

SPORTS FRONT

By PIUS CALLAGHAN

TODAY WE GO to press for the last time in 1953, and for that reason we thought a very quick look at the local sports scene of the past twelve months would be in order. It will merely be just touching the surface but at least we'll give it a hurried look.

IN HOCKEY Charlottetown Royals went to the Maritime finals before bowing to Bathurst Papermakers. The Royals had a tough season, waiting six weeks for action after the Maritime League comprising Amherst, Charlottetown and Summerside folded. Amherst and Summerside decided to go along the Allan Cup trail but the Aces from the western capital were ousted by the Ramblers. The Royals reached the finals by beating the Northside Combines, champions of the Cape Breton League and ousting New Glasgow Rangers who had represented the Maritimes against Upper Canada in Allan Cup play.

Prince Edward Island Juniors, playing under the colors of the Abegweit club, also made the Maritime finals, downing the New Brunswick champions in the semi-finals before falling before Cape Breton All Stars in the final.

The juvenile Abbies were noosed by Chatham in the N.B.-P.E.I. finals in the final seconds of the game at The Sports Arena.

Minor league hockey enjoyed another great season under the watchful eye of Brigadier Bill Reid. Already before 1953 has made its exit, the minor league program for the present season is bigger and better than ever.

In intermediate circles Barry's Flyers won the provincial crown but lost to St. Basile in the N.B.-P.E.I. playdowns. Later when the N.B.-P.E.I. champions refused to make the trip to play the Nova Scotia champions, Windsor, the Flyers obliged. They put up a game battle but finally were defeated by the Nova Scotians.

A mild winter hampered the operation of natural ice rinks throughout the province and team dependent on these ice surfaces had anything but a successful season.

GOLF ENJOYED its most successful season to date as far as participants were concerned. More folks were playing golf than ever before and the course at Charlottetown, Summerside and Cavendish were crowded throughout the golfing months.

If we were picking the outstanding Island athlete of the year, we would have to go along with the selection of the popular pro at Charlottetown course, Cecil "Bubby" Dowling.

Bubby won everything there was to be won around the Maritimes in 1953. Here are his five achievements. The Nova Scotia Open, the N.B.-P.E.I. Professional Crown, the Saint John Exhibition, the P.E.I. Open and the Maritime Professional Golfers. It was a clean sweep for the likeable little pro and his successes were decidedly popular all around the circuit.

BASEBALL had its own time surviving in and around Charlottetown. Finally Brian Lewis took hold and, with Canadian Legion backing, fielded a strong junior club that won the Island Junior crown. The Legionaires were ousted by Saint John in the N.B.-P.E.I. playdowns.

Mount Stewart gave the Charlottetown Juniors unexpected opposition in the Island finals. The Mount Stewart lads were in their first year of competition and surely came through with top notch performances.

Summerside Juniors engaged in a series with the Legion lads but it was strictly exhibition because the western lads didn't register for Maritime playdowns.

Rural baseball flourished with the King's County folks again seeing some thrilling battles before Peakes Bombers were crowned County champions. The Bombers then trounced Grand River to win the Prince Edward Island rural championship.

Rollie's Arrows sidelined the Peakes boys in the battle for the Prince Edward Island intermediate title. The Arrows then visited Saint Stephen but were badly outclassed by the New Brunswickers.

In Charlottetown and Summerside, Jack 'Spy' Ready and Johnny Carroll did a great job with little leaguers and other minor brackets. The youngsters took full advantage of the opportunities and some promising prospects cropped up.

SOFTBALL had one of its better years on Prince Edward Island.

In Charlottetown a five-team City League operated with Junior Basillea Youth Club finishing on top in regular schedule play. Benevolent Irish Society Shamrocks just managed to make the last playoff spot but once they got into those playoffs they really turned tiger. They ousted the Youth Clubbers three games to two and then won the City Championship by beating last year's champs, Barry's Lions.

The Irish, entered in Maritime Senior B competition, played the Saint John Burma Royals, New Brunswick titlists. The Royals ended the season for the Ev Beagan-coached crew.

In Summerside Summerside Legion made the home folks really softball conscious. The Legion went right to the Maritime finals in intermediate play before Fredericton won the three-province crown. Before that Legion journeyed to Halifax, beat the Navy, Nova Scotia champions, in their own yard and then finished the chore in Summerside.

CURLING CONTINUES to be one of the greatest games of them all from a player standpoint.

Doug Cameron's Charlottetown rink represented Prince Edward Island at the MacDonald Brier and emerged with a most favorable 5-5 standing.

In Schoolboy curling, the Prince of Wales quartet almost brought the bacon to the Island.

Prince of Wales forced the Northern Ontario rink to the limit before the Upper Canadians were crowned champions. These matches were played in Charlottetown and did a great deal to further the interest of curling here.

BASKETBALL was once again a popular pastime, especially from the player standpoint. Both high schools in Charlottetown and the one in Summerside had plenty of boys who were anxious to play the hoop game.

In senior circles, an Island League was in operation and the Charlottetown Trojans emerged as the victors. The Trojans then went after greater laurels and in a Maritime tournament here in early May won the Maritime Senior C championship.

FOOTBALL HAD a banner year on Prince Edward Island and Saint Dunstan's, making its first start in the Canadian game, did itself real proud.

The Red and White scholars played five games in the Maritime Intercollegiate league and were victors on three occasions. They beat Saint Mary's, Saint Thomas and Acadia and were trounced by Mount Allison and University of New Brunswick.

Saint Dunstan's Junior Varsity came up with a strong outfit and won the intermediate Island crown from Prince of Wales College without the loss of a game.

Local fans appeared well on their way to accepting the 'new' game and large crowds were on hand at each game Senior Saints played with mainland colleges.

TRACK AND FIELD certainly was far in the background as far as Prince Edward Island's sport picture was concerned in 1953. However here in Charlottetown there was one bright note. Queen Charlotte and Birchwood High Schools staged an inter-scholastic meet that probably will become an annual event. The Queen Charlotte lads were the victors but the competition was exceptionally keen.

Oldsters see in this competition a renewal of the old Queen Square-West Kent track and field feuds. These were really something and physical instructors, Jack 'Spy' Ready and Bill Ledwell are hoping to get that same interest back into Birchwood and Queen Charlotte competitions.

RIFLEMEN AGAIN had a great summer for themselves. The Maritime Rifle Meet was held at Squaw Point Range here in June and the Nova Scotia team walked off with top honors. The annual P.E.I. Rifle Meet was staged here in July and as usual attracted a great many entries from outside the province. Local riflemen participated in the D.R.A. Meet in Ottawa in mid-August and Sgt. Mike Susick, RCAF Station, Summerside qualified for the Empire Rifle Meet in Bisley, England in 1959. Lieutenant A. K. Mutch was the Island representative at Bisley last summer and the Charlottetown gunner made a most creditable showing.

TENNIS, BOWLING, YACHTING all had their followers, all of whom got the utmost pleasure out of these popular sports. This has been merely a quick glance at the sports picture on Prince Edward Island in 1953. We failed to mention the horse racing because it was covered so capably by Col. MacKinnon in his review on Monday.

All in all, it was a most enjoyable twelve months for the folks who like their sports. In our capacity as sport columnist, it has been equally enjoyable.

To all those who made our work so much easier by their splendid co-operation, we say a most sincere 'thank you'.

Our wish is that the year that dawns tomorrow will have even greater thrills for our sport fans.

TO ONE AND ALL—A VERY HAPPY 1954.

Yanks Show Confidence Of Capturing Davis Cup

BRISBANE (AP) — "Four to one and back to the United States with the cup." This was the confident cry of the United States cup team today as it went into the climactic singles matches of the challenge round against Australia.

Thanks to a fighting comeback, the brash young Yanks seized a surprise 2-1 lead Tuesday with a victory in the doubles, which will go down as the longest and one of the most exciting in 38 years of the international tennis competition.

Sailors Crush Royal 14-5

Apps Arsenault last evening led the Navy Tars to a 14-5 victory over the Parkdale Royals at the local Sports Arena. This was the first defeat suffered by the Royals since the season got underway.

Frankie Roper, netminder for the Tars showed fine form, making some nice saves. The Navy held a 5-0 bulge at the end of the opening frame and continued to score without letup throughout the remaining frames.

Richard Duffy also scored four goals for the Tars and D. Carroll connected on three occasions.

SUMMARY
First Period — 1. Navy, Gillis (D. Carroll, A. Arsenault) 2:18; 2. Navy, Carroll (unassisted) 4:50; 3. Navy, D. Carroll (S. Gregory) 7:10; 4. Navy, Trovada (unassisted) 11:43; 5. Navy, Carroll (unassisted) 17:46.

Penalties: K. Ready 2:55; Gillis 6:50; K. Ready 15:04; L. Shepherd 19:43; Whitlock (10-minute misconduct) 16:45.

Second Period — 6. Royals,

W. Dunn (unassisted) 1:00; 7. Navy, A. Arsenault (D. Carroll) 3:25; 8. Navy, A. Arsenault (S. Gregory) 9:31; 9. Navy, A. Arsenault (S. Gregory, Gillis) 13:51; 10. Navy, A. Arsenault (Carroll, Gregory) 17:28; 11. Royals, R. Duffy (Carroll, J. MacLeod) 17:40.

Penalties: K. Ready (10-minute misconduct) 11:55; C. Ready 17:18; H. MacDonald 17:18; A. Arsenault 17:35.

Third Period — 12. Navy, R. Duffy (S. Gregory) 2:35; 13. Navy, A. Arsenault (Carroll, Gregory) 3:40; 14. Navy, R. Duffy (unassisted) 6:11; 15. Royals, W. Dunn (MacLeod) 6:40; 16. Royals, Whitlock (Dunn) 11:55; 17. Royals, Carroll (Whitlock) 13:20; 18. Navy, Gillis (unassisted) 16:12; 19. Navy, R. Duffy (Gregory) 17:14.

Penalties: A. Carroll 3:55; C. Ready 2:40; K. Ready 8:10; D. Carroll 9:55; S. Gregory 13:44; A. Arsenault (5-minute major) 19:58; C. Ready (5-minute major) 19:58.

Penalties: K. Ready 2:55; Gillis 6:50; K. Ready 15:04; L. Shepherd 19:43; Whitlock (10-minute misconduct) 16:45.

Second Period — 6. Royals,

Grady (Coke Grady) 0:08; 2. Aces, Vance Harris (B. Grady) 16:08.

Penalties: Grant Grady (minor and misconduct), U. Gallant; B. Howatt (misconduct); L. Clow, V. Mulligan.

Second Period — 3. Juniors, Arsenault (F. Burke) 1:34; 4. Aces, C. Grady (B. Grady) 6:27.

Penalties: L. Clow, B. Mulligan, V. Harris, Murray, G. Grady, Howatt (major), Noonan (major).

Third Period — 5. Aces, Grant (Gallant) 4:42.

Penalties: Harris (major and misconduct), Ward (major and misconduct).

Juniors, Aces Game Is Called

SUMMERSIDE — Referee Don Whelan declared the hockey match at Summerside "no contest" about half way through the third period after Bonnie Howatt and George Trainor engaged in fistfights and players on both sides joined the fray. The score was 4-1 in favor of the Aces when play was suspended.

The game had been penalty-studded throughout, and Whelan warned both clubs that he would call the game if there was another fight. Nine minors, six majors and four misconducts had been called previous to the last fight.

SUMMARY
First Period — 1. Aces, Benny

Elmsdale Drubs S' Side Cabbies 11-5 In Contest

ALBERTON — Elmsdale Rockets trimmed the Summerside Town Taxi hockey team by a one sided 11-5 score in an exhibition game in Alberton last night.

The hustling Rockets outskated Summerside to get on early lead with four quick markers in the opening round and two in the middle frame without a reply from the hard pressed visitors.

The final session was more evenly played with Summerside putting up a stronger showing to score four goals to the Rockets five.

Ross Tuplin in the net for Elmsdale and Elmer Crossman, Summerside's goalie, both made many fine saves with Crossman having many more shots to handle.

Scoring for Elmsdale were Wendell Matthews, three, Walter Adams, and Reg Eridman, two each and Alton Williams, Eldon Hardy, Allan Wallace and Erskine Matthews with singletons.

Summerside tallies were chalked up by Clarence Gillis, George Grady, Donnie Birch and T. Arsenault.

No penalties were awarded by referee Glen Matthews.

Friday's Minor Hockey Schedule
8:45 — 9:25 — Q.C.H.S. Crows vs. Birchwood Eagles.

DOWN THE BACK STRETCH
Continuing our review of the year 1953, harness racing, with reference to the achievements of the best trotters and pacers registered with the United States Trotting Association, we now take up the aged trotting division.

Darn Safe won the most money. Annette Sue won the most races among the top-notchers but the harness writers gave a very narrow margin of victory to Arthur Nardin's "Trader Horn" in voting for divisional honors. Trader Horn was second leading money winner with \$77,686 and won both the Gotham Trot and the Cleveland Trotting Derby among major triumphs.

Trained by Billy Haughton, the six-year-old was particularly impressive at New York area tracks and was co-season's champion with Darn Safe on the half-milers with a 2:01 2-5 mark. Trailing only 28-27 in the final vote, Farmstead Acres' harrington, Barbara, also trained by Haughton, won the \$75,000 American Trotting Classic in straight heats at Hollywood Park, Inglewood, California, in a late season splurge.

Hayes Fair Acres' Darn Safe, trained and driven by Benny Schue and Billy Rouse, was impressive in the \$50,000 Eastern Trotting Championship in the final important trotting race of the season.

(Continued on page 9)

major titles this year, looked for their comeback victory in "a powerful in beating MacKay in the opening singles. Anderson a high-strung young Queenslander who is inclined to worry when all is not going well, now has two Davis Cup defeats hanging over his head. Olmedo whipped him on the opening day.

Harry Hopman, the Australian captain, praised the Americans' present form. MacKay should beat Anderson."

Both Cooper and Anderson plan to sign lucrative professional contracts after the challenge round. They have an added incentive to end their amateur careers on a winning plane.

The solid, hard-hitting Cooper, who has won most of the world's

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"We should win both matches," said Jones. "I am very confident. "I think Olmedo is the best amateur tennis player in the world and this may be as good a time

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"This first reaction was 'we've have to be on our toes tomorrow' —and that's a good sign," Hopman said.

Hopman originally had forecast a 5-0 Australian victory then made it 4-1 after the opening singles were split.

Hopman said Anderson came off the court feeling particularly well.

The Sports Arena

Wednesday Afternoon
Skating 2:30 to 4:00

Evening Special Children's
New Year's Eve Skate 7 to 9

Admission 35 cents

NEW YEAR WEEK
AT THE SPORTS ARENA

WEDNESDAY
Afternoon Skate 2:30 to 4:00
Evening special children's New Year's Eve Skate 7 to 9

THURSDAY—
NEW YEAR'S DAY
Skate 2:30 to 4:00
Evening—Adult Skate — 8:00 to 10:00.

FRIDAY—
Afternoon Skate 2:30 to 4:00
Evening Skating — 8:00 to 10:00.

SATURDAY—
Skating — 2:30 to 4:15

Weekend MAGAZINE
NORAD A Special WEEKEND Report
The State Of Our Defense

Can Canada Catch Up In AIR DEFENCE?

Is Canada building her own tombstone in a grave new world? The top brass in NORAD are frankly worried, worried about us — and with good reason! To get on the inside track of an air race in which Canada is dragging her wings, Weekend Staffers Russell Spurr and Bert Beaver covered almost 10,000 miles across the U.S. and Canada. En route they delved into the defence problem with the men who will hold the controls of North America's destiny in a nuclear war, watched missile tests and secret NORAD operations in Colorado Springs. Their intensive exploration resulted in one of the most penetrating articles to be written on North American Air Defence, highlighted by Beaver's expert color photography.

Also in Saturday's Issue of Our Weekend Magazine

- ★ CANADIAN GIRLS WANT TO BE HOUSEWIVES
- ★ RADIO WITHOUT COMMERCIALS?
- ★ JANUARY FOOD BUDGET
- ★ LITTLE MOTHERS AND FATHERS
- ★ QUEENS MAKE UP IN PUBLIC

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