

Sports & Recreation

Art Ross 1886~1964



Before Sudbury became a town, before even Canada became a country, northern Ontario was home to many traders and factors who ran trading posts for the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Fur Company. One such factor was Thomas B. Ross who in 1871 took over the operation of the post at Whitefish Lake just south of Naughton.

The most famous member of the Ross family was Arthur Howey Ross, coach and general manager of the Boston Bruins four times between 1924 and 1945. Born on January 13, 1886, he was the 12th of the 13 children. He grew up speaking fluent Ojibway and learned how to skate on Whitefish Bay using old-fashioned clamp-on skates and a hockey stick made of a birch branch.

Besides coaching his team to the Stanley Cup three times he also invented the style of hockey puck and B-shaped goalie net in use today. Somewhat of a character, according to various stories published on the N.H.L.'s history, Art Ross carried on a feud with Con Smythe, past coach of the Toronto Maple Leafs, who believed that "Art Ross' chief goal in life was to make a fool out of me (Smythe)".

Perhaps one of the best stories of their rivalry takes place during the 1930s when the Leafs were scheduled to play in Boston. At a previous game Ross accused the Leafs in general and Smythe in particular of lacking class so at the next scheduled game, Smythe took out ads in all the Boston papers that invited Bostonians "to see the team with class-the Maple Leafs". He rented a tuxedo with top hat and tails and wore it to the game. At the time Ross was recovering from a hemorrhoid operation so Smythe bought a large bouquet of roses with huge thorns and on the accompanying card he wrote in Latin "Insert these up your you know where". He gave the roses to his defenseman King Clancy and asked him to take them across the ice to Ross. At first Ross was perplexed by this gift but then accepted it as a nice gesture, he also thought that the note looked good even though he couldn't read Latin. He shook Clancy's hand and passed the roses and note to the woman seated next to him. She accepted graciously until she read the note telling her where she could put the roses!

Art Ross died on May 8, 1964 at the age of 78 in Massachusetts. Inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame, Art Ross is immortalized in the history of the N.H.L. Because of his innovations and the respect garnered from his coaching abilities, the Art Ross Trophy is awarded annually to the player who compiles the highest number of scoring points during the regular hockey season.

Sid Forster 1930~1994



Sid Forster came to Sudbury in 1948 from his home town in Ottawa. Sid had been in Sudbury before. He spent two summers playing for the old Nickel Belt Baseball League in the mid-1940s and fell in love with the city. Sid worked at Inco as the

superintendent of public affairs until he took an early retirement.

In 1952, Sid played with the Sudbury Hardrocks (the team became the Spartans in 1967) as a quarterback and halfback. The coach at that time was Dom DeMarco. He guided the team to four Northern Football Conference

(NFC) wins and eight finals during his career. In 1955 he was the NFC's leading scorer and most valuable player.

Sid refused to let football die in Sudbury. He coached the Spartans for 28 years. In his first year, he was unable to gather enough players and so he become back up quarterback as well as the coach. The team, under his leadership, won 12 NFC championships. Sid was named Coach of the Year, seven times. Sid also spent many years coaching Cambrian College's men's varsity basketball team.

Sid was instrumental in setting the groundwork for the Joe MacDonald Youth Football League (named in honour of Police officer Joe MacDonald who was killed on duty) and for his contributions, a monument was erected in Lily Creek in his honour.

Nan Beaudry 1913~1976



Nan Beaudry's grandfather, father and six brothers were all boxers in Australia where she was born. Boxing was definitely in her blood.

Nan came to Canada after WWII (she had spent four years as a Japanese prisoner of war). She was at a boxing match watching Nels Beaudry in a fight. As the story goes, she marched up to him during a break in the fight and smeared a black, sticky substance on the cuts on his face. It held the cuts together and they were almost healed before the match ended. Nan married Nels who became a Canadian Middleweight champion.

In 1952 Nan applied for a boxing training

license at the Ontario Boxing Commission. They thought it was a joke and didn't respond to her application. She had to convince them she was serious and was finally able to take the oral and written exams necessary. She became the only woman licensed as manager, promoter and trainer in the sport of boxing. She was elected to the Canadian Boxing Hall of Fame in 1973 and was the only woman to have achieved that recognition.

Nan was friends with Sudbury's boxing greats Johnny Teale, Omer Gagnon and Leo Bertuzzi. She also knew Mohammed Ali, George Foreman and Rocky Marciano. Nan was always willing to help the young kids in the Sudbury Boxing Club.

Before her death in 1976 she was to attend a boxing convention but was unable to make it. Organizers of the event put a tiara at her place at the head table symbolizing her nickname as "Queen of the Ring".

Thelma Jo Walmesley was the only woman from Sudbury to play professional baseball in the United States. She played for the Racine Wisconsin Belles.

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(Standing l-r) Andy Kanerva, Allan Hilderbrant, Bob Hilderbrant (Seated l-r) Mr. Kivinen, Eino Kanerva.

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Sports & Recreation

Sam Rothschild b. 1899



Sam Rothschild was born in Sudbury, educated at McGill University in Montreal and then joined the Joseph E. Seagram liquor company as a salesman for the Sudbury area. He became Ontario sales manager in 1928, a position he was to hold for 40 years.

Prior to starting his career with Seagrams, Sam played competitive hockey. He was recruited to the play for the Montreal Maroons in 1924. He got a \$1,000 signing bonus and two year contract that earned him \$3,500 per year. In 1926, the Maroons won the Stanley Cup and the following year, Sam was sold to the NY Americans managed by none other than Sudbury's Shorty Green. Sam was injured a year later and unable to play hockey professionally. He came back to Sudbury where he began coaching teams and refereeing all across

the north as he made his sales calls.

Sam and Max Silverman had known each other for a long time, as boys they played together as they took their families' cows out to pasture in the fields north of town (Notre Dame & Kathleen area). In 1932, they decided to get a team together. Dalt "Nakina" Smith scored the lone goal of the game that gave the Wolves two wins out of three against the Winnipeg Monarchs to win the Memorial Cup.

Sam married Eva Yackman in 1933. She taught school in Wanup. In order to get to school she had to take a train and then go down river by boat. Such a trip meant that she would only come home on the weekends.

- Sam was offered a contract with the Baltimore Orioles when he was 16.
- President of the Northern Ontario Curling Association.
- President of the Sudbury & District Chamber of Commerce for three years.

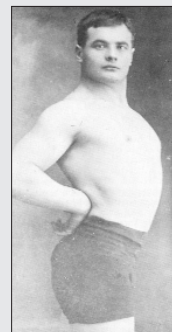
Howard Schraeder 1914~1991



While working at the local hardware store in Spanish, Ontario where he was born, Howard Schraeder came up with the idea to develop a snowmobile. Howard began tinkering with snowmobile and motorcycle engines as a young man. He began designing and building prototypes of snowmobiles but it wasn't until 1957, that the very first Snowbug was developed and tested. (This was one year before Bombardier patented his first ski-doo.) For the first few years, Snowbugs were hand built because Howard lacked the capital necessary to mass produce and promote his

invention.

He approached Jim Nemis, owner of Noront Steel, hoping that Noront Steel would be able to manufacture the Snowbugs. Howard and Jim negotiated a deal and by 1958 eight Snowbugs had been produced. Although many prototypes were developed, only about eight models were actually mass produced. The Snowbug had been tested by the Canadian army in the Arctic, was used by prospectors, trappers and hunters and had won competitive races against other snowmobiles. Its design was revolutionary and it continued to evolve as Howard invented new features. It's estimated that Howard and Noront Steel produced between 300 and 500 Snowbugs a year between 1967 and 1977,



Karl Lehto

Karl Lehto was one of Finland's great wrestlers in the early 1900s. He came to Sudbury in 1911 and opened a men's clothing store on Durham Street. His competitive wrestling days were over, or so he thought. In 1921, he won the Canadian Light Heavyweight title against the reigning champion, George Walker. The match was apparently very dirty and Lehto refused to accept the title because, as he remarked, "It wasn't a wrestling match at all. It was more like a bull fight. I don't like to claim the title on that match..."

It was Lehto's last professional fight. He devoted his time to training young wrestlers in Sudbury while operating his clothing store. Apparently, it was known in Sudbury for many years, that Karl would give any man a free suit of clothes if they could manage to throw him and put him down.

Max Silverman



Though his parents left Sudbury in 1910, Max was to remain and become well known as the president, coach and general-manager of the Sudbury Wolves Hockey Team. Under "Maxie" or the "Silver Fox" as he was known, the Wolves won the Memorial Cup (1932), the Richardson Cup (1935) and were the World Hockey Champions in 1938. In 1956 Max sold the Sudbury Wolves Club for \$17,500 and turned to politics. He became the Deputy Mayor from 1962 -1964 and was elected Mayor in January 1966. Unfortunately he died in October of that same year.

Kitty Young b. 1904



Kitty Young learned to play hockey at a young age. In those days, hockey players made their own equipment and Kitty was no different. She played her game with an old cane and used a white, china doorknob as a puck. Kitty also excelled in tennis, golfing and badminton and played on the Nickel Belt baseball team.

What makes Kitty so remarkable was her talent and her spirit. Kitty was the daughter of Sudbury's first veterinarian, Dr. Thomas Young and she was born without a left arm. She became part of the female Sudbury Wolves team that, in 1926, won the Northern Ontario Ladies Hockey Association title. The team advanced to the finals against Toronto. That game was never played. The Toronto team sent a message to the Sudbury team prior to the game saying that they wouldn't compete – no reason was given.

Captain Harvey Banks came to Sudbury in 1895 and formed Sudbury's first Salvation Army.



Photo by: Tony Galic of Camdex Photography

Darryl, Del, Shelly (Digby) and Shawn Lampkin

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Joseph Specht s.j. celebrated the first mass in Sudbury on March 30, 1883. The altar was a tree stump in the midst of the towering pines that covered the Sudbury area.