

Bonanza weekend for hockey fans!

This weekend promises to be the most exciting and important of the current season for Acton hockey fans.

In the space of less than 48 hours beginning Friday night, there'll be five key games played at the community centre.

Acton Junior Sabres have a rare weekend doubleheader at home. Friday night they host the fourth place Bradford Vasey's at 8.30 in a game that could go a long way towards determining which team will grab the final playoff berth in the South Central Junior "D" league. Vasey's have a two point lead on the fifth place Sabres, but also have a home game tonight (Wednesday) against the winless Shelburne Bluebirds. Although they trail Bradford in the standings, Sabres have won two of the three games played between the two teams so far.

Fergus here

Sunday afternoon at 1.30, Sabres will resume their efforts to dismantle the powerful Fergus "Green Machine". The first place Fergus team has not lost a game since November 28 and has beaten Sabres in all three previous meetings. In the month of December, Fergus recorded six wins and two ties in eight games to climb from fourth place in the standings all the way up to the top rung.

Sunday's game will bring together the two highest scoring lines in the league. Sabres' first unit of Ray Evans, Bill Field and George McPhail chalked up 95 scoring points in the first 16 games of the schedule, including 40 goals and 53 assists. Evans and Field have been first and second respectively in the league

scoring race, since mid-November.

Fast line

The Green Machine's number one unit of Wayne Belmes at centre and the "flying twins" Randy and Sandy Fleming on the wings, has been burning up the league, ever since coach Paul Cook reunited them. Fergus scored an average of 6.8 goals per game during their December unbeaten streak.

Although Sabres haven't been able to defeat Fergus yet, coach Bill Dawkins feels the league leaders are far from invincible.

"The way our team's been going, I think our chances of winning both games are good," Dawkins told the Free Press this week. "The key to stopping Fergus is hitting them at centre ice, before they get wound up. When you start hitting them, they pass the puck away foolishly," he added.

The Fergus squad defeated Hanover Junior C's 7-4 in an exhibition game last weekend.

Big tripleheader

Minor hockey fans can look forward to a special tripleheader here Saturday afternoon, when Acton novice, pee wee and bantam teams take on New Hamburg, the team they will likely come up against in the O.M.H.A. playoffs. The novice game at 1.10 will be a battle for first place. New Hamburg and Acton are the top two teams in the Waterloo-Wellington league. Pee wee and bantam games follow the novice game.

Sports celeb. dinner here January 17

Arrangements are being finalized this week for the upcoming sports celebrities dinner being organized by members of Acton's 1974 Centennial Committee. The dinner will be held at the Acton Legion, Monday, January 17, starting at 6.30 p.m. Tickets at \$5 per adult or \$2.75 for children 16 and under are now on sale at the Acton arena and at Nielsen's Clothing Store.

It's expected the Toronto Argonauts and Hamilton Tiger-Cats will both have representatives at the dinner. Slides and films of CFL action will also be shown.

Committee members are encouraging Actonians to invest 25 cents to promote the 1974 centennial by buying a ticket on the two autographed footballs which will be raffled off the night of the dinner. The footballs have been autographed by players on both teams. Tickets are on sale at the Free Press, Acton arena and most local stores. Proceeds from the draw will go directly into the centennial fund.



RIGHT WINGER Bill Field fired a hat trick to lead Acton Sabres to a 5-4 win over Schomberg Cougars in Schomberg Sunday afternoon. The hat trick gave the Acton juvenile grad the team lead in goals with 19.—(Staff Photo)

Sabres tame Cougars



ATOMS-David Mitchell posted a shutout in goal, as Weston blanked Dixie 6-0. Gary Lumbers and Rick Jackson potted a pair of goals apiece for the winners. Gordie McArthur and David Allen added singles. Steve Hepburn earned two assists. McArthur and Jeff Sargent picked up one apiece.

Mike Marshall tallied four unassisted goals to lead Brampton to a 4-1 win over Guelph. Michael McRae replied for Guelph.

NOVICES-Todd Cook's second period hat trick paved the way for London's easy 8-0 victory over Oshawa. John Woodman scored two goals for the Knights. Gordon Scott, Chris Hudson and Bill Buttery netted a goal apiece. Scott also earned a pair of assists. Cook, Hudson and Peter Luby picked up one each. Steve Mitchell earned the shutout in the London nets.

Brothers Steve and Gary Lumbers scored two goals apiece in Niagara Falls' 7-2 victory over Hamilton. Murray McNabb, Steve Tremills and Rob Renshaw tallied the other Flyer goals. Tremills and Renshaw were the top playmakers with two assists each. Ralph Bowen and Wayne Thompson got single assists.

Hamilton marksmen were Randy McIntyre and David McAdam. McAdam and John Griese earned assists.

Mike Nicholls led the way with three goals in a 6-1 St. Catharines' win against Peterborough. Mike Waites bagged two goals and Steve Trotter sniped one for the Black Hawks. Nicholls had three assists and Trotter two.

Laurie Smith scored the Pets' goal with Dean Boles and Don Brouillard assisting.

PEEWEEES-A two goal effort by Jim Matthews helped Cleveland nose out Baltimore 3-1.

Paul Bilton added a goal and an assist to the winners' scoring totals and Scott Withers picked up two assists.

For Baltimore Ken Harris scored from Marc McKerracher.

Ford Alton scored all four Rochester goals, as the Amerks edged Springfield 4-3. Norm Thornhill collected two assists and Colin Mallett and Brian Bilton picked up one apiece for the winners.

Ron Kuiken, Duncan Waldie and Brian Moore handled the Springfield scoring. Moore also earned an assist.

BANTAM-Robin Speaker, Rick Baginski and Joe Schuts scored for Pittsburgh in a 3-2 win over Buffalo. John Dyer bagged both Buffalo goals. Jack Vos earned an assist.

MIDGET-Los Angeles outduelled Montreal 9-7 in a high scoring game which includes three hat tricks.

Gary Masters was a three goal man for the Kings, while Carl Reed and Chris Tennant tallied three goals apiece for the Habs. Chris Schuts scored twice for Los Angeles and Bob Krul, Bernie Taylor, Terry Webster and Ron Loutlet shot singles. Masters, Krul, Mike Ferguson and D. Renaud earned assists.

Paul Daley added a goal and four assists to the Montreal scoring totals. Tennant and G. Moore also earned assists.

This week's schedule
Sat. Jan. 6
PEEWEEES
6:30 Rochester vs. Cleveland
7:35 Baltimore vs. Springfield
NOVICES
8:35 London vs. Niagara Falls
9:30 Hamilton vs. Peterborough
10:25 Oshawa vs. St. Catharines
ATOMS
11:20 Brampton vs. Weston
12:15 Dixie vs. Guelph
Mon. Jan. 10
BANTAMS
7:10 Hershey vs. Buffalo
MIDGETS
8:10 Montreal vs. Los Angeles

The rapidly improving Acton Sabre power play clicked for four goals, including three by right winger Bill Field, as Sabres tamed Schomberg Cougars 5-4 in Schomberg Sunday afternoon.

Ray Evans and Gary Turkosz connected for the other Sabre goals in Acton's first win in four games against the third place Cougars. The win was the second in a row on the road for Bill Dawkins' squad.

Acton observers at the game felt Sabres could have increased their winning margin, except for some outstanding goaltending by Schomberg's Torben Frederiksen. George McPhail and newcomer Graham Fraser were both robbed on excellent scoring opportunities.

Fraser, an Acton area boy who came to the Sabres via Erin

Prep for tourneys

With Christmas holidays over, Acton Legion Minor Hockey executive members have begun preparing for the two tournaments their teams will be competing in later this season. Alan Hall is chairman for this year's third annual pee wee house league tournament, slated for the Acton Community Centre, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 26 and 27. Invitations have been sent out and the tournament committee is expected to make selections sometime after the Jan. 8 deadline for replies.

A special prelude to this year's tournament will be the appearance of the popular NHL Oldtimers. The ex-major leaguers will play an exhibition game against the Acton Junior Sabres here, Friday night February 25. Legion officials hope to have Pat Patterson of Norval former referee-in-chief of the O.H.A. as a special referee for the game.

Acton representatives will also attend a preliminary meeting in Streetsville, Wednesday, January 12 to discuss plans for this year's 4-town tournament, which will be played in Streetsville in March.

juveniles, performed very well on the third line with Les Wilson and John Sheppard.

Sabres were without defenceman Rick Mitchell, but Brian Davey returned to beef up the blueline brigade. Davey was

in hospital having some dental work done. Jack Durante and Jim Stevenson are no longer with the team.

The Sabre power play has now accounted for eight of the team's 12 goals in the last three games.

Junior "D" stats

(Not including last night's game Allston at Shelburne)

	P	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Fergus	15	10	3	2	22	101	51
Alliston	15	10	4	1	21	73	54
Schomberg	15	8	4	3	19	83	68
Bradford	15	7	6	2	16	84	72
ACTON	17	7	10	0	14	90	91
Shelburne	15	0	15	0	0	49	134

Game Scores

Bradford 6—Shelburne 2 Acton 5—Schomberg 4

Exhibition Game

Bolton (Jr. "B") 4—Alliston 2

Future Games

Tonight (Wed.) Shelburne at Bradford
Friday Jan. 7 Schomberg at Alliston
Shelburne at Fergus
Bradford at ACTON 8.30
Sun. Jan. 9 Alliston at Schomberg
Fergus at ACTON 1.30
Tues. Jan. 11 ACTON at Shelburne

Peewees move up in standings

A four game unbeaten streak has helped Acton Y's Men's pee wees increase their point total from five to 12 and climb all the way from seventh place in the Waterloo-Wellington league standings up to fourth.

Y's Men's unbeaten streak started December 18, when they knocked off the league-leading Elora team. Since then, they've dumped Erin 5-2 and Elmira 3-1 and tied a strong Kitchener team 4-4. They also chalked up a 3-2 exhibition win over Hillsburgh during the holidays.

Two goals by Ricky Holmes and singles by Joe Gardin, Jeff Shields and Fred Allen carried Acton to victory in Erin Thursday night. Gardin and Shields also earned assists.

Down 1-0 with less than four minutes to play in Monday night's game in Elmira, Y's Men fired three quick goals leaving their hosts stunned. Excellent playmaking by Marvin McNabb was the key factor in the Acton comeback. Young McNabb set up the tying goal by Ricky Holmes, the winner by Steve McKnight.

then scored an insurance marker on a pass from Joe Gardin.

Big goal

Gardin fired the big goal that gave Acton their 4-4 tie with the Kitchener Koisers here last night (Tuesday). Jamie Vickery and Steve McKnight assisted on the play.

The line of Ricky Holmes, Jeff Shields and Randy Upton, one of the hottest units in the league, accounted for the first three Acton goals. Each player scored one goal. Holmes and Shields both earned two assists, as well. Y's Men play in Erin tomorrow (Thursday) night and take on New Hamburg here Saturday afternoon at 2.15.

Name officials

Coaches and managers for the Acton 4-town teams this year are, midgets - Gary McEachern and Dave Cooksley, bantams - Bill Fisher and Harry Ensing, pee wees - Bruce Sears and novices - Fred Buchanan and Clarence Hall.

Bants split pair of games

Acton Firefighter bantams defeated Erin 5-1 Thursday night, but bowed 3-1 to Elmira in Elmira Monday night.

Wayne Allan, B.J. Legate, John Hansen, Steve Buchanan and Huss Van Fleet scored for Acton in the Erin game. Jeff Townsley and Joe Kentner earned assists. Hansen was the lone Acton marksman in Monday night's game. Elmira scored twice in the third period to break a 1-1 tie.

Coach Harold Townsley was disappointed in his team's showing in Elmira.

"They all wanted to let George do it and George didn't do it," he said.

Firefighters play in Erin again tomorrow (Thursday) night and host New Hamburg Saturday afternoon at 3.20. Acton's record is five wins, three losses and four ties for 14 points.

New Hamburg edges midgets

Acton CFAW midgets were edged 3-2 by New Hamburg in a key Waterloo-Wellington league game in New Hamburg Sunday night.

George Artem scored the first Acton goal and assisted on the second marker by Charlie McRae.

Midgets were unable to make the trip to Elora for a game Thursday night, because of the hazardous weather conditions. They make their next start against Kitchener here tomorrow (Thursday) night.

W-W ice schedule

W-W Ice Time Schedule
(Sun. Jan. 8-Sat. Jan. 15)
Sun. Jan. 9 12.15—Novice practice
Tues. Jan. 11 7.05—Bantams vs Kitchener
8.15—Juveniles vs Erin
9.30 Midget practice
Wed. Jan. 12 5 p.m.—Pee-wee practice
Thurs. Jan. 13 7.05—Novices vs Kitchener
8.15—Midgets vs Grantford
Sat. Jan. 15 2.15—Pee-wee practice
3.20—Bantam practice

A-B novices keep pace with W-W league leaders

Acton A-B novices kept pace with the first place New Hamburg team by defeating Elmira 5-1 and Elora 8-2 in Waterloo-Wellington league action last week. A-B's now have won 11 and lost only three. They trail New Hamburg by only three points going into Saturday's head-on clash with the burgers here.

Bert Post and Scott Malcolm fired two goals apiece in the Elmira game. Steve Van Der Eyken tallied a single goal. Dave McGilloway and Todd McIntyre each collected a pair of assists. Malcolm and Bruce McPhail earned single assists. Chris Swetman and Derrick Neeley combined to hold Elmira to one goal in the Acton nets.

The score was tied 1-1 at the end of the first period. Acton scored twice in the second and twice in the third without a reply from their hosts.

Although they built up a 5-0 lead, A-B's had their lead in Thursday night's game cut to 5-2 at the end of the second period, when the small but scrappy Elora lads scored twice within a minute and five seconds. Acton wrapped the win up with three unanswered goals in the final period.

Wade Vickery paced a well-balanced Acton scoring attack

with two goals. Dave McGilloway, Bert Post, Scott Malcolm, George Brown, Bruce McPhail and Todd McIntyre tallied a goal apiece.

Shane Withers drew assists on four Acton goals. Rick Gibson, Randy Van Fleet, Scott Malcolm, Bruce McPhail, Dave McGilloway and Lee-John Bonnell soloed in the assist column.

Elora marksmen were Brian Mann and Gary Short. Evidence of the Acton team's well-balanced attack can be found in the league statistics. Although they lead the league in goals scored, A-B's have only one player, Scott Malcolm among the top 10 scorers.

Standings Waterloo-Wellington—Novice League

	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
New Hamburg	15	10	2	1	75	21	25
Acton	14	11	3	0	77	30	22
Fergus	14	8	4	2	67	42	18
Kitchener	12	7	5	0	43	24	16
Elmira	16	6	8	2	48	53	14
Elora	13	1	11	1	18	72	3
Orangeville	0	12	2	30	109	2	

Played 4 point games

	G	A	PTS
Jamie Denny, Fergus	21	17	38
Greg Shantz, New Hamburg	19	16	35
Mike MacLean, Fergus	18	11	29
Ricky Salder, Elmira	15	11	26
Scott Malcolm, Acton	16	9	23

Peter Clement, Elmira	14	10	24
Paul Gear, Fergus	9	14	23
Bruce May, New Hamburg	14	7	21
Joe Scherer, New Hamburg	9	9	18
Arnold Brunson, Kitchener	12	5	17

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ACTON SABRES

VS.

BRADFORD

Sunday, Jan. 9th at 1.30 P.M.

SABRES vs FERGUS



George McPhail, Ray Evans, Bill Field

Come out and see the Sabres battle Bradford for the final playoff spot... See the league leading Fergus "Green Machine" in action

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