



### Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

**SPEAKING OF** professionals, it's not too many who have checked as much for time up as the last two months. We haven't attempted to keep track of the number of games they've been involved in but it must average out at about three per week. And now they're going on an other safari—to Buffalo. Details are elsewhere on this page.

The day before they show off statists, they're due to compete in the four town tournament in Georgetown. Worried? Man, they haven't got a grey hair in the bunch. Just another couple of hockey games as far as they are concerned.

Playing in Buffalo's big Memorial Auditorium will be a thrill and as will the Buffalo Cleveland game later. But the biggest draw back as far as home town "Des" Harkley is concerned is looking after his charges when they hit the Niagara frontier.

"I hope some of the boys' parents come along," confided Des to this scribe over the Bell blow. "That would facilitate matters considerably."

Only other problem is equipping the boys with hockey pants of similar make and color. Right now, they could use a set. They'll be advertising Acton and environs over the border and they want to make a good impression.

**LOOKS LIKE** Oakville Oaks will finish in top place in the Central Ontario Intermediate hockey circuit, closely pursued by Georgetown Raiders. Milton Merchants have slid into fifth place where it looks like they're mixed.

Raiders only a solo club until they acquired Mighty Moose Galanda—almost bit off a piece of the top spot but losses in Oakville last week left them trailing Oaks by four points. Galanda in 22 games with Georgetown has been the hottest sniper in the league with 40 goals and 32 assists.

Bill Forbes of Bradford leads the league drilling 47 goals and 27 assists. Jackie Rice of Milton is runner-up with 25 points. They have both been in 30 games.

The two doormats of the league, Guelph and Port Credit, have been almost lost in the scramble for position, although Guelph has been improving in the last few games. Port Credit won only one game this semester, losing 29.

Wouldn't surprise many if Milton withdrew from the costly C.O.I.L. next season. They've lost money all season, their imports have been second rate and the home-brews are of ancient vintage. Maybe, the powers that be will get wise and file an entry in the W.O.A.A.

A CRUCIAL pro game on TV and other activities in town kept last night's playoff with Fergus crowd down to the smallest for an intermediate game this season. Whether it had an effect on the Tanners or not, we aren't prepared to say.

This scribe went down to the community centre with the thought that the Acton club would pull one of their better games out of the hat. They weren't even close to being "on". As a result, Fergus won the group championship easily.

Last Friday, we gave the Tanners top marks for trying the game could easily have gone to the other direction. Last night they played listlessly, let Fergus beat them to the puck and passed aimlessly into sticks of the opposition when they clustered up the Acton end.

### O.B.A. Approves Changes In Population Rule

A ruling to allow Burlington and Oakville to claim their population boundaries as that averaging south of Highway 7 was approved Sunday when officials of the Ontario Baseball Association met in a regular meeting in Milton.

The meeting was called to discuss amendments to the O.B.A. constitution that are to be voted out at the O.B.A. convention in Oshawa, March 16 and 17. This ruling was asked last week at the Halton Ball Association on behalf of Oakville and Burlington.

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"What's happened to their spirit—the drive that stirred the largest crowd of fans in the league to games in the schedule? Let's hope they shake off this lethargy before they meet the winner of the Mount Forest - Listowel series in the first round of the playoffs.

### Acton Pee Wees to Shuffle Off to Buffalo

One of the biggest thrills of the hockey season for the Acton team which has played nearly as many games this season as some professionals will take place on Sunday, March 18.

The Acton Pee Wees will shuffle off to Buffalo for a date in the Memorial Auditorium, home of the Buffalo Blasts of the American Hockey League. They'll play a Pee Wee team from the border city as a prelude to an A.H.L. game between the Blasts and Cleveland Barons.

The game is at 8:00 p.m. The professional game starts at 7:00 p.m. For the Acton club it will be the first time they've played in an arena like this. How did it all come about?

Well, "Doc" Harkley and his assistants, Bob Martingell, Matt Johnson and Walter Kowall—in their search for opportunity for the Acton kids often looked for a field. They played just about every team available in this neck of the woods with little success. They fell a change would be as good as a rest.

Consequently when Art Cooper, former Buffalo resident, and father of Paul Cooper, alternate Acton Businessman's representative, thought he could possibly arrange a game with a Buffalo team, they urged him to pursue the matter.

Art wrote to a friend of his on the Buffalo Evening News where he was formerly employed. The friend got in touch with the brass of the Buffalo Blasts, who agreed to arrange a game. He advised Art by mail that he would probably hear from an official.

Enthusiasm brought no reply until Tuesday of this week when Art was in receipt of a telephone call from a Buffalo official confirming the game, the date and the time.

The Buffalo team will also play a return visit to Acton. There's added incentive for the Acton boys: they'll be proud of the Buffalo Blasts for the American Hockey League pro game immediately following.

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The largest crowd of the season was on hand to cheer on the Tanners who lost the first game of the series in Fergus by a 1-2 margin.

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In the last chapter the visitors added two more while Acton couldn't dent the Flyer cage in spite of several clear cut chances. Both games were tied when the final whistle blew. Players from the Fergus club particularly welcomed it. Under pressure from the score, they consulted the time-keepers every few minutes in the last 10 minutes of the game.

The Tanners pretty near solved their dilemma of what to do with Paul Knox. The pesky playing coach of the Flyers rammed only one puck into the net Friday. Incessant checking hurried his shots and they were wide of the mark.

Fergus' other big scoring threat, centre Bob Dobbie, was not so easily stopped. His clever playmaking figured in three of the Flyers' goals and he pulled the trigger on himself to put the visitors ahead for the first time in the game at 15:25 of the second stanza.

For Acton Bud Haines potted the first marker assisted by Pete Lawson. Haines checked the puck away from one Fergus player, whirled around behind the net and scored from the short side.

Stu McDonald's counter was scored when he drifted in on left and his accurate wrist shot from 15 feet out caught the far corner. Tippin backhanded Wenzel's pass from directly in front to

### Prospective Junior Club Edges Milton

An experiment in determining the prospects of a Junior hockey team for Acton next year was carried out recently in the community centre. The nucleus of the Lions' juvenile club, with the addition of three players from the intermediates still of junior age, met and defeated a team from Milton of similar make-up, 4-3.

Don Lindsay, Stu McDonald and Pete Lawson of the Tanners knifed the Lion line-up. Toppin, who had been in the first period of goals by Milton and McKersie, Pete Marks, pop out one in to Acton in the second period, but it was nullified by Martin from Milton, making it 1-1.

In the last period, however, it was all Acton. First Don Lindsay, then Stu McDonald, from Ron Malcolm, and finally Ian Johnson from Merv Marshall and John Coy gave the Acton squad a 4-3 edge.

Barry Innes refereed. Acton: John Leatherland, Wayne Bowen, Don Lindsay, Brian McFistall, Bill Lindsay, Peter Marks, Ian Johnson, Peter Lawson, Stu McDonald, Merv Marshall, Mervyn Marshall, Ron Malcolm, Roy Bastard.

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### Pee Wees Trample Toronto Teams As They Swing on Exhibition Circuit

Two major exhibitions under their collective belts meant as many wins for Acton Businessmen's Pee Wees last weekend.

Taking on two Toronto district teams, they whitewashed the First Appraisal Kiwanis, 10-0 at the community centre, Friday night. Saturday, the Acton club doubled the score on Rockdale Plaza, 6-1.

Paul Cooper registered his third shutout of the season against the Kiwanis team while Bob Johnson and Casey Harkley each chalked up hat tricks. Toppin, who had been in the first period of goals by Milton and McKersie, Pete Marks, pop out one in to Acton in the second period, but it was nullified by Martin from Milton, making it 1-1.

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### North Halton Towns Request More Govt. Aid for Retarded

The three north Halton towns are preparing to send a formal letter to all other Ontario municipalities in Ontario, urging the government to provide more financial aid for retarded children.

Milton, Acton and Georgetown committees, who met last week to discuss the matter, also met with representatives of the North Halton Urban Board to discuss providing a formal letter to the provincial government.

A letter which was drafted by its members, and signed by Mayor J. M. of Milton, Mayor R. of Acton, and Mayor D. of Georgetown, will be sent to the provincial government.

The letter will request that the government provide more financial aid for retarded children, and that the government should be held responsible for the education of a retarded child as much as a responsible parent.

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### Call Game

Taking exception to remarks from the bench in the last few minutes of the game, referee Ed Owen slapped a major bench penalty on the Rockdale Plaza team Saturday, which automatically ended the contest with Acton ahead 6-1.

Ron Johnston was again the sparkplug of the Acton club with three goals while Bob Johnson and Casey Harkley each chalked up hat tricks. Toppin, who had been in the first period of goals by Milton and McKersie, Pete Marks, pop out one in to Acton in the second period, but it was nullified by Martin from Milton, making it 1-1.

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