

Notes and Quotes

from the world of sport
by Denis Gibbons



A-B novices knocked off by old nemesis in finals

It was a fitting gesture indeed that the Legion Minor Sports Association chose to honor Charlie Thomson by donating in his memory a plaque, which will be presented at the discretion of the Acton Recreation Committee to persons or organizations making outstanding contributions to recreation in town.

Following retirement from his job with Canadian Pacific Railways, Charlie dedicated his whole life to the betterment of sports and recreation programs in Acton, particularly for youngsters.

Advancing years and failing health did not hinder him in his efforts on behalf of local minor sports organizations, a fact that makes his contributions even more outstanding. It was a paradox that Charlie Thomson often walked the four miles from his home in Erin township into Acton at the same time many of the youngsters he was helping had to be driven a block or two from their homes to the arena.

There's scarcely an organization with which he wasn't associated. Minor soccer players knew him as a linesman and statistician, minor baseballers as a scorekeeper and hockey players as a goal judge, timekeeper and convener.

All of them knew him and respected him as a person, who enjoyed life to the fullest, because he took time to help someone else, who needed it. If there was ever a time his closest friends can remember him not smiling, it was probably during a 10 day stay in Guelph General Hospital, when because of serious illness, he was forced to surrender to a doctor's slowdown order.

Charlie often told friends his involvement in minor sports provided the drive that kept him going from day to day, but he always belittled any suggestion his interest was keeping a particular sport alive.

It was not unusual for him to spend an entire Saturday at the community centre supervising Legion house league hockey games, when other executive members were unavailable. Garbed in his familiar blue and gold Legion Minor Sports jacket, Charlie spent hour after hour recording game results and statistics on the clip board he always carried with him and collecting interesting bits of information that otherwise would have never reached the Free Press sports desk.

The last time most of us remember seeing Charlie in the community centre was at last year's Legion peewee house league tournament, an event he played a large part in organizing. Shortly after, he moved to Port Moody B.C., where he passed away quietly in January.

Acton Chamber of Commerce recognized his efforts by selecting him Acton's Citizen of the Year in 1969.

The attractive plaque donated in his memory by the Legion Minor Sports Association will hang in the community centre trophy case along side his photograph. Whenever it's presented, the name "Charlie Thomson" inscribed there will remind recipients of a man, who knew what contributions to recreation were all about.

Playoff games unpredictable

Results of playoff games in the South Central O.H.A. Junior "D" league continue to be every bit as unpredictable as were those of regular season games.

Bradford Vasey's, who had to win their final six league games to make the playoffs, have taken home ice advantage away from the pennant-winning Fergus Green Machine by gaining a win and a tie in the first three games of their best of five semi-final.

Following an opening game overtime 4-1 tie in Bradford, Fergus won the second game in convincing style 11-3, but dropped the third 7-4 in Fergus Sunday.

Need point
Fergus are now faced with the situation of picking up at least one point on Bradford ice, where they managed only a tie in three regular season games. Fourth game of the series is scheduled for Bradford, tonight (Wednesday) with the fifth back in

Fergus, Friday night at 8.30. If a sixth game is necessary, it will be played in Bradford.

Schomberg Cougars, another team that wasn't assured of a playoff spot, until the final weekend of the season, have grabbed a 2-0 lead in games over the second place Alliston Hornets in the other semi-final series.

Series tied
Elsewhere in the O.H.A. Junior "D" playoffs, Caledonia Corvairs and Samcoe are tied a game apiece in their best of seven Southern Counties group final. Samcoe tied the series up Sunday with a 5-2 win, the first loss suffered by Caledonia in 22 games. One of the Corvair wins was a 5-0 exhibition victory against the St. Catharines Falcons, pennant winners in the Niagara District Junior "B" league.

Legion teams prepare for tournament

Legion 4-town teams are busy practicing for the annual 4-town tournament, to be hosted this year by Streetsville, Saturday, March 18.

Select teams from minor hockey house leagues in Acton, Georgetown, Orangeville and Streetsville compete for trophies in the tournament each year. Each town selects a team from the novice, peewee, bantam and midget house leagues.

Acton bantams are defending champions, while Streetsville will be defending its titles in the novice and peewee divisions and Georgetown midgets will be looking for their third straight championship.

Acton midgets play the first game of a semi-final total goals series with Streetsville, here Friday night.

On tournament day, Acton novices meet Orangeville, Acton peewees play Georgetown and Acton bantams face Streetsville.

Acton A-B novices sidelined two teams, before they ran into their old nemesis New Hamburg and lost 6-5 in the championship game of the fifth annual New Hamburg novice tournament on the weekend.

Acton knocked off Plattsville and Elora, both by 6-1 margins in early rounds of the eight team tourney, while New Hamburg blanked St. George 4-0 and scored twice in the dying minutes to nip a tough Tavistock team 4-3.

No Excuses
Although their lads blew a 2-0 lead in losing to New Hamburg for the fourth straight time,

Lapse proves costly

A three minute second period defensive lapse by Acton Y's Men's peewees Monday night allowed Elora to score three goals and earn a 6-2 victory in the opening game of a best of five Waterloo-Wellington league semi-final series.

"We were in the game up until then," coach Del Cook commented. "I don't know what happened, but all of a sudden bang, bang, bang - they had three goals."

Coach Cook felt his team may have been outplayed by a small margin, but shots on goal were almost equal.

Ricky Holmes and Jeff Shields scored for Acton against the Elora club, which finished third in the regular season.

Thursday night in Erin, Y's Men eliminated a scrappy Erin Lions team in the quarter-finals 3-2. Jeff Shields, Joe Gardin and Marvin McNabb scored for Acton.

Second game of the Elora series will be played here, tomorrow (Thursday) night at 7. Third is slated for Elora, Monday, March 13.

Bolton enters fastball team

Bolton has been accepted as a ninth entry in the Intercounty Fastball league. The Bolton entry was approved at a recent league meeting in Glen Williams.

Back in the league for another year will be Rockwood, the defending champs. Acton Pete's Barber Shop, Hespeler, Fergus, Belwood, Norval, Glen Williams and Hillsburg.

Barber Shop playing coach Fred Buchanan has pitcher Don Aubin of Badenoch and shortstop Gary Naylor of Milton right at the top of his list of possible recruits.

Red-hot goalie burns bantams

"We played well enough to win. We just ran into one heck of a red-hot goaltender," coach Harold Townsley said Saturday night, after his Firefighter bantams lost 1-0 to Fergus and bowed out of the Waterloo-Wellington league playoffs. Fergus won the exciting best of five affair three games to one, after dropping the opening game. Every game in the series was decided by a single goal.

Joe Kentner, Russ Van Fleet and Jeff Townsley were all robbed on super scoring opportunities in Saturday's thriller. Firefighters will now warm up for the Georgetown tournament with a series of exhibition games.

coach Barry Inscoc and manger Gus Holmes offered no excuses for the loss.

"At least we can say we gave it a real good shot this time," coach Inscoc said. "Our guys were really flying in that final game. We were proud to have them wearing the Acton uniform."

Once again, New Hamburg captain Greg Shantz was a real thorn in the side of the Acton club. Shantz scored two big goals in the final game.

Dave McGiloway, Lee-John Bonnell, George Brown and Scott McPhail were the Acton marksmen.

Free Press Sports Page

Sabre captain scoring champ

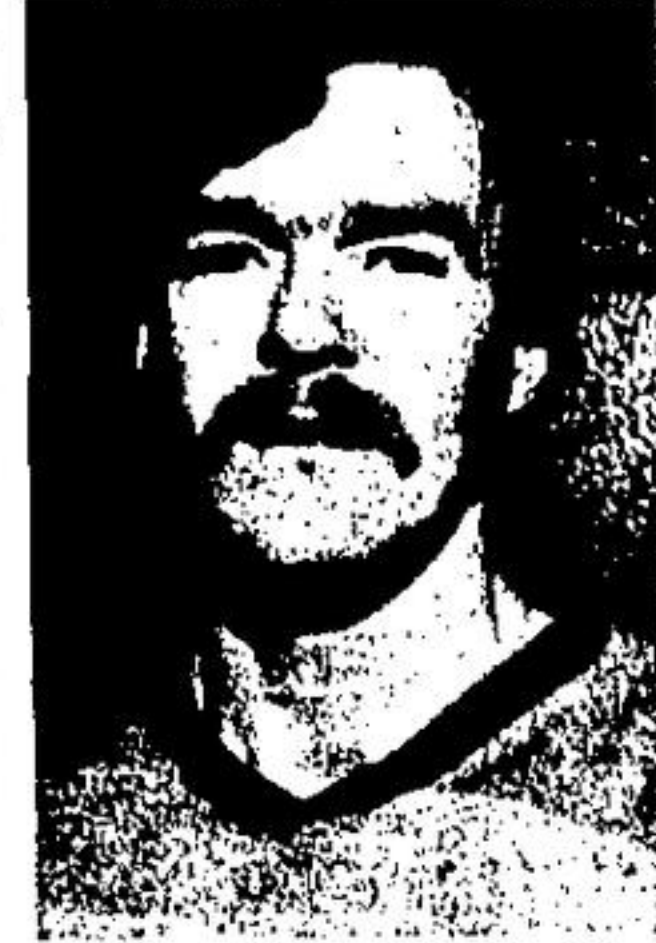
Acton Sabre captain Ray Evans was officially declared scoring champion of the South Central O.H.A. Junior "D" league this week, after statistician Don McLean of Alliston released final scoring stats.

Playing in all but one of the Sabres' 30 games, Evans chalked up an impressive total of 82 points, 34 goals and 48 assists. Kim Beirnes of Fergus placed second with 75 points.

Top goal scorer in the league was Sandy Fleming of Fergus. He netted 37 goals. Evans' assist total of 48 was the tops in the league in that department.

Only three teams, Acton, Fergus and Bradford had players in the top 10. Besides Evans, other Sabres in the top 10 were Bill Field (tied for fifth) and Dale Fisher and George McPhail, who tied for seventh spot.

Evans took the league scoring lead in the second game of the season and never relinquished it, although Beirnes and Fleming narrowed the gap considerably in the late stages.



RAY EVANS Sabre super-star

GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
29	34	48	82	51
29	30	45	75	81
30	37	35	72	35
29	27	35	62	20
30	35	25	60	171
27	34	26	60	109
30	29	25	54	97
29	17	32	49	60
30	13	38	49	39
30	29	18	47	12

Midgets bow out

Acton CFAW midgets lost 2-1 in Orangeville Sunday night and bowed out of the Waterloo-Wellington league quarter-final series in the fifth game. Orangeville won the best of five series seven points to three, by gaining three wins and a tie.

Sunday's game was tied 1-1 up until the final minute, when coach Jim James pulled goalie Dave Allan in favor of a sixth attacker, since Acton needed a win to stay alive in the series. The

winning goal was scored into the empty Acton cage. Henry Toebes scored the lone Acton goal.

"Dave played a superb game in goal for us," coach Jim James commented. "I think we can be very proud of our guys for making a series out of this, after losing the first game 7-1."

Midget players showed their appreciation to coach James and manager Ken Marshall Sr. Thursday night, by presenting them each with a team jacket.

Manager Gus Holmes had special words of praise for the play of Malcolm and McPhail in the championship game. "They both played super games for us," he said.

The team's second line of Todd McIntyre, Bert Post and Steve Van Der Eyken played a large role in the semi-final victory over Elora.

"It was a good tournament and we were treated well," coach Inscoc reported. "The fan support we received from Acton was most encouraging."

Defenceman Peter Musellus is bedded down with the chicken pox and unfortunately had to miss the tournament.

Other teams in the tourney were Wingham and Elmira. Elmira edged Plattsville 5-1 in overtime for the consolation title.

Novices top Elora 6-0

Acton A-B novices whitewashed Elora 6-0 last night (Tuesday), to move within a game of entering the Waterloo-Wellington league finals. A-B's lead the best of five series 2-0. Third game is scheduled for Acton, Tuesday, March 14 at 7.

Scott Malcolm and Bert Post scored two goals apiece for Acton. Dave McGiloway and Bruce McPhail tallied singles.

Malcolm, McGiloway, McPhail, Lee-John Bonnell, Steve Van Der Eyken and Randy Van Fleet earned assists.

Lions face elimination

Orangeville juveniles whipped Acton Lions 11-1 and 6-0 in the first two games of the best of five Waterloo-Wellington league semi-finals and can wrap up the series with a win in Orangeville tonight (Wednesday).

Lions played the first game without the services of four players, including both their goalies. Don McGiloway was forced to don the pads in the emergency.

Minors host Ridgetown

Acton's novice, peewee and bantam teams will play host to Ridgetown in special exhibition games at the community centre Saturday afternoon.

Arrangements for the games were made through Murray Scoyne, former manager of Acton novices, now publisher of the Ridgetown Dominion.

Ridgetown teams are in the O.H.A. "C" classification and play in the Kent County league.

Raider - O.H.A. battle continues

Although they're winning on the ice, Georgetown Raiders can't seem to win for losing in their continuing battle with the O.H.A., one that dates back to last season's playoffs.

Raiders, fourth place finishers in the Niagara District Intermediate "A" league were forced to open their best of seven semi-final series with pennant-winning Brantford in Brantford Saturday night, just 24 hours after they played their final regular season game.

Raiders won the game 5-3, but were dealt a second blow, when Brantford insisted on a Friday night home date for the second game, even though Georgetown's regular home night has been Friday all season.

After a series of phone calls to the league convener this week, Raiders reluctantly agreed to play the second game in Brantford, Friday night. Second and third games of the series will be played in Georgetown, Sunday and Monday nights. Sunday's game will start at 8, while game time Monday is 8.30.

Raiders have assembled one of their best teams in years and crowds in Georgetown have been climbing towards the 1000 mark.

The O.H.A. tugged Raiders out of the title hunt last year, following a protest by Dundas, which centred around the eligibility of Blake Inglis, a player who played most of his intermediate hockey in Georgetown.

GEORGETOWN FALCONS SOCCER CLUB

Soccer Players 17 Years and Over

APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION ARE AVAILABLE AT

18 John Street East, Georgetown

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION Call

877-6545 or 877-4009

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REQUIRED

Part-time Program Director to help organize and supervise youth programs at Acton Y.M.C.A. is required.

The person chosen will be expected to work some evenings on a 12 to 15 hour basis.

INTERESTED PERSONS ARE ASKED TO REPLY IN WRITING TO

ACTON Y.M.C.A. BOARD

P. O. BOX 332, ACTON or PHONE 853-2703

Please state Age, Qualifications and Experience

ACTON TRI-COUNTY (MINOR) HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

400 CLUB CAR DRAW

1972 TORINO

2 DOOR HARDTOP

DISC BRAKES

V-8 AUTOMATIC

WHEEL DISCS

RADIO

WHITEWALLS

"400 CLUB" DRAW RULES

Elimination Type Draw will take place Saturday, March 18th in Legion Auditorium commencing at 8 P.M. sharp.

All "400 Club" ticket holders are invited to attend and participate in the draw.

(The first number drawn will receive One Hundred dollars (\$100). Draws will be made in groups of twenty-five (25). Every 25th number will receive Ten dollars up to the 375 number drawn. The 396 number will receive Twenty-Five dollars, the 397 number will receive Fifty dollars, the 398th number will receive Seventy-five dollars, the 399th will receive One Hundred dollars, and the 400th will receive the New Car. The new car will be the grand prize. There will be no substitute prizes offered; there will be no deals made with the "400 Club".

Only members who have paid the full twenty-six weeks will be eligible for the draw. Any numbers that are not paid up will be sold the night of the draw to people on the waiting list.

Proceeds from the draw will be used to finance Minor Hockey in Acton.

Entertainment will be supplied by The Acton Legion during the draw.

A special vote of thanks to Thompson Motors for their co-operation in supplying the car for the draw.

Car on display at L & L Ford Sales.

MINOR SOCCER REGISTRATIONS

Saturday, March 11 and March 18

The Acton Minor Soccer Association will be holding registration sessions on Saturday, March 11 and on the following Saturday, March 18. Registration for boys aged 5-16 years will be held at the arena hall from 9 a.m. until 12 noon and at the Legion Hall from 9 a.m. until 11.30 a.m. on both days.

Registration fee for one boy \$4. (Other boys from the same family \$3 each).

Anybody wishing to play or coach soccer this year and unable to attend on these days should contact Iain Galbraith 853-0783.