

# The Acton Free Press

## Sports & Recreation

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Second Section



SAFE AT FIRST is the call the umpire made in this instance as an Acton pee-wee player beats out a bunt in their Ontario playoff game against Hespeler. Acton won the game 14-13 and the series in two straight.

## Acton ousts Hespeler to win first round of OASA play offs

Acton Chieken and Pizza Spot Pee-wee Boys eliminated Hespeler from Ontario Amateur Softball Association playdowns with a thrilling 14-13 come from behind victory.

Acton, who defeated Hespeler in two straight games, were trailing 13-6 after five and a half innings

but rallied to score four times in each of the sixth and seventh innings to win the game.

Acton took an early lead in the game, scoring four times in the first inning on a bunt single by Brian Demone, a pair of walks, a single by Shane Steeves and a double by Bruce Shannon.

Hespeler scored a run in the second off a Jeff Brewer homerun. Brewer hit another homer in the third along with a three run smash by Paul Tavares to give Hespeler a 5-4 lead.

Hespeler scored three times in the fourth before Acton could manage any more offensive power scoring

twice in their half of the fourth.

Hespeler added a single run in the fifth and got runs in the sixth to take a 13-6 lead.

In the Acton half of the sixth, spectators would have thought the Acton team had just arrived. The bench which had been all but dead through

the first five innings came to life. Screaming and hollering support to their teammates as they went to the plate, the pee-wees managed to get back four of the runs they were down.

Acton went to the field and retired Hespeler in order for the first time in the game.

Things got dark for Acton in the bottom of the seventh as the first two Acton batters grounded and flew out. Ted Lindsay and Paul Vermeulen then singled and Brian Demone walked to load the bases. Bruce Canary came to the plate and hit a long triple over the centre fielder's head to bring in three runs and tie the score. Canary scored two pitches later on a wild pitch to

win Acton the ball game. Canary was the winning pitcher in relief of Acton starter Bruce Shannon in the sixth inning.

In the first game of the series Acton hit five home-runs, two each by Bruce Shannon and Brian Canary and one by Paul Cargill on the way to their 16-14 win in Hespeler.

Acton scored all but two of their runs in the first four innings of that game, scoring big in the third and fourth with five and six runs respectively.

Shannon was the winning pitcher in that game.

Acton now meets the winner of the Niagara-on-the-Lake and Simcoe series.

## Cleaners clobber Caterers Station loses 3rd of season

Family Cleaners remained in a tie for third spot in Acton Industrial Baseball league action as a result of Monday night's clobbering of last place Halton Hills Catering 23-2.

In other games played on Monday because of the long weekend J and T Sports remained in second spot by knocking off first place Station Hotel 13-9. In the other

evening game Vans Welding downed Halton Hills Electric 14-2.

In the Cleaners-Caterer game, Family Cleaners scored runs in every inning on their way to the rout.

Caterer got on the board first with a run in the first inning but from there on it was down hill. Cleaners scored three first inning runs, eight second inning counters

and another big seven in the third. A pair of runs in the fourth and single runs in each of the sixth and seventh innings rounded out the Cleaners scoring.

Caterers only run other than the one in the first inning, came in the second.

The Station Hotel—J and T Sports game pitted the top two clubs in the standings

against each other. J and T needed the win to remain ahead of Vans and Cleaners. Station had lost only twice all season.

Station came to bat first and it looked as if they would walk away with another game. Station scored four times in the first only to have J and T come back with three.

Station added to their lead in the second with doubles by Rick Coe and Earl Burt, and singles by Jeff Inglis and Alex Ward. The four hits brought in only one run.

J and T tied the score in the fourth when a couple of Station errors allowed two runs to score.

Hotel scored another in the fifth before J and T took the lead to stay. Four runs crossed the plate for J and T in the fifth as Dave Black reached on an error, Ron Schmidt singled, Stan Kruk doubled and Fred Archibald hit a homerun.

Station scored single runs in each of the last two innings while J and T got two runs in the sixth. Station suffered its third loss of the season by a 13-9 score.

In the days other game Vans Welding slowed down Halton Hills Electric's attempt to catch a playoff spot by downing that team 14-2.

Electric could only manage single runs in each of the first and third innings.

Vans scored four runs in the first, three in the second and third innings and four more in the eighth to give them the win. Vans Ron Hachey hit the only homer of the game.



KNUCKLEBALL ARTIST Alex Ward of Station Hotel releases a pitch that J and T Sports batter Dave Mills attempts to bunt. J and T handed Station their third loss of the season Monday night.

## Bants down Woodbridge in OASA playdowns

Acton Bantam boys' baseball team began Ontario Amateur Softball Association playdowns Thursday night with a 3-2 win over Woodbridge.

Acton plays in the Halton Rural Baseball League. That league plays Ontario Rural Softball Association rules which means the Acton squad which uses a 12-inch ball for league play had to switch to a smaller 11 inch ball for the playdowns. In addition the

bantams had to play nine innings of ball instead of the league seven.

The game itself was exciting. In the first three innings the only man to reach base safely was Paul Nolan, of Acton, who singled in the first inning.

Woodbridge got on the scoreboard first with a lead-off single, a double on an error and a sacrifice bunt, in the fourth inning. Acton came right back in

the bottom of the fourth with two runs. Rob Vermeulen singled and scored on a Mark Duval homerun.

Both teams held each other off the scoreboard until Acton got an insurance marker in the eighth when Rick Greenly singled, moved to third on an error and scored on Paul Nolan's bunt.

The insurance marker came in handy as Woodbridge got one back in the ninth to make the final score 3-2.

Rob Vermeulen was the winning pitcher for Acton allowing only four hits through the nine innings. The Woodbridge pitcher allowed only five hits in the game.

Acton travels to Woodbridge Thursday for the second game in the best of three playdown. A third game, if necessary will be in Acton Friday night at 6:30 p.m.

## Charges laid Glen incident

Contrary to last week's paper, charges have been laid resulting from an incident at the Glen Williams ball park.

The incident resulted from an umpire ejecting a Glen ball player from a game between the Glen and Acton pee-wees.

The game was to decide first place in the Halton Rural Softball League. Acton was trailing 9-3 after six innings in the seven inning ball game but came back to tie the score.

An irate fan then allegedly assaulted the umpire as the ump was leaving the park.

## Fastball Merchants split GIFL action

Acton Merchants stayed ahead of Park Toyota in the race for third spot in the Georgetown Industrial Fastball League with a 7-5 win last Thursday over that team. In Tuesday night action

the Merchants were shut out by the young Limehouse team 4-0.

In the Limehouse game the Merchants got only one hit off chucker Brian Moore. Limehouse managed four hits off Acton pitcher Chuck Peavoy. Limehouse runs came in the first, fourth and a pair in the sixth.

### Atom boys blast Hornby

In Halton Rural Softball league play-offs the Nellis Construction Atom boys took the first game of a three game series from Hornby 17-2 last Thursday.

David Haynes, winning pitcher, was commended by his coaches for his excellent performance on the mound.

Chris Gervais and Mike Baker hit homeruns for Acton in the contest.

In the game with Park Toyota the Park team struck early with four base hits and three runs in the first inning. Acton came back with a pair of runs in the bottom of the first as Bill Routledge and Steve Marshall singled and Terry Massales doubled.

Acton scored four more times in the third on a walk, and singles by Marshall, Don Archibald, Gary Wilson and Dan Allen.

Merchants got another run in the fifth as Dan Fields and Les Deforest singled.

Park Toyota came back with a pair of runs off two doubles but Acton held on for the 7-5 win.

Merchants next home game is Thursday night against first place Harley Motors. In previous meetings this season Harley's defeated Acton 4-3 and 6-4. The Merchants are looking to play an exciting game against Harleys and are hoping for some moral support. Game time is 8:30 p.m. at Prospect Park.



BASKETBALL PLAYERS got together for the first six weeks of the summer, on Monday nights at Acton High School for some fun and practice. Here Martin Osso lays up a shot.

## Weekly basketball fun at Acton High

For the past six weeks, basketball enthusiasts have been getting together at Acton High School for some fun and exercise.

Three different leagues played each week with four teams in each league. The leagues were set up according to the players' ability. The more expert players played in the late night games against opponents of equal calibre. Most players in this category were either high school seniors or graduates.

Three ladies played in this division which was known as the NBA. The three girls were Shirley Anker, Sheila Cook and Sue Lahn.

The second division was mostly a junior boys league which went by the title of

NCAA. The youngest or least experienced group, the OAAA, consisted of three girls' teams and one boys' squad.

Each of the teams in each league played a round robin schedule and a playoff round. Last Monday night, the finals were held in each league.

After each league declared a winner the all-star team of the Tower classification played an exhibition game against their so-called superior counterparts.

The league was organized by high school teacher Rick McArthur for recreation. Mr. McArthur said that the league would help develop basketball skills and at the same time give people something to do for the summer.

## Royalty and locals race pigeons



HARRY FOLEY of the Acton Racing Pigeon Club shows a bird that won a 600 mile race. Mr. Foley along with ten other Acton area men belongs to the club which races the pigeons each weekend from May to September.

For almost 100 years now people have been racing pigeons and having the race results recorded. Queen Elizabeth II is one of many who raises and races these birds.

One club that is involved is the Acton Racing Pigeon Club. The Acton club is a member of the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union. The Union publishes results of all the Canadian results over their five month season.

There are 11 members in Acton who send birds to race in club events every weekend. The Acton club, which is in the Central Ontario Federation with Dixie, Hamilton, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls, holds meetings on Fridays to load their birds and ready them for the trip to wherever the week's races are.

The birds are then taken by truck along with the birds from the rest of the Central Ontario Federation to the meet area. The birds are released from an open field and timed on their flight home.

Each owner has a timing clock which prints out the time at which the bird arrives by dropping a band, that the bird must wear into the timer. The band indicates each bird, by number.

After the pigeons have returned the bird's time is figured into the distance it has travelled coming out in velocity. It is then recorded in metres per minute (mpm).

Last weekend the pigeon race commenced from Ingersoll about 103 kilometres west



## Coming home to roost

RACING PIGEONS owned by Harry Foley are just some of the birds sent each week to races in Ontario and parts of the United States. The Acton Racing Pigeon Club has 11 members. Mr. Foley says that Queen Elizabeth II also races the birds.

of Acton. The winning bird from Acton was one owned by Bill Wilson at 908.37 metres per minute. Mr. Wilson also had the second place bird at 845.7 mpm. Harry Foley had the third place bird at 811.69 mpm, while Grant Punccheon's birds finished fourth, sixth, ninth and tenth. Pigeons owned by Henry Clark finished fifth and seventh. Other club members who attended the Ingersoll

event were Jim Mitchell, Ed Turowski and George Kolozsvari.

The pigeons which are proper racing birds are checked by veterinarians twice a year and are not allowed to race in the United States unless they have been cleared. They must also be registered.

Other members of the Acton club are Colin MacColl, Tony Van Dam, Hugh Harvey

and a junior competitor Greg Punccheon.

The next two weeks the birds will be racing from West Lorne. Two weeks following that the pigeons will fly from Tilbury and then September 9 the birds will race from Teronsha, Michigan.

The Acton club was formed in 1974.