



WESTON came from behind to win the Legion atom house league championship against Dixie in a thrilling game Friday. Members of the championship Weston team are front row l. to r. Ryan Bonnell, David Mitchell, David Allen, Ted James, Tim Ferguson, Greg Scott, Jeff Sargent. Standing l. to r. are Dennis Kirton, Ronnie Jackson, Mark Duval, Gary Lumbers, captain Steve Hepburn, Gordie McArthur, Jim Hunter, Mark Jackson. Coach of the team is Jack Sargent.—(Staff photo).



HAMILTON Red Wings upset London to win the Legion novice house league championship on the weekend. Admiring the championship trophy with their coach Ivan Emond are front row l. to r., David McAdam, Nick Humeniuk, Dennis Emond, Vaughan Cole, Bill Humeniuk. Back row l. to r. are, Jerry Druff, Peter McKeown, Jeff Hamilton, captain Randy McIntyre, John Griese. Absent when photo was taken were Frank Geng and Brian Hogan.—(Staff Photo)

Ask fans' opinion on Sabre awards

Acton junior Sabres' initial hockey season is over, but in appreciation for the tremendous fan support the team received, executive members are asking Sabre followers to express an opinion in the selection of the team's seven individual awards. The awards will be presented at the club's presentation night and dinner in the Acton Legion, Friday, April 21.

Results of the fan poll will be tallied and count as a percentage of the final vote, which will be restricted to the team. Selections should be written legibly on a piece of paper with the category opposite the player's name, and mailed to:

SELECT THE SABRES,
C/O THE ACTON FREE PRESS,
59 WILLOW ST.,
ACTON, ONT.

Names of the awards and their purpose, along with restrictions, where they apply are listed below:

- (A) Molson Award — Most Valuable Player on the team.
- (B) Fisher Memorial Trophy — Player best combining attitude, sportsmanship and ability.
- (C) Basil Mellon Memorial Trophy — Best Acton Minor Hockey grad. (Eligible players — Craig Weldon, Bill Field, George McPhail, Dale Fisher, Pete Morrison, Gary Turkosz, Brad Timbers, Randy Weldon, Jim Stevenson, Gord Murray, Charlie Gidden).
- (D) President's Trophy — Best defenceman.
- (E) Lady Gerth Trophy — Most gentlemanly player.
- (F) Most improved player — That is, from the beginning of the season until the close.
- (G) Rookie of the year — Must be of first year juvenile age (Eligible players — George McPhail, Dale Fisher, Pete Morrison, Gary Turkosz, Brian Davey.)

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Free Press Sports Page

Rams begin workouts

Acton Rams began conditioning workouts for the upcoming O.L.A. Junior "C" lacrosse season at the M.Z. Bennett school gym last night (Tuesday). John Goy Jr. and Bob Turkosz are supervising workouts.

Exeter Hawks oust Fergus

Exeter Hawks advanced to the O.H.A. Junior "D" finals against Bancroft by defeating the Fergus "Green Machine" 6-4 in Fergus last night (Tuesday). After dropping the first game of the Fergus series 8-2, Exeter bounced back to sweep the next four games. Fergus were group champions in the South Central league, in which Acton Sabres placed fifth.



A-B DEFENCEMAN Randy Van Fleet tests Thursday night's 6-0 Acton victory.—(Staff photo) the New Hamburg goalie in the third period of photo)

Novices beat 'burg for championship

"I wouldn't trade any one of them for Gretzky." That's the way Acton A-B novice coach Barry Inscoc feels about his 16 players, after they clobbered New Hamburg 9-1 Monday night to bring Acton its first ever Waterloo-Wellington league championship. "The jubilant Acton coach was referring to the much publicized Wayne Gretzky, who has scored over 350 goals for the Bramford novice team this season. "We've got 10 players and 10 players won that game for us tonight. It was a big team effort," coach Inscoc added. A-B's regular season pennant winners in the Waterloo-Wellington league, polished off Orangeville and Elora in straight games, before meeting New Hamburg in the league finals. The Acton championship win was not an easy one, as the burgers gained a win and a tie on their home ice to push the series to a fifth game. However, it provided some measure of consolation for the three straight game setback New Hamburg handed Acton in the O.M.H.A. playoffs. Unlike the other games in the series, Monday's game was strictly no contest. Acton grabbed a 2-0 first period lead, increased it to 5-0 at the end of the second and added four more third period goals, before New Hamburg captain Greg Shantz spoiled Derrick Neeley's shutout bid late in the game. Neeley, one of only three Acton players with a year of novice eligibility left, kept New Hamburg forwards frustrated, outguessing them on all but one shot. Derrick stood his ground to beat New Hamburg's Joe Scherer on a second period penalty shot. Shane Withers, Scott Malcolm and Bruce McPhail paced the Acton scoring attack with two goals apiece. Singles went to Dave McGilloway, Bert Post and Wade Vickery. Withers' first goal was a blistering slap shot from the point that would have made a lot of NHL'ers envious. Top playmakers for Acton were Dave McGilloway with three assists and Randy Van Fleet, Shane Withers, Bruce McPhail and George Brown with two apiece. Dave McGilloway scored twice and George Brown, Scott Malcolm, Wade Vickery and Bruce McPhail counted once each in a 6-0 Acton third game victory Thursday night. Ricky Gibson collected a pair of assists. Lee-John Bonnell and Peter Muscelius contributed one apiece. Derrick Neeley blanked the burgers for two periods and Chris Sweetman shut them out in the third. Acton led Saturday's fourth game in New Hamburg 3-1, until the seven minute mark of the second period, when the burgers started a comeback that carried them to a 6-4 victory. Greg Shantz bagged a hat trick, Joe Scherer scored twice and Bruce May once for New Hamburg. Todd McIntyre, Bert Post, George Brown and Dave McGilloway replied for Acton. Wade Vickery earned two assists. Scott Malcolm, Shane Withers and Steve Van Der Eyken notched one apiece. Novices played a total of 48 games this season, including league, playoff, tournament and exhibition games. They posted an excellent combined record of 31 wins, 13 losses and four ties. Along the way they scored 239 goals, an average of almost five per game and allowed only 106 or 2.2 per game. Among the honors the team collected were the Waterloo-Wellington league pennant and playoff championship, Port Colborne tournament grand championship and runner-up award in the New Hamburg tournament. "It's been a long year, but I think we've had about as good a season as any minor team in the province," coach Inscoc concluded.

SPORTS Scoreboard

Increase Ram rental

An unexpected loss of revenue in last year's budget has forced Acton Parks and Recreation Committee to double the arena rental rate, charged to the Acton Rams junior lacrosse club to \$8 a game this year. The team will receive two hours of practice time each week free of charge, however. There will be no charge for minor lacrosse arena use, except for the O.M.L.A. midget team, which will operate on a 50-50 gate split with the parks and recreation committee. Councillor Peter Marks told Ram representatives Howard Dwyer and Alan Hall Thursday night the \$4 rate charged last year didn't begin to pay overhead costs of having the building open. Should pay Marks said he thought perhaps it was time the people participating in the sport should be paying part of the way. There was no registration fee charged for either junior or minor lacrosse last year. Marks pointed out many junior age players have part time jobs.

"Even if the team had to increase admission prices, then the people, who are enjoying the sport would be paying for it," he went on. Councillor Orval Chapman said he agreed with Marks' logic. Asked why juniors are not charged a registration fee, Hall replied. "It just isn't done. When you get to that category, you're expected to have a bit of class and distinction." "These guys are one step away from being paid themselves," Dwyer offered. "Some teams pay players mileage. We have never paid any of ours a cent." Dwyer estimated it costs a player about \$50 a year to buy equipment and travel to games. Marks maintained Acton rate-payers should not necessarily have to subsidize boys from out of town. Small profit Dwyer said the Ram team ended up last season with a profit of only about \$10, even after realizing three large gates in the final series with Brockville.

On the subject of minor lacrosse, Marks agreed the program is definitely helping keep a certain group of youngsters occupied. "We can't underate the value of having this recreation offered you can't put a figure on it either," he suggested. The committee offered the Ram team the arena for \$100, Saturday, August 12, if they are able to win their bid to host the O.L.A. junior tournament, which will decide an Ontario representative to play in the national championships in Edmonton. Hall explained there could be a good spectator revenue realized by the team hosting the tournament. "It could be the difference between going to Edmonton and not going, if we're the winning team," he said. "It would be a shame to win it and not be able to go because we can't afford it," Dwyer added.

G	A	Pts
John Hansen	14	3 17
Russ Van Fleet	13	4 17
Jeff Townsley	5	5 11
John McAdam	5	2 7
Steve Buchanan	5	2 7
Kent Kentner	3	3 8
Joe Kestner	2	4 8
Steve Brunelle	2	0 6
Wayne Allan	4	1 5
B. J. Legate	3	2 5
Byron Timbers	0	2 3
Terry Slaven	0	2 3
Steve Papillon	1	0 1
Danny Turner	0	1 1

Final regular season Acton Sabre scoring statistics show that 38 per cent of the team's 180 goals were scored by two players. Right winger Bill Field led the team in goals scored with 35, while captain Ray Evans, the league scoring champion netted 34.

G	A	Pts
Ray Evans	34	48 82
Bill Field	35	25 60
Dale Fisher	17	32 49
George McPhail	13	36 49
Gary Turkosz	19	22 41
Pete Morrison	23	13 36
Randy Weldon	8	26 34
Ted Harmer	10	19 29
Brad Timbers	3	9 12
Les Wilson	6	4 10
Rick Mitchell	3	5 8
John Sheppard	3	4 7
Brian Davey	2	3 5
Charlie Gidden	2	3 5
Graham Fraser	0	5 5
Gord Murray	1	2 3
Jim Stevenson	0	3 3
Jack Durante	1	0 1

TOTALS 180 259 439

GOALTENDERS' AVERAGES

GP	GA	Avg.
Nelson Barber	6	16 2.67
Craig Weldon	21	85 4.52
Mike Clarke	3	22 7.33

ACTON TOTALS 38 133 4.43

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