Red Lakers Snatch Top Fastball Money

The hottest fastball talent in the prairie area appears to come from the Red Lake, Ontario region.

Sunday, two teams from the mine-sponsored Red Lake fastball league met in the final of the international fastball tournament, sponsored by the senior men's fastball league. Red Lake Gold Kings defeated their cousins from nearby Balmertown — who go by the name of '49ers — 5-0.

Gold Kings walked off with top prize money of \$100 while the runners up received \$50.

Windmill twirler Ron Buckler of the Kings treated some 500 fans to the fastest pitching seen here since Eddie Feigner breezed through town with his touring club two years ago. Buckler cut down 13 '49ers at the plate in the final game, and chalked up 46 strike outs in three games he pitched in the tourney.

Only three Balmertown boys touched Buckler for hits in the final. Gary Baker, Alfonse Gaboriau and Frank Mercer each managed a single.

Gold Kings clobbered loser Bob Stark for ten hits, all singles. Dick Pasloski led the slugging parade with four, followed by Tom Cloghesy with two and four other batters with

one apiece. Stark struck out seven.

Red Lake downed Manitoba government 5-0 in the semifinal on a one hit shutout by Buckler in which he fanned 19 batters. Balmertown knocked off Regina Crescents 2-1 in the other half of the semi.

Consolation money, also \$50, was won by Rossdale Braves of the local senior loop. Braves picked up pitcher Gab Bouchard from West End Tanks and Gab creamed RCAF Gimli 8-3 in the final.

Tanks, currently sharing the lead on top of the local league, were eliminated when edged by Regina 1-0.

All 13 teams competing were invited by the winners to take part in the giant mine-sponsored \$750 tournament to be held at Red Lake at the end of the month.

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