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Woodbridge Essay

Throughout history, people loved to have fun by participating in recreational activities. In the past, children outside of school would go to a tennis court to enjoy some time playing with their friends. Nowadays, we have video games that we can play with our peers, but back then it was different. In the early 1900s, people had different activities that they did for entertainment. Did you know that Woodbridge once had a Speedway? People would go there and watch amazing races for fun. They also had bowling, volleyball, soccer, and football teams. In regards to the sport of football, John Korszowski was a football player who played for the Woodbridge High School team. People then did many things we may find interesting or unusual, and things they did back then differ from what we do now, but they also consist of some similarities.

First of all, the Speedway of Woodbridge Township brought great amusement to many people. The children's hearts would be racing just like the cars at the exhilarating sight. Tickets started at the price of one dollar and ten cents to experience this activity and the stadium consisted of twelve thousand seats. On a Sunday afternoon the stands were filled with people waiting for the race to begin. In the newspaper Woodbridge Independent, on page sixteen of the article "Sensational Drivers" the author stated "... the crowd reached 15,000." They even provided transportation for the people coming to enjoy the Speedway races. In the same article "Sensational drivers" it says, "Special bus and train service has been arranged to bring the fans to and from the Speedway." People enjoyed the exciting experience of watching the races. They most definitely loved this form of entertainment. Today, the Speedway is no longer present.

They enjoyed the thrill of watching the races as we did not. We never experienced the sight of the Speedway like they did.

Secondly, the Woodbridge Bowling Team had been placed in a match against the undefeated Perth Amboy Team. People got points up to two hundred and won by a magnificent ninety eight points! On page five of the newspaper Woodbridge Independent, in the article "Crush Team That Had Not Lost A Match This Season; Locals Now Have Hopes Of Climbing To Top Position In Industrial League" it states, "Woodbridge Ceramics Corporation's bowling team in the Industrial Bowling League accomplished on Tuesday night a feat that no other team has been able to do this season." This gave everyone hope, for when they defeated the opposing team, they had an opportunity to make it to first. On that page it also states, "Woodbridge now stands third in league..." They excited the crowd due to their spectacular accomplishment. Everyone celebrated and was pleased with the results. Bowling is also something we do today. I play bowling for fun and enjoy the accomplished feeling you receive from getting a strike. Many people play on a bowling team and enjoy every moment in the bowling alley. They did bowling, and we still do to this day.

Thirdly, Tom Limoli created a volleyball team. He got the graduates who played softball and touch football to go and tryout for the team. They were phenomenal players and took the lead. They came in first with a total of twenty seven points. In the article "Limoli Inaugurates Volleyball League, Rangers Take Lead" in the newspaper Woodbridge Leader on January 14, 1938 on page seven the article states, "Tom Linoli, physical training instructor, has inaugurated a volleyball league." and, "The homerooms of last year's champions in touch football and softball, the pupils of which are now graduated, seem to attract the most powerful team in the volleyball leagues this year." They had a lot of fun and enjoyed the experience of playing for the team. All

of them truly loved to play for his team. Today we play volleyball just like them. I even play volleyball myself! They played just as we do today enjoying the time on the court. Hitting the ball and watching it smash on the opponent's side and huddling with your team to plot a path to victory is a great feeling. We enjoy this sport just they they did.

Then, Woodbridge beat the Plainfield soccer team 3-1. Plainfield had a very impressive team but Woodbridge pulled off the win. They all played fabulously and had a great time. In the first half of the game they were ahead with a score of 2-0. They dominated the whole game and turned out to be the superior team. On page five of the article "Plainfield's Soccer Team Bows To High School By 3-1" in the Woodbridge Independent newspaper on December 15, 1925 the author wrote, "During the first half Woodbridge's line demonstrated its superiority over the invading forwards and, although they missed at least five chances to score, they came out ahead by 2-0." In the second half both teams scored one point. The article states, "In the second half Plainfield scored its only goal..." Everyone had fun and was thrilled to be victorious in the intense game. This surely made the crowd content. To this day, soccer is a sport played by many people, including me. Many people love to run on the field and kick the ball, watching it soar into the back of the net. They surely enjoyed this sport and like to play in their free time.

Lastly, football player John Korszowski was a great player. He was an all star fullback for the Woodbridge High School team. He played with the Buffalo Bills as a professional team. Later on, he went to coach high school football in Richmond, Virginia. On page 87 of the book Images of America Volume II, the authors state, "He played professionally with the Buffalo Bills... and later coached high school football..." John also fought in World War II. On that same page it states, "Johnny served as a naval officer in World War II." He loved to play football and he encouraged many other football players. He was a strong player and always tried his best.

John was a major inspiration to a lot of young players. Just like we do, they had football teams and ran down the field with the hope of achieving a touchdown. A lot of people enjoy this sport today.

In conclusion, people back then played sports just like we do today. They had football, softball, soccer, and many more. Unlike us though, they had a Speedway. They got to experience the rush of seeing the cars speed by. We never had this. They never had technology like us either. We can enjoy a weekend afternoon with our friends playing video games but they never did that back then. They most definitely have some similarities and differences with the things we do for entertainment today.

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