

# Busby Babes Biggest Draw In English Soccer Play

**SPORT FROM BRITAIN**  
By ED SIMON  
Canadian Press Staff Writer  
LONDON (CP) — Two years have passed since Manchester United last won the Football League title but the Busby Babes remain the hottest draw in English soccer.

More than 2,000,000 customers paid their way into First Division grounds to see the United perform last season. Wolverhampton Wanderers, who beat out the Manchester club for the league title, lured 1,500,000, ranking behind the United and Arsenal, the London glamor club, in popularity.

The figures, which showed Manchester United topping attendances both at home and away for the third successive season, are a tribute to the side's entertaining style of play, which contrasts with the more workmanlike tactics that have brought the Wolves to the top of the standings.

**WINNERS GET CROWDS**  
Generally, the league's figures proved that nothing succeeds like success. Sheffield Wednesday, Plymouth Argyle and Port Vale, all champions of their divisions, also topped the tables as box-office attractions on the road while Wolves' crowds away from home were second only to those drawn by Manchester United.

The giant-killing activities of Norwich City in reaching the Football Association Cup semi-finals were reflected in an average attendance of 1,500 in the club's attendances at Third Division matches.

Luton Town, the beaten Cup finalists, also improved their League attendances at home and away but Nottingham Forest, the side that beat Luton at Wembley, slipped by an average of more than 2,000 at home in league play.

Last season, which marked the regrouping of the old northern and southern sections of the Third Division into country-wide Third and Fourth Divisions, brought bigger crowds to many grounds. But some of the poorer sides still paid at the turnstiles for their shortcomings.

Plymouth Argyle, topping the Third Division, won an average increase of 2,000 spectators as a reward. Hull City, the runners-up, did even better with an average rise of 3,500. But Barrow and Southport, the bottom clubs in the Fourth Division, both lost ground at the box office.

**BIGGER IN SOUTH**  
In general, the attendances continued to show a trend to bigger crowds in the south rather than in the north, attributable largely to the congestion of clubs of various divisions in northern areas

like Lancashire, where 15 sides compete for the favor of a population of 5,000,000.

Obviously, there are no complaints from Manchester United with its average home crowds of more than 50,000. But three other First Division clubs in Lancashire—Preston North End, Blackpool and Burnley—averaged well under half the Manchester gate.

The real sufferers are in the lower divisions. The combined average of the five Lancashire sides in the Third and Fourth Divisions is 29,000. That's just about normal for a middle-of-the-table First Division side.

## Softball Loop Is Formed Here

A four-team softball league has been formed here in Charlottetown.

The new loop known as the Charlottetown Social Softball League is made up of entries from the Bankers, Central Christian Church, Baptist Church and Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Each team will play 18 games with semi-finals being best of three affairs and finals best-of-five.

The league begins operation this week, with games being played at Queen Charlotte diamond.

# SPORT ECHOES

BY NORMAN MACDONALD

The John H. Grady memorial trophy for the most valuable player on the Aces' hockey club has gone to Eustace Reeves, a member of the Maritime Intermediate "A" championship club's defence corps. The choice was a difficult one as so many boys played brilliantly during that red-letter season. As might have been expected, the voting was very close. This trophy was donated by Jimmy, Benny and Grant Grady, in memory of their father, who is now deceased. At one time he played for the Summerside Crystals. Benny and Grant, carrying on the Grady hockey tradition, were valued members of last year's Aces, for whom there will be a civic banquet held tonight.

The Grady trophy will be presented, as well as jackets for all the players. The "never-say-die" spirit was never better exemplified by a Summerside athletic team than by those Aces of 1958-59.

We saw Kensington, the new entry in the Prince County softball league, in action last Friday evening, playing on their home ground with Cape Traverse. The boys were soundly trounced, giving up 14 runs, and themselves being able to navigate the circuit of the bases only once. They were not as bad as that top-sided score would seem to indicate, however. In the very first inning, the new comers blew up higher than Abel and Baker as the boys from Cape Traverse really made monkeys of the home talent.

In the remaining six innings Kensington looked much better although still prone to boot the ball around a little too much. We think that with a little more experience they may hold their own in the Prince County circuit.

Both Earl Dunning and Carlyle MacEachern led the slab for Kensington, and though they did not look seasoned performers, they showed promise. Both could whittle the ball across with a respectable amount of zip, and still keep the melon within waving distance of the strike zone, a feat which too many fast ball artists in the softball game find it hard to do.

Bill Lynch at third base seemed to know his way around. He made some good plays at the hot corner, and rapped out two of his

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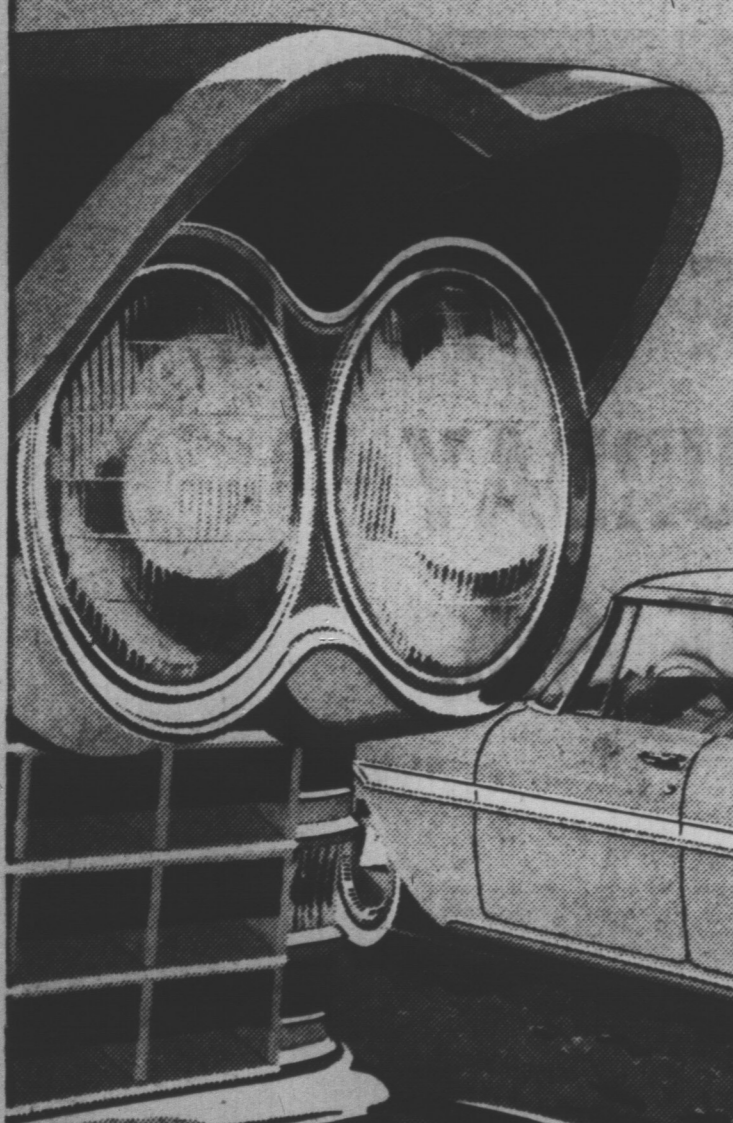
June wasn't exactly "bursting out all over" today, so the game between the Legion and Tynes Valley did not materialize. From now on at Queen Elizabeth Park the boys will have to share their evening with the teams of the ladies' league, and schedules will have to be so arranged that they will dovetail in nicely with each other.

The junior baseball boys are

getting in some practice and will play with the Charlottetown Legionaires in Summerside on Saturday. Even the intermediates are beginning to shake the winter weather out of their creaking joints and getting excited about baseball. The latest word on them is that Charlottetown and Summerside will combine to

form an intermediate team to play exhibition games with mainland teams. Earlier in the season it looked as if all the baseball players in Summerside except the little leaguers would be found lying on sandy beaches or in front of television sets. Right now it looks as if Summerside is really going to have itself "a ball".

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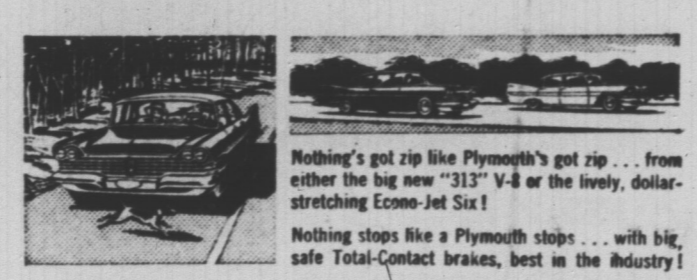
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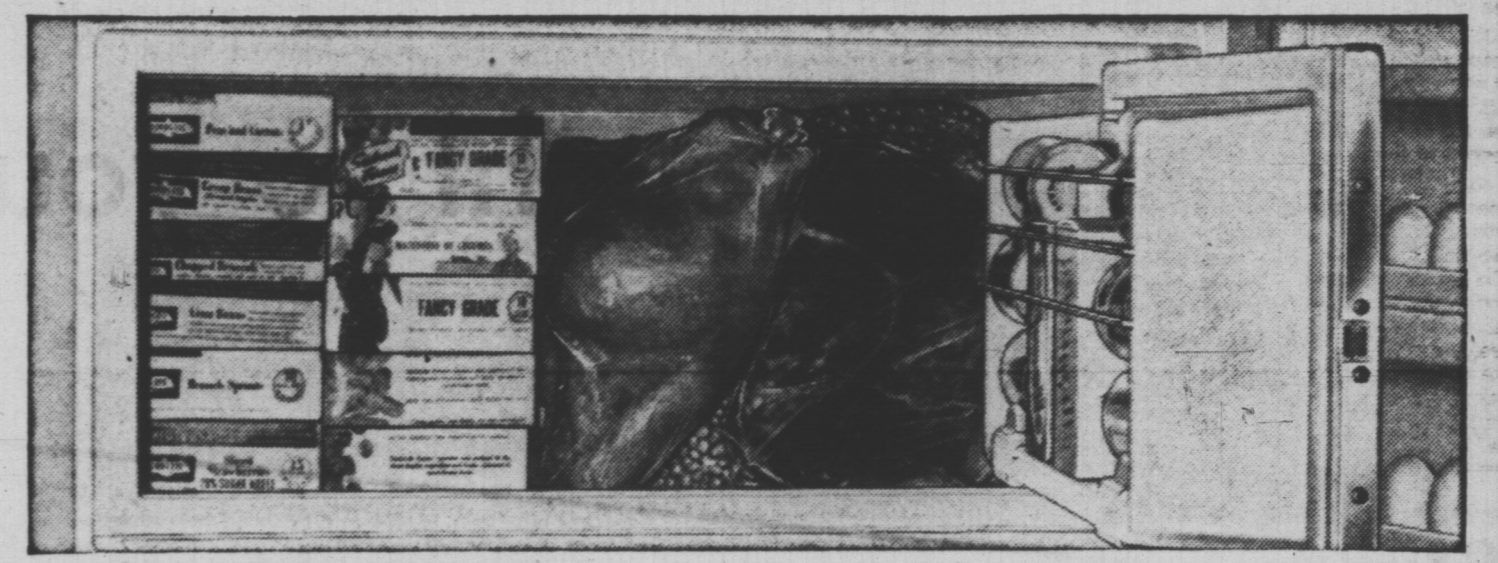
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