

THE SENIOR INTERCOUNTY baseball association weathered knother of its shaky pre-season organization periods this spring. At pre:point is the annual spring mix-up it looked like only three teams, Call Tarrists, Gustph Rayals and Brantford Red Sox would be able

The lituation was viewed with alarm by the three sure starters. Guidal Royals even went to the extreme of sending out feelers regarding the possibility, of entering the Halton County intermediate series in the event the Intercounty folded.

Last minute: financial transactions on behalf of the tottering Kitchener and London entries, resolved the situation, however, and the senior circuit will start the season, with five clubs,

chener and London should experience linguistics the size of Kitera when lavish spending on sports events is commonplace. Somewhere along it's storied and rose-strewn path the Intercounty must have taken a wrong turning. Fans in both cities wouldn't just drop baseball as a speciator sport unless it was no longer interesting.

Baseball must have degenerated to the point where a good TV program or a spot of fishing was preferable to diamond exploits of the Intercounty variety. The exit of St. Thomas, Stratford and Waterloo, all hotbeds of the sport in past years, seems to bear this out.

Unimaginative promotion, too many imports at fanty prices and failure to spawn players in minor leagues all probably irritated the situation. When the sports-mad post war years lost their impetus fans no longer flocked to the turnstiles. They could watch major league baseball with the flick of a switch or the turn of o

The money that should have been used for promotion and sprucing up the ball parks went to creaky old pros who carned a Softball League where a dozen or so old pros from Galt were taking on a like bunch from Guelph. There was no civic pride involved. Most of them Opens May 21 just went through the motions, saving themselves for the long, hard winter.

Suddenly the Intercounty, along with other senior leagues in Ontario, found the well had dried up. Interest was declining rapidly. That should have been a time for a re-appraisal of the situation. It was for some.

GUELPH ROYALS was one club that picked up their collective. The schedule has been drawn socks; re-organized and got something like a going concern entered up and the opening game is slatin the league. They used local players when the could and found ed for Tuesday, May 21 with the college players on their way up to augment the roster instead of title-holding Fire Fighters meetprofessionals on the way down.

The calibre of baseball improved. Fans started coming back will play 10 games. to the park-for games that again had sparkle and bounce. Under the leadership of Mike Wallace, Royals scoured the province for dule with the home club the last

good, young players. They found some. Now it's not unusual for a Guelph boy to try out for the team. He doesn't have to muscle his way through a covey of players! with pro records as long as your arm.' He's assured of a fair tryout.

This season, three players from last year's Acton club, are trying out for spots on the Royals. The Lawson brothers, Pete and Legion. -Paul are both angling for a berth. Pete at short and Paul on the first sack. Also practicing is Bob Bruttain, southpaw Guelph native, ners vs. Station Hotel. who played in Acton for the past three seasons.

Pete Lawson played for Guelph Juniors last season and was vs. Legion. one of the outstanding prospects along with Don Currie of Milton. Paul Lawson had one of his best years in an Acton uniform last semester and was one of the stars of the Halton County All Stars in the annual All-Star game with Guelph in Campbellville. For Bob Brattuin it could be a vindication year. Bob was a

good southpaw slinger with Guelph juniors before he came to Acton. tel vs. Fire Fighters. He never was quite good enough for the Intercounty. He improved under the tutelage of Dude Lindsay to the point where he was UPWA Tanners. Acton's winningest pitcher in a league only a notch below the senior

With baseball on the threshold of another season, this corner mourns with other fans here, the demise of the sport in Acton for this season. We'll miss the hi-jinks in the park. But we're somewhat in the same position as those clubs who folded in the Intercounty - financially unstable.

SOME OF THE SIX TEAMS entered in the Acton Softball Assuclation this semester have been out practicing already. The 30-game Fire Fighters. schedule - three games a week - starts Tuesday, May 21 with last year's champions, Fire Fighters, taking on Dominion Hotel in vs. Station Hotel the opener.

Outside of a few players who jumped from one team to an Tanners vs. Dominion Hotel other, the league remains almost the same as last season. There is one new entry - Station Hotel - replacing the Junior Farmer

Cries of anguish are being heard from a couple of the clubs who accuse others of pirating their players Last year's champs. Fire Fighters, are reputed to have lost at least two of the players | Fighters vs. Legion one to retirement and another to a tival. It someone should steal —Tuesday July 2. Fire Fighters Frank Daley they'd really be in a fix.

Target for the league is a set of lights to enable games to be. Wednesday, July 3 - Jegion vs. played after dark. A sizeable sum, proceeds of collections and dances !!! has been set aside for the project and all the shekels not needed for the league's operation this season, will likely find their way into the kitty for lights.

It's a murthwhile project. (Meen in the early spring and into mummer it is impossible to finish nine innings in daylight and it's difficult for officials to call games for darkness when one team is only a run or two in arrears.

BEAT BITS. Registration for the pee wee baseball team Monday evening attracted enough aspirants to staff two teams Acton Open is set for the Erin golf club this season. Witch for further details . . Only a few interested bowlers showed up to register | Fire Fighters for fawn bowling at a meeting Monday in the Community Centre

The hydroplane regatta stated for Fairy Lake, here June 15 will attract from 75 100 of the speeds craft. Grapevine now sixs Lan McLaren may not couch Georgetown Cottons in the Halton league this season. A tip of the old chapeau in the direction of the high school athletes who missed bringing home a championship by a few paltry points Saturday.

interested in the film which Cheaters showed how the children's Cheating on a school test was morals were subtly influenced in the subject of an excellent Na tional Film Board movie. "The Test." which the Rotations asw

-Baseball practices have been

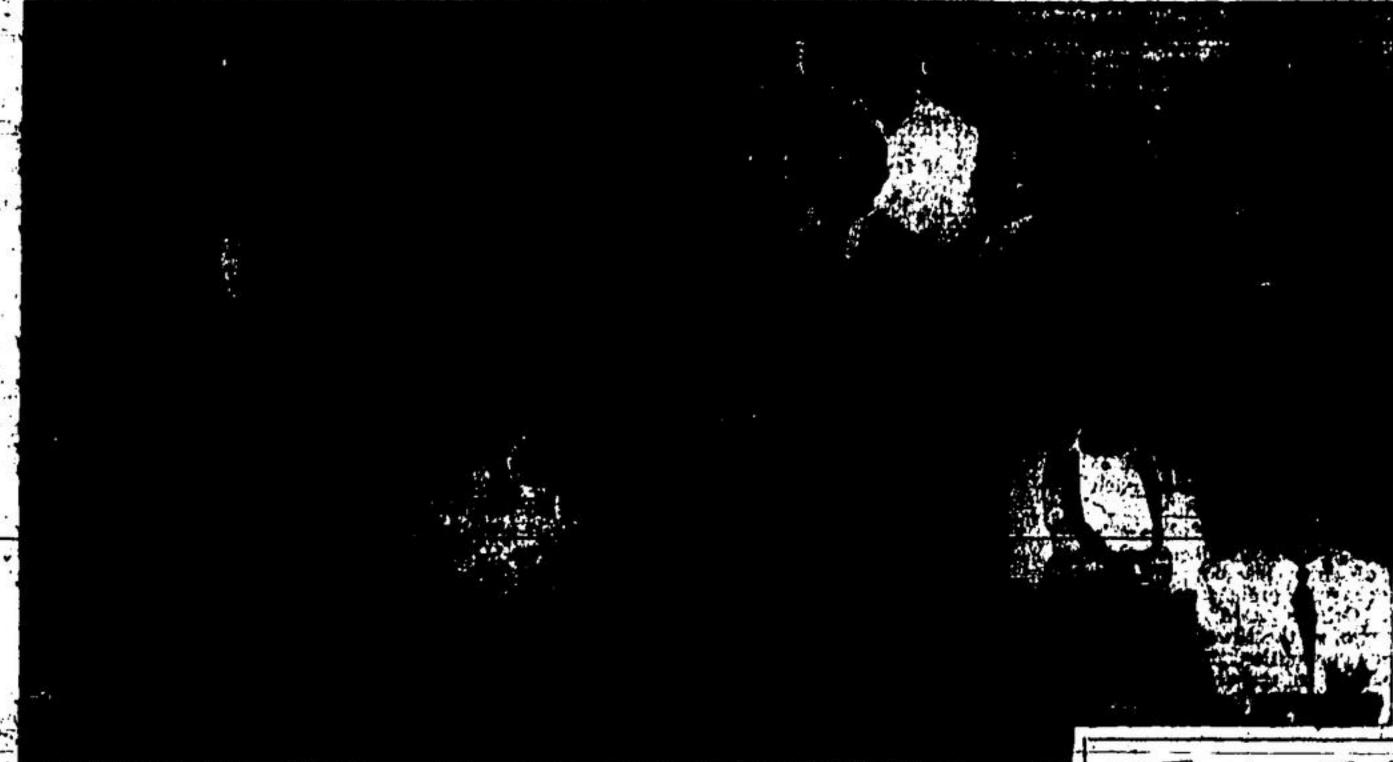
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# Six Teams Enter

Six teams made the deadline for entry into the Acton Softball Association this season and live of them will attempt to wrest the title from last year's champions, Actour Fire Fighters.

ing Dominion Hotel. Each club Following is the complete sche-

Tuesday, May 21-Fire Fighters

vs. Dominion Hotel. Wednesday May 22 - IGA vs. Monday, May 27-UPWA Tan-

Tuesday, May 28-Fire Fighters Wednesday, May 20-Dominion Hotel vs. Station Hotel.

Thursday, May 30! - IGA vs UPWA Tonners. Tuesday, June 4 - Station Ho-

Wednesday, June 5-Legion vs. Thursday, June 6 - Dominion Hotel vs. I.G.A. Tuesday, June 11 - Dominion

Hotel vs. Legion. Wednesday, June 12 - UPWA Tanners vs. Fire Fighter Thursday, June 13 - Station. Hotel vs. LG A

Tuesday, June 18 - 1GA vs Wednesday, June 19 - Legion Thursday, June 29 - UPWA

Tuesday June 25 - Station Ho tel is Dominion Hotel Wednesday June 20 -- UPWA l'anners vs. 1GA. Thursday, June 27 - Fire

vs Dominion Hotel

Thursday July 4 - Station Ho tel is UPWA Tanners Tuesday, July 9 - Firemen vs.

I PWA Tanners Wednesday, July 10 - IGA vs. Station Hotel Thursday, July 11 - Legion vs. Dominion Hotel Tuesday, July 16 - Legion vs

Wednesday, July 17 - IGA vs . Thursday July 18 - Dominion IN UPWA Tanners Tuesday July 23 - Station Ho

tel vs. Fire Fighters Wednesday July 24 Dominion Hotel vs 16.4 Thursday, July 25-1 PW ( Lanpers vs Legion

ACTON FIRE PIGHTERS' sponsored bantam hockey team were feted Saturday night at the fire hall when they received individual inscribed trophies from the firefighters during a banquet. Front tow left to right are Steven Townsley, Terry Cole, Alan McNabb, Garry Taillefer, Barry Elliott, Rick Lambert and Bruce Casburn. Second row left to right Jim Barden, Bert Logan, John McGeachie, Jim McCoy, Kevin Hall, Ken Maltby and Allan Mc-Kenzie. Back row left to right coach Harold Townsley, manager Herb Dodds and trainer Bill Knight.



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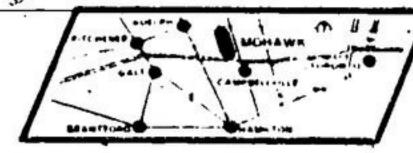
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