

Green, Bob

Nice and slow, that's the way you do it

When Bob Green stepped on to the pitcher's mound sluggers could expect straight, hard fastballs.

But knowing that didn't necessarily help them. Belleville resident Green was a left-handed hurler for softball teams in the area from 1949 to the late 1960s and his fastball slipped by many good players before they could bring the bat around.

He started with Houston's Lumber in the Belleville and District Softball League, sharing duty with fellow pitcher Bob Hunter.

The Brewers' Warehouse and Bakelite teams followed, and then in 1952 Green joined Don McNevin's Glen Roy Juniors. The Juniors went all the way that year, beating North Bay in the best of three for the All Ontario Junior 'A' Softball Championship. Once again, he shared the mound with Hunter.

One of the highlights of Green's pitching days was striking out 22 batters in one game. He was pitching for the Glen Roy boys against Madoc in an exhibition game at the Alemite ball park in Belleville, recalls Green. He and Jack Holmes were to share duty on the mound but Green was hot and Holmes was relegated to bench warmer. In about the 7th inning the Madoc players gave up trying to hammer the ball and started bunting, but to no avail. "I had started with them and I kept thinking I'd be coming out in the 5th or 6th, but I had a pretty good night and I stayed in and it ended up we beat them 5-0," recalls Green.

His performance bested his own record of 17 strike outs, set only a few weeks earlier against the Kingston Alcans.

One play that stands out in Green's mind occurred when he was in the outfield with the Glen Roys, during the third game of the playdowns against Toronto in 1952. The batters

Steel

Remember when

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