

Start of T-ball ends boredom for fielders

Players sitting on the bench unhappily, pitchers walking in runs and outfielders unattentively resting on their haunches are things of the past in the Acton Minor Baseball Association novice house league this year, as the result of the introduction of T-ball, a slightly altered version of baseball.

Minor baseball execs decided to have novice age players, most of whom have had no prior baseball experience, play T-ball, in an effort to allow as many boys as possible to participate in each game and to provide continuous action for all nine players on the field.

Unlike baseball, teams playing T-ball are allowed to fill out their batting order with whatever number of players they have present for the game. Every player gets a chance to bat. Fielding lineups consist of the usual nine players, except that the player playing the pitcher's position does not pitch.

Ball teed up
Instead of hitting a pitched ball, batters take their cuts at a ball, which is placed on an adjustable tee at home plate. The tee may be adjusted by the umpire, according to the size of the batter, so that the ball is within his strike zone.

Each batter has one swing at the ball. If he hits it cleanly into the playing field, play proceeds as usual and the batter tries for as many bases as he can. If the ball is missed or if in the judgement of the umpire the tee alone or the tee and ball both are struck, the batter is out. Bunting is disallowed and each batter must take a full swing at the ball.

Time is called, whenever the ball is being placed in position by the umpire or in the opinion of the umpire play has been stopped. Play resumes only when the ball is hit fairly into the playing field.

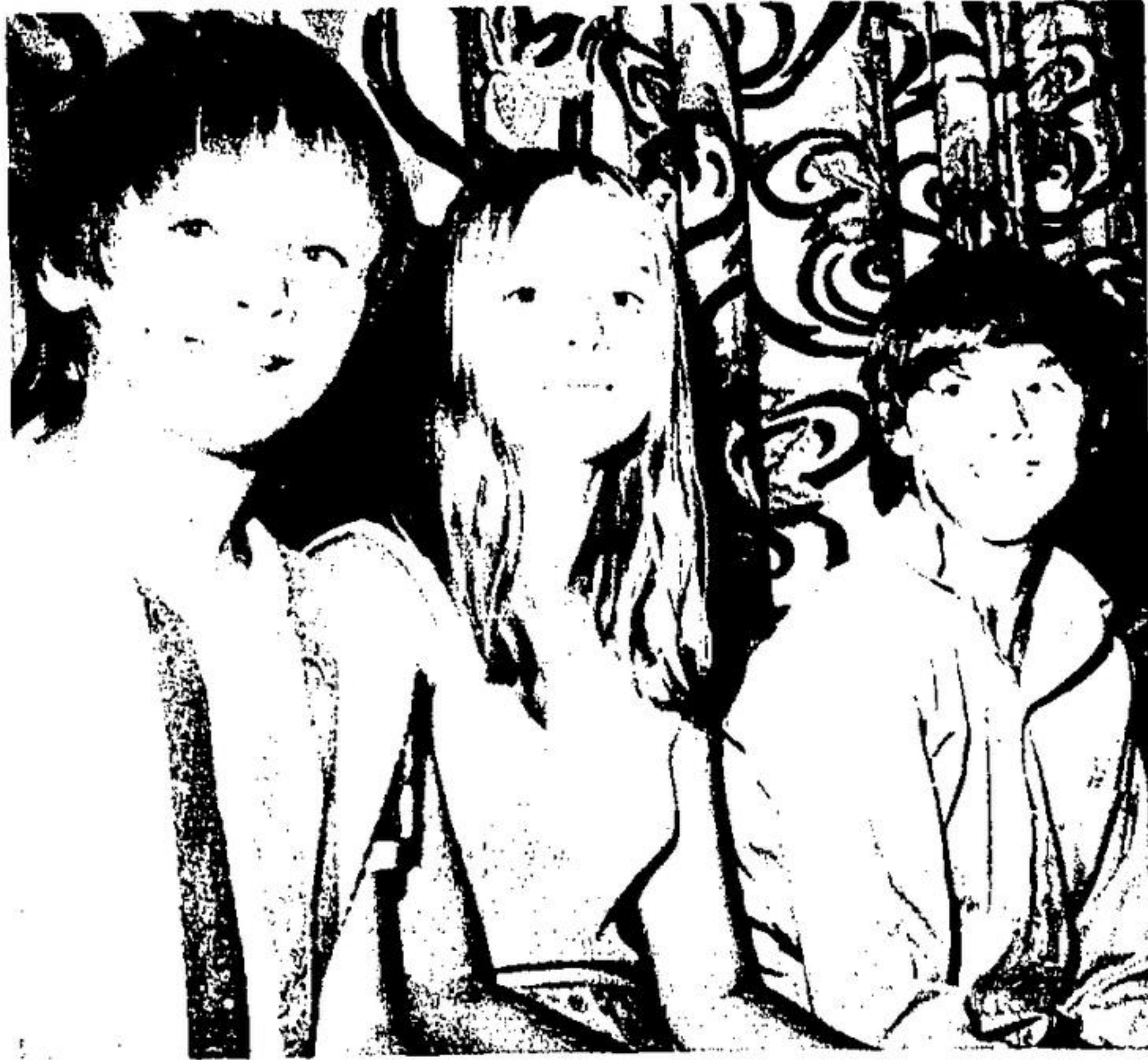
Three outs
Teams change sides after three outs, the same as baseball, however normal playing time for T-ball games is 90 minutes. No full inning may start after 80 minutes or five innings, whichever comes first.

Novice games last year turned out to be nothing but a succession of walks and strikeouts. Games dragged on so long that many players missed an opportunity to play and those on the field became bored, because only a few balls were hit into the playing field.

In spite of criticism from die hards of the traditional game of baseball, T-ball has been growing in popularity among those who see it as an excellent training ground for potential baseball players.

Must be alert
Batters don't have the chance to face a pitcher and judge whether or not to hit the ball, but they do learn to keep their eye on the ball at all times and experience the sensation of hitting. What's more, fielders learn to play their positions properly and to be alert at all times, since the ball is hit into the playing field most of the time.

Two teams, Nellis Construction and Lions Club form this year's novice house league. Games are played at Prospect Park Saturday mornings and two nights a week.



A TAYLOR-MADE TRIO, l. to r., Tim Taylor, sister Vicki and brother Bernie headed the list of athletic award winners at Robert Little school. Tim won crests for gymnastics and volleyball, while Vicki starred in basketball, cross-country and

soccer and Bernie walked off with six crests for participation in basketball, cross-country, hockey, gymnastics, softball and volleyball. Parents of the fine athletes are Mr. and Mrs. Bill Taylor, Willow St. —(Staff Photo)

Fergus hands bants first boxla defeat

Acton bantams suffered their first defeat of the season 12-4, in an exhibition game against Fergus all-stars of the West Central league, in Fergus last Wednesday night. Bantams are undefeated in Oakville house league lacrosse play.

Acton played well, but the Fergus lads had a little bit too much polish for them. Fergus led 4-1 at the end of the first period and 9-2 at the end of the second.

Russ bags two
Russ Van Fleet scored two of the Acton goals. Ron Turkosz and Robin Incoe netted singles. Mike Luty, Peter Arbie and Tim Taylor earned assists.

B. Pringle paced the Fergus attack with four goals. L. Dobbie and K. Shannon scored two goals each and L. Heffren, B. Landoni, R. Booker and J. Landoni scored one apiece.

The Fergus team is among the

Laurie Kennedy Moffat heroine

Laurie Kennedy belted a grand slam homer and was the heroine of Moffat girls' 12 and under, 7-3 win over Hillsburgh last Wednesday night. The score was only 3-2 for Moffat, when Laurie connected. The game was very close and well played by both teams.

Ponsonby girls, 19 and under, scored a single run in the seventh inning, to edge Moffat 13-12 Thursday night. Moffat tried hard for the equalizer in their half of the seventh, but failed to score. Tough luck girls.

Moffat bantams suffered a 27-12 defeat at the hands of Ponsonby, at Brookville diamond last Tuesday night. The score was close for the first two innings. Ponsonby started to roll in the third.

contenders in the tough West Central loop.

Fires hat trick
Mike Luty triggered a hat trick, while his team was shorthanded, in a 9-2 win over Oakville last Tuesday night. Luty and John Hansen sparked in a penalty-killing role.

Ron Turkosz also fired a hat

trick for Acton. Wayne Allan scored twice and Russ Van Fleet added the ninth goal. Steve Papillon earned two assists, while Luty, Turkosz and Steve Brunelle and John Hansen picked up one apiece.

Tim Taylor played a strong game for Acton, even though he failed to score.

Stewart completes grand slam

By Vivian Shaw

The father and son combination of Lawrence and Larry Majurey staged a nip and tuck battle for first place in Sunday's six cylinder feature at Acton Speedway.

Lawrence started in pole position and took over the lead on the first lap. Larry, who started in scratch, worked his way up to third by the third lap and finally managed to get past George Wrigglesworth on the fifth lap. This put father and son in the number one and two positions. It stayed that way for the next nine laps, then Lawrence spun on number two turn, when Larry tried to pass him. Lawrence was forced out of the race, allowing Larry to win the feature. George Wrigglesworth placed second and Larry Cox copped third.

Ed Stewart won his two heats and went on to capture the eight cylinder feature. With so few diamonds at the track, the sportsmen and diamonds were entered in the same feature.

Stewart started in scratch and had worked his way through the pack to take over first place by the sixth lap. Lloyd Bowman, a sportsman, was giving him a real battle for first.

On the ninth lap, the red flag was thrown, when Ross Winters spun and Ralph Leyman ran into him. On the restart it was Stewart, Bowman and Murray Wallace in that order and that's the way it finished. These boys put on some fine driving for the fans.

RESULTS
6 CYLINDER CLASS:
1st heat—Lawrence Majurey Larry

Rockwood wins two but loses ace hurler

Rockwood Seniors bounced back from two consecutive shutout defeats to down Fergus and Belwood in Tri-County play last week. The wins boosted Rockwood's record to 9-4, third best in the eight team league.

Harry Barber and John Salmon clouted home runs to lead Rockwood to a 9-2 win in Fergus, last Tuesday night. Salmon outduelled Russ Spicer to pick up the win. He gave up only four hits and fanned 12 Fergus batters. Salmon's homer was the first of his Tri-County career.

Had no hitter
Thursday night in Rockwood, Salmon had a no hitter going,

when he sprained his ankle sliding into third base in the seventh inning and had to leave the game with the score 5-0. Belwood touched reliever Chuck Milne for six hits and three runs over the last two innings and Rockwood escaped with a narrow 5-3 victory. Shortstop Dan Arbie made a perfect throw to cut a Belwood runner down at the plate and help snuff out a rally in the ninth.

Milne was Rockwood's top batter with two hits in four trips to

the plate.

Barber leads
Second baseman Harry Barber is leading the team in hitting with 25 hits in 56 at bats for a sizzling .446 average. Rounding out the top five are Jim Thatcher .416, Vic Wilkins .381, Mike Martin .333 and John Salmon .250.

Rockwood are at home to Glen Williams, tomorrow (Thursday) night and travel to Hespeler Friday night.

Salmon is expected to be out of action for 10 days.

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Tyke tees off on T-ball

MURRAY Dalton gets set to tee off on a teed-up ball. The tee may be adjusted according to the batter's height. —(Staff Photo)

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