



Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

SATURDAY'S INDUSTRIAL Hockey League banquet wrapped up another successful year of operation for the "bush leaguers". The championship trophy was presented to Tom Oakley who accepted on behalf of the Dusters. Stu McDonald was named as the most valuable player, this season and Harry "Red" Phillips got the high scoring award. Over 40 attended the dinner in the Dominion Hotel and selected a new executive headed again by president Gord Mason. Vice-president is Don Lindsay, secretary Denis Gibbons, treasurer Ken McIsaac and referee-in-chief Leon Duffield. Both Leon and Ches Pevcha were given a vote of thanks for their work with the whistle this season.

THERE'S ANOTHER year-end banquet coming up this Saturday at 4 p.m. in the community centre. It's the Acton Minor Hockey Association's wind-up and president "Doc" Harkley has a really big show planned. There are a couple of hockey players coming in and trophy presentations will be another feature. The women's support group is putting on the dinner. "Doc" wants to make sure all the Tri-County players from Acton attend, so you might mention it to the fellow next door.

BRYAN LEWIS, referee-in-chief for the Georgetown bantam tournament sends word through Eddie Owen that officials are most appreciative of the help they got from Acton for the tourney's whistle-blowing chores. Murray Harrison, Danny Arbie, Don Ford and Ed Owen all took turns helping out. Chatham won the tourney's grand championship by defeating Winnipeg, last year's winners in the finals. The Winnipeg team played two exhibitions in Acton, blanking both the bantams and midgets and were favorites to take home the crown again.

WONDER WHY Monday's group final between Hespeler and Acton turned out to be the W.O.A.A. Int. B finale? Well, the northern winner, Hanover-Walkerton, play out of Hanover. There hasn't been a home game there in weeks so the town fathers decided they couldn't wait any longer for a winner from the south. They pulled the switch on the ice plant, cancelling any further games. It was the same situation Acton faced last season but the Tanners received more understanding from the powers-that-be. It turned out the Acton club didn't take Hespeler anyway but if they had you wouldn't have blamed them if they had some harsh things to say about the W.O.A.A.

ANOTHER HOCKEY season came to a close Monday when the Tanners wound up on the short end of the score in the seventh and final game of the group finals. Hespeler Mic Macs, a young, aggressive club with plenty of foot, got the jump on the Acton team in the first period and hung on to win. If the venue had been in Acton instead of Hespeler who knows what might have happened. There was no doubt Mic Macs were the better team Monday, however. The puck was rolling for them and although they got two or three garbage goals, missed more golden opportunities in the first period than the Tanners had through the game. Acton came back strong in the second and third periods but the margin was just too large to overcome.

COACH JUNIOR BEAUMONT summed up the feelings of team and fans after the game when he said, "We blew the series in the fourth game in Acton". Ahead 2-1 at that point, with Mic Macs on the run, they eased up and Hespeler evened the series with a win on Acton ice. The victory gave them new heart and another victory at home gave Mic Macs a series edge. The Tanners fought back Friday prolonging the set to seven games, but it was evident they were going to have to produce an exceptional game to beat Mic Macs on their own backyard. Hespeler has some veterans on the team but they are mainly testimony to youth. You might say their legs won the series for them. You can't take it away from the Tanners, however. They were trying to the final bell. They've given fans here another season of entertaining hockey and when you get right down to it what more can you ask? Next year may be the championship season.

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS of the series was the lack of any pier six donnybrooks. The only real fight came in the last game when Murray Marchment cleaned Weber's clock as the teams skated to the dressing rooms at the end of the second period. Evidently something Weber said precipitated an exchange of insults and led to the slugging match. Weber, wearing number 13 got the worst of it. He emerged for the third period wearing number 16, evidently figuring Bob Russell, the previous wearer of that number was more of a gladiator. Russell, you'll remember, slugged referee Lou Heinbuch in the fifth game of the series as Lou skatted over to the penalty box to inform the timekeeper of a penalty. Russell was in the sin bin at the time for duelling with high sticks with Beaver Baxter. He hit the referee in the face and despite his rage was ejected. His case will come up before the W.O.A.A. at their next meeting, but Russell will be lucky to escape with a year's suspension. You just can't hit an official and expect a light penalty.

Expect Eight Squads In Halton Ball League

Probably eight teams will be squaring off in Halton County Intermediate (or Senior if you like) baseball action this year. At an intermediate executive meeting this week, entries were accepted from seven towns and it was agreed to accept a "strengthened" Junior entry from Burlington. Milton, Campbellville, Georgetown, Oakville, Dundas and Preston will be represented by much the same teams as last season.

The Hamilton Red Wings who dominated league action in 1965 intend to move into Senior Intermediate action, but the Steel City will still be represented in Halton County ball. Graduates of a Hamilton junior team plus a few players from last year's Red Wing squad, will make up that entry.

The executive agreed to accept a junior team from Burlington into league play and it is expected that entry will be strengthened by some older players. Burlington was not represented at the meeting, but had applied for entry earlier and it was assumed they were still interested. Caledonia, who applied for entry early in the winter, had been told it must get its release from the Southern Counties circuit. Halton officials have been informed the release could not be obtained.

A 28, or possibly even 35 game schedule, is being planned for this season. Action is expected to start the Wednesday before the 24th of May holiday, May 20. There will be no playoffs this year. Most teams are planning their first practices for this week end.

Mic Macs Cop W.O.A.A. Int. B Crown Mon.

Hespeler Mic Macs won the W.O.A.A. Int. B title and the group championship all in one sweep by defeating Acton Tanners 9-4 in the seventh and final game of the group finals Monday night in Hespeler. Mic Macs got the jump on the Tanners in the first period of the game and went on to post a convincing victory despite an all-out effort from the Acton club to get back in contention.

The Tanners forced the series into seven games by whipping the Hespeler crew 6-3 in Acton Friday night. Mic Macs came into town with a 3-2 edge on the set following a hard-fought 7-3 win in Hespeler Wednesday but the Tanners responded by coming up with a big win.

48 Shot Barrage

The series swung back to Hespeler for the deciding game and Mic Macs demonstrated for their largest crowd this season that they were championship material. They rolled up a 5-1 lead in the first period and withstood a withering 48 shot barrage by Acton to win. Goalkeeper Jim Sweeney stopped 24 Hespeler shots.

It was a double-edged victory. Word came the day of the game that the northern winner, Hanover, had opted out of the cup hunt when the arena commission pulled the switch on the artificial ice plant there. Consequently the Int. B crown as well as the group title hinged on the one game.

W.O.A.A. president Dick Parker of Harrison presented the Int. B. championship trophy to Mic Mac captain Dave Heipel and Jim Tye of Fergus, donor of the group trophy, presented it in a jubilant post game scene. Mic Macs carried coach Bill O'Krafka Sr. from the ice in a victory celebration which started with the Tanners congratulating the winners.

Never a Bride

For the Tanners it was a case of being always the bridesmaid but never the blushing bride. It's the second year in a row they've gone to the finals and both instances found them runners-up. They forced the series into seven games but fans felt they could have wrapped it up early if the puck was bouncing for them.

They were outlucked in the first game of the series, won the second and third in convincing fashion over the fatigued Hespeler club, playing a double W.O.A.A.-O.H.A. series. Key game was the fourth in Acton.

Coach Junior Beaumont figures the Tanners lost the series then. They dropped a 9-5 decision in front of their biggest crowd of the season and Mic Macs had a new lease on the series. They took the next one easily.

Hamilton Town-League Novice Champs

Hamilton won the Legion town league novice championship Saturday by defeating St. Catharines 4-0 in the third game of the best of three final.

Ron Death and Tim McIntyre were the big guns for the new champions. Ron scored three goals and Tim bagged one and collected a pair of assists in the victory. Treth Armstrong assisted on Ron's first marker.

It was the most conclusive win of the series. First game was a 3-2 win for Hamilton. St. Kitts evened up the series with a 2-0 whitewash in the second game but were blanked themselves in the final.

John Cameron, Tony Lambert and Peter Hargrave all served minor penalties dished out by referees Dave Scutt and Don Ford Saturday.



MURRAY MARCHMENT Cleans Weber's Clock

Lose Early
Monday, a penalty to Murray Marchment started them off when Heipel connected at the 2:48 mark with Acton sloughed. Bill O'Krafka made it 2-0 on the Tanners, who played without Glenn Cooper, home sick for the final game. Heipel made it 3-0 while Doug Evans sat out a high sticking sentence and a long shot by Heatherington stretched the lead to 4-0 at 15:03.

Gerry Inglis put Acton back in the hunt at 17:20 when his screened drive went under Watson in the Hespeler net but Kitzman nullified it when his drive went in off Sweeney with four seconds left in the period. Sweeney got a piece of it but couldn't hold on. Hespeler weathered three second period penalties and intense Tanners pressure until the 18-minute mark when Mel Aucoin tipped in Heipel's goal mouth pass. Sweeney had no protection.

Twenty-six seconds later Tim Haines connected for Acton on a play with McKenzie and Blake Inglis to make it 6-2. Marchment and Weber's end-of-the-period two-round slugfest drew them five minutes apiece in the cooler and while they were off Jim Farrelly broke in the clear down centre and backhanded a beauty past Watson. Hespeler got another at 5:45, however when Ross Russell broke in alone, set up by Wildfong.

Danny Arbie finished the scoring for Acton with a shot that hit the top right corner behind Watson. Howie Evans and Jim Cunningham assisted. The Tanners left themselves wide open in their efforts to come back but despite many close calls Watson held them out while Mic Macs produced two more goals. Eric Plein notched one. Aucoin the final.

There were nine penalties, five to Hespeler.

Haines Has Hat
Friday in Acton Tim Haines

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BRAMPTON TEAM emerged victors in the town Atom hockey league Monday night in a sudden death final after the series was tied with Weston at one game apiece and a tie. The champions will now win the final game 4-2 are pictured above. Front row left to right are Steve Papillon, Joe Kentner, John Ashley, John Schutts, Jim Hurley, Scott Withers and John McHugh. Back row left to right are Ricky Baginski, Timmy Taylor, manager George Ware, coach Barry Incoe, Ford Alton and David Morris. Missing when photo was taken were Wayne Allan and Billy Ware.

Dark Horse Brampton Wins Town Atom Title

"We came out of the cellar to win the whole thing," jubilant George Ware, manager of the Brampton team in the Legion town league Atom series, told the Free Press this week. The Brampton team won the best-of-three final in the fourth game Monday night, posting a 4-2 victory over Weston, league leaders all season. A fourth game was necessary when a 10 minute overtime period failed to settle a deadlock in the third contest. The series featured two overtime games.

Ricky Baginski, Jim Hurley, Wayne Allan and David Morris each scored a goal apiece as Brampton came from behind a 2-0 third period deficit with four consecutive goals. Johnny Ashley collected three assists for the winners. Ricky Baginski got two and Ford Alton snared one.

Blain Cleland and Kent Kentner scored one each for the losers, both unassisted. Penalties went to Blain Cleland (2) and Joe Kentner.

Saw-Off
Sunday's third game was tied

Baginski assisting on the first two and Wayne Allan on Steve's. Blain Cleland and Paul Tyers served penalties. Brampton came from behind in the second game of the series to win 2-1 last Tuesday as Jim Hurley broke a 1-1 tie with an overtime goal. Wayne Allan tied it up for Brampton in the third period assisted by Steve Papillon after Jeff Townsley put Weston ahead in the first period. Jim Hurley and Jeff Patterson served penalties in that one.

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