch missing three certain goals through shooting wide and Perry stickhandling through the whole Watford team to the goal mouth to toss the disc over in a corner. Crouman was one of the stars of the game, his defensive work in averting what looked like two certain goals when he torpedoed into Watford attacks that had sifted through the defence. He was one of the fastest men on the ice.

Finch, in centre, turned in the best game he has in years, his back-

checking turning back the whole Watford forward line at times. He was a little out in his shooting but his speedy rushes helped keep the play in Watford territory a part of the time. He was well backed by Perry and O'Brien on the wings. Perry is developing a nice poke check, but the weight he has added during the year is making his body-check a thing to be feared. He looks like a fine forward. O'Brien is playing better hockey this winter than ever and will, if he keeps last night's speed up, nail a place on the team for good.

Blamed McAllister

The Watford crowd blamed the Sarnia win on McAllister, giving the Sarnia crowd a "razing" before, and after the game. The star goalie turned in a pretty game, but he was not hard pressed last night as he has been. He kept up his O. H. A. record of one goal a game. Last night he had a team on the ice in front of him capable of going out and giving the opposition a real argument and he responded by turning away what few rushes did sift through.

Garvey Scored First

Cowan rushed twice and shot. The Sarnia defence was looking after "Hec" and he received about as many bumps as he handed out. O'Brien tore down to the Watford net and blazed away wide. Grannary drew the first penalty for chopping Irwin's stick out of his hand. Garvey replaced Finch and signalled his appearance by intercepting a pass in front of the Watford goal and flipping a backhanded shot into the net. Cowan drove O'Brien into the boards and was given a two minute penalty. The Sarnia man was hauled off for repairs. Howard replacing him.

Two for Sarnia

Finch missed what looked like two certain shots to start off the second period. Sarnia had a wide margin in the midway play section. Cowan broke away and was going in on top of McAllister when Crouman stepped into him, spilling the Watford man and averting tragedy. Bruce was penalized for tripping Crouman. Perry drove a low one at Rogers from left wing, Grannary stepping on the rebound and nailing the second counter up. Finch rushed the length of the rink and passed to O'Brien who scored the final Sarnia tally. Bruce rushed and shot dead on as the period ended.

Cowan Scored Alone

Perry rushed to the Watford goal mouth and shot wide. O'Brien was penalized for loafing. Irwin rushed shot wide and cut short around the goal. McAllister following him with a swipe of the stick as he was going around the net. The Watford player went back to argue while the play went up the ice. He was chased for loafing. Garvey and Grannary combined nicely to the Watford goal where the latter took a spell of "buck fever" and shot the wrong way. Perry replaced Crouman on the defence and stepped into Cowan, drawing a penalty for the check. Finch shot wide and Irwin went to the penalty box for slashing. With the Sarnia defence in the bull pen, Cowan collared the puck at his goal and rushed the length of the ice, going around Grannary and scoring the lone tally of the game.

About seven hundred people witnessed the game which never lagged.

The Teams:

Sarnia—Goal, McAllister; defence Grouman, Grannary; centre Finch; wings, Perry, O'Brien; subs, Howard, Garvey.

Watford—Goal, Rogers; defence, Cowan, Dodds; centre, Bruce; wings, Brown, Greer; subs, Irwin, Auld.

Referee—Fred Rogers, Watford.

Summary:

First Period
Sarnia—Garvey, 15 min.
Second Period
Sarnia—Grannary, 13 min.
Sarnia—O'Brien, 2 min.
Third Period
Watford—Cowan, 15 min.

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LOOK AT YOUR LABEL

WATFORD H. S. DEFEATS PETROLEA H. S. IN OPENING GAME OF COUNTY LEAGUE

Peppy Youngsters on Both Teams Stage Enjoying Game on Arena Monday Night.

LOCALS WIN BY 6-1

As announced in last week's issue the High School teams of Forest, Petrolia and Watford have been grouped in the western end of the Interscholastic Hockey League of Western Ontario, the winner to meet Sarnia C. I. for this district's honors. The schedule opened in Watford Monday evening when the local seekers of brain culture forsook their volumes for an hour to tussle with a similar aggregation from the Hard Oil Town. Three 15-minute periods were staged, which afforded considerable enjoyment to a goodly crowd of spectators who assembled to encourage our future stars.

"Hec" Elliot held them all in leash and made them play good hockey.

Petrolia H. S. has an aggressive team, each man supplying plenty of pep and bulldog spirit throughout the entire game.

If they were accustomed to a proper rink, they undoubtedly would have given the locals greater opposition. Watford H. S. should remember that when they play the return game in Petrolia they will have to forsake this "playing the sides." They don't understand this style of combination in Petrolia as their only rink is used by the Curling Club and consequently, has no boarded sides to play up to. Several older Watford players can still testify that the best plan of attack on Petrolia ice is right up the centre!



"Jackie" Kinnell As Usual Was All Over The Ice!

"Cheesey" Trenouth, the locals' defence man, and Jack Kinnell, the right wing, looked like the leading lights in Monday evening's game, but the rest of the material are not far behind and with more practice all around should certainly hold their own for the district. The line-up:

Petrolia—Goal, Hyatt; Defence, Randall, Churchill; Forwards, Bell, Steadman, Bogs; subs, Grimes, O'Dell.

Watford—Goal, McKercher; Defence, Trenouth, McGillicuddy; Forwards, Steadman, Jimmie Kinnell, Jack Kinnell; subs, Roberts, Vail.

Score by periods:—1st, 3-0; 2nd, 4-0; 3rd, 6-1.

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Wat-Ford Garage

ALVINSTON LOSES TO WATFORD BY 6-3

Hockey Forgotten for the Most Part, But Everybody Enjoys a Few Rounds of "Shinny."

Game Rough in Spots and Played With Old-time Vigor.

Alvinston met Watford in a schedule O. H. A. game in the Arena here Tuesday night, going down to defeat by the tailend of a 6-3 score.



It Was No Love Match!

The game throughout reminded one of years ago, when the season always closed with a pitched battle with the boys from the south. Pete Leitch and his youngsters certainly made good their threat that they would give Watford a run for the winning, and at the end of the first period when "Corker" Legg, referee, called it 2-1 for Alvinston it looked to some that possibly the locals would have the Jinx thrown in with them and lose the game. The visitors handed out a very good brand of hockey for the first round and Pete Leitch and the two McEachren boys on wings played their formation well. Watford did not seem to be up to their proper condition until the second period had commenced when Bruce got away without much argument and landed the second ringer for the locals. Leitch retaliated for the southerners immediately after by getting past "Tiny" for a third tally. "Soup" Irwin then got sore and showed them he could play that way too, so he promptly plunked a hot one through McDougall, tying three all, or, three goals in three minutes. This was the best playing of the whole game, but both sides held steady until the end of the period.

When the third and last round started, the locals, after rubbing their shins and bruises during recess, decided that they had taken enough of the kid stuff, and started in to clean up the score. One goal followed another with a few minutes apart until the count stood 6, with but a minute or so to play. At this juncture the little restless feeling that had been growing all the way through the game, came to a head when McDougall, the Alvinston goalie took a slap at Irwin with his stick, for cutting in too close on his goal and "Soup", as usual, came back to argue it out! Indications seemed to point to a mix-up, whereupon, inside of ten seconds most of fans on both sides of the rink were on the ice quelling down the riot. After the smoke had cleared away "Corker" Legg ordered McDougall Leitch and Irwin off the ice and to somewhat even it up banished "Tiny" Rogers with them for leaving his net to mix in the trouble. However, there was only a minute to play and both sides held steady until time was up.

Taken all in all, it was the most exciting game as yet this year, but Watford did not dish up the brand of hockey they have previously played. Their shooting was a little erratic at times and all three forwards failed time and again to get by the opposing defence. Irwin does not seem to get away as easily this year as last; however, "Soup" promises us that when we meet Glencoe here next Tuesday he's going to try real hockey for a change and let someone else argue it out with the goalie.

Alvinston—Goal, McDougall; Defence, McLaughlin, Myers; Centre, Leitch; wings, Archie and Ken. McEachren; subs, Banks, Wallis.

Watford—Goal, Rogers; Defence, Auld, Trenouth; centre, Bruce; wings, Irwin and Greer; subs, Brown and Dodds.

Referee—"Corker" Legg, London. Score by periods:—2-1; 3-3; 6-3.

TUESDAY NEXT GLENCOE AT WATFORD

WATFORD HAS FINE NEW HOCKEY RINK

Village Sportsmen Show the Right Spirit by Erecting Fine Skating Rink There This Year.

(Sarnia Canadian-Observer)

Watford now boasts of one of the finest skating rinks of any of the smaller centres in the country. The old "pill box" has gone forever and the new, and far more commodious arena will take care of the hockey situation in that village for years to come. There are a great many towns of greater size, the majority of them in fact, that cannot boast of a skating and ice rink such as Watford now has.

Has Big Ice Surface

The ice surface is 61 feet wide by 161 feet long; narrower than St. Andrew's arena, but longer. The corners are rounding and the dangerous square corners of the old rink abolished. There will be three strings of high powered lights over the ice for illumination purposes, making the ice surface as light as any in the country. The lighting system at present installed is temporary but everything will be up within a week or so.

Will Hold 1,000 People

The capacity of the rink will be around 1,000 people. More can be crowded into it, but it will hold that number, many more than the village contains at present, without crowding. There will be seating accommodation for several hundred with the whole ice surface visible from the standing room anywhere in the building. There are two exits to the structure and three commodious rooms for the use of the different teams for hockey and for the skaters the other nights.

The new arena is situated practically in the centre of the village, eliminating another of the bad features of the old rink.

The erection of the huge half circle is a striking instance of what enterprise will do for a place regardless of whether it is a city or a small village.

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RED PROPAGANDA!

Sample of the Wild and Woolly News Items The Sarnia Observer Feeds Its Readers.

The following is clipped from the Sarnia Observer of last Monday, and incidentally explains itself. Of course, Watford Intermediates are not going to lie down on the job next Tuesday against Glencoe any more than they did for Sarnia. But this "Laying for them" is all bunk.

We promise "Davy" and "Cherry" Wall with his small-town rough-stuff a real, live, clean game, and the best team wins!

"WATFORD LAYING FOR GLENCOE TEAM"

Art Davenport's Crew Did not Make Very Favorable Impression on Watford Intermediates in Glencoe

According to the reports making the rounds in Watford, Glencoe's hockeyists did not give them any too kind a reception when they played there. There is going to be a lot of excitement when the green and white stack up against the village intermediates in the return game. The Watford squad declare they can take the measure of the Davenport crew and incidentally show them that two can play at the hard checking game.

Play January 24

Glencoe plays the return game at Watford January 24th and the blue and white (Sarnia) will be pulling hard for the villagers to turn back the Glencoe squad and give them (Sarnia) safe grip on the leadership to take with them to Glencoe when they play there the following Friday.

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