

Pounding the Sports Beat . . .



THE PROMISED track duel between much publicized Bruce Kidd and Acton's Bruce Andrews took place on Saturday at the O.A.C. in Guelph and for half a mile it was quite a contest. Then the Toronto track star drew away. He had a commanding lead when he crossed the tape line. Bruce Andrews finished second in the mile race.

Kidd established a new Canadian interscholastic mark for the open mile in the race of 4:11.1. The Toronto papers, who throw all kinds of ink in Kidd's way, pointed out that in the early stages he was pushed by an unknown, Bruce Andrews of Acton District High School. Kidd, however, hardly thought his closest competitor was an unknown.

"I knew I was in a race and couldn't afford to lose with Andrews in the field," he observed as he recalled other close duels with the Acton speedster.

For the Acton Bruce it must have been a disappointment. On several occasions he was quick to point out the wide experience in track meets the Toronto star has tucked under his belt. He has run against the best from the North American continent, all over the continent, while the local lad has confined his activities chiefly to activities in Ontario.

Kidd recipient of many offers from U.S. colleges for his services, likely will wear the colors of the University of Toronto next season. He is also expected to be a show-up for a spot on the 1964 Canadian Olympic team.

We hope Bruce Andrews resumes his efforts to overtake Kidd. Maybe he can profit from the advice of yet another Bruce—Robert the Bruce.

Every Scot remembers the story of Bruce and the Spider and the lesson in persistence the spider taught the Scottish king while he languished in a cage, a virtual prisoner of his enemies.

Three attempts to get the softball circuit operating again this season finally paid off. The executive of the Acton Softball Association, Jack Newton and Bill Patterson, sparkplugs of the league, report the opening date is set for next Tuesday.

Only four teams entered this season—Junior Farmers, Beard's, Firefighters and the Dominion Hotel—but they will have a sparkling new diamond to play on.

For the spectators there will be bleachers to sit on—a departure from other seasons when spectators either brought their own seat or sprawled on the grass.

It all points up to what should be one of the best seasons for softball in Acton sports history. Reduction from six to four teams can only strengthen the

league-making players available to the weaker clubs. It's unlikely any team will walk off with the league this year.

Work on the softball diamond has been proceeding at a brisk clip but it isn't quite finished. Top of the infield was skimped and a new clay top has been ordered for it.

Jack Newton, league proxy, reports everything should be in place for the opener which pits the Junior Farmers against local U.P.W. of Beardmore & Co. which will play under the name, Tanners.

However, there's still work to be done and any help anyone cares to donate will certainly be appreciated. The executive would like to see more of the players out helping.

The opening there must be on a night and on Saturdays.

Postponement of Saturday's intermediate baseball contest with Dundas left "Dude" Lindsay's Merchants fresh for an exhibition game with Guelph Merchants of the Senior Intercounty Monday night.

And the Senior Merchants got quite a surprise. The Acton intermediate crew edged them 2-1 right in their own stadium, although the Guelph manager, juggled the line-up to give all their players a chance to play.

"Dude" nominated Jeff Fryer to start on the hill, he was followed by Harry Lawson who throws from the back side of the slab, and Howie Cain finished up. Guelph tried Brattain, a Peterborough native, and Walt Jeffries, a veteran, hurled the last two innings.

The contest pointed up the working agreement between the clubs which both hope will benefit them.

Guelph has surplus players on hand, a few of whom will likely never get into a senior game. By sending them to Acton they will get a chance to play regularly.

How will that benefit the Acton club? Each of experienced intermediate players left the Acton team impoverished for talent. The best of the younger players migrated to Guelph, to play Junior. Someone is needed to fill the vacancies caused by their movement.

The players Guelph cannot use will be expected to fill the vacancies and give the locals more bench strength. Howie Cain was the first instalment under the agreement and he is a welcome addition to the present staff.

I hope the working agreement does not give the Guelph club file to take any of the Acton players back, however, when it might jeopardize playoff chances.

Four players from Guelph were in the line-up last night as Acton defeated Milton 10-7.

Reinforced From Guelph

Acton Ints. Drop Red Sox 10-7

Acton's Intermediate Merchants put together a walk, a single, a double and a ringing triple in the seventh inning last night (Wednesday) for a three run explosion that carried them to a 10-7 victory over Milton Red Sox in Milton park.

The twilight win gave them a 1-1 record in two completed games but they are virtually assured of another game going in the win column for an uncompleted game against Georgetown.

Reinforced by the presence of four players sent down from the senior Guelph Merchants, with whom the Acton club has a working agreement, it was up and tick until the final frame last night. Although they notched the first run in the top half of the third, Red Sox scored three in the bottom half to take the lead 3-1.

Then with a five hit barrage highlighted by a three run wrong field double from the bat of rookie Brian McCristall, the Merchants scored six times to take over command again, 7-3.

The lead dwindled, however, when the Red Sox again plated three runs in the bottom half of the fourth off one hit and two costly errors at short, to come within one run, 7-6. And that is the way it stayed until the seventh.

Harold Townsley started it off

for the Merchants in the seventh by wangling a walk from Hilson, the third Milton pitcher, Fennell slammed out a two bagger, "Scotty" McCristall singled and Ethier poked a three bagger that empty

Milton could only score one in the last frame although lead-off batter Rigo was robbed of almost a sure hit by a spectacular stab from the glove of Harold Townsley, playing short.

The game saw seven pitchers parade to the mound. Duke Lind-

say nominated southpaw Harry Lawson to start for the Acton club and he was around to the third when he ran into trouble. Howie Cain went in to relieve Lawson but it wasn't long until he was lifted in favor of Burns, a recent acquisition from Guelph.

Jeff Fryer finished the game and his assortment kept the Milton bats under control.

Nip Cervoni started for Milton but he ran into trouble in the fourth and Hopkins got the sign to relieve him. Hopkins didn't last long either; Hilson was dispatched to fetter the Acton bats in the same inning.

Acton smashed 11 hits, including the two-baggers, a triple from the Milton mound stall while the Red Sox were restricted to 10 safeties by Merchant hurlers.

FOOTNOTES—Bob Bruce made

Sports Page

The Acton Free Press, Thursday, June 1st, 1961



—Staff Photo

ALL ABOARD was the order of the day Monday morning when Acton District High School students boarded school buses to head for the district field day held at Guelph. Acton placed second in the meet against Georgetown, Erin and Milton. A

large representation from here attended the meet with some going by car and others by bus. The field day was held at the O.A.C. grounds and was hosted by the Erin school. Results appear on another page of the paper.

Bleachers, Face Lifting For Diamond As Softball Circuit Opens Tuesday

Acton Softball Association released the 1961 schedule for the Acton softball teams this week. Four teams are entered in the league and they will play an 18 game schedule starting next Tuesday, June 6 and continuing every Tuesday and Thursday until August 3.

Teams entered are Acton Junior Farmers, Dominion Hotel, Beardmore and Co. Local 479 U.P.W.A. (Tanners) and Acton Firefighters.

Last year's president, Jack Newton, again heads the executive of the Association with Bill Patterson remaining as secretary-treasurer until a new one is named.

The softball diamond in the park has had a face lifting and the executive hopes to have the bleachers installed in time for the opener which pits the Junior Farmers against the Tanners.

Following is the schedule: Tuesday, June 6—Junior Farmers vs. Tanners.

Thursday, June 8, Firefighters vs. Dominion Hotel.

Tuesday, June 13—Firefighters

vs. Junior Farmers.

Thursday, June 15—Dominion Hotel vs. Tanners.

Tuesday, June 20—Tanners vs. Firefighters.

Thursday, June 22—Dominion Hotel vs. Junior Farmers.

Tuesday, June 27—Tanners vs. Dominion Hotel.

vs. Firefighters.

Tuesday, July 18—Junior Farmers vs. Tanners.

Thursday, July 20—Firefighters vs. Dominion Hotel.

Tuesday, July 25—Firefighters vs. Junior Farmers.

Thursday, July 27—Dominion Hotel vs. Tanners.

Tuesday, August 1—Tanners vs. Firefighters.

Thursday, August 3—Dominion Hotel vs. Junior Farmers.

vs. Firefighters.

Tuesday, July 11—Dominion Hotel vs. Junior Farmers.

Thursday, July 13—Tanners

vs. Firefighters.

Tuesday, July 18—Junior Farmers vs. Tanners.

Thursday, July 20—Firefighters vs. Dominion Hotel.

Tuesday, July 25—Firefighters vs. Junior Farmers.

Thursday, July 27—Dominion Hotel vs. Tanners.

Tuesday, August 1—Tanners vs. Firefighters.

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Villagers Knock League Leaders In 8-0 Error-Filled Contest

Campbellville knocked the league leading Oakville Oaks out of first place in the Halton County Baseball League on Saturday when they trounced them 8-0 in

Campbellville. It was Oakville's first loss of the young season. Garry Field, Campbellville's brilliant southpaw, won his second game of the year as he shut the Oaks out on five hits. He struck out 11 and walked four.

Campbellville also spoiled the home opener of the Milton Red Sox by humbling them 1-0 in a dust storm at Milton. The club is now firmly entrenched in first place.

Three Churches Form Summer Ball League

Young People's groups of three churches have formed a softball league. Enos, United and Redwood churches will participate every Thursday evening during July and August. Games will be held at the Seventh Line—507 Highway Department of Highways park area.

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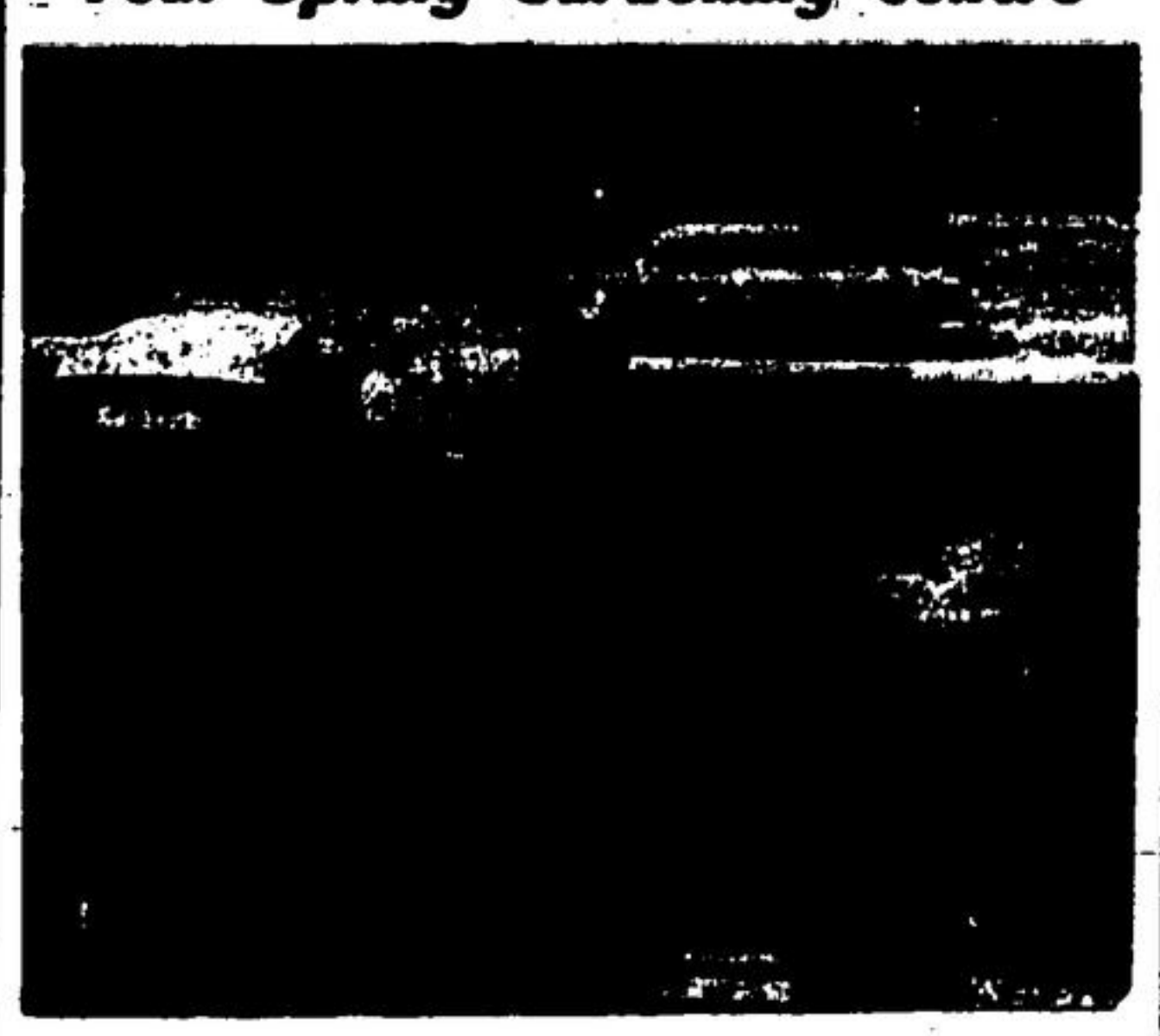
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BRUCE ANDREWS copped the Tom Watson challenge trophy for the fourth year during the District 6 Inter-School Meet in Guelph, Monday. Bruce led the field in the 880 open and romped across the finish line yards ahead of all competitors. During the field day students from Acton, Georgetown, Milton and Erin competed. Winner for the day was Georgetown.

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