

Sabres begin training for '79-'80 season



Glenn Murray led the Acton Sabres in scoring last season and is hoping to return to the club again. He and other Sabre hopefuls have been at Acton High School recently working on a dryland training program. They hit the ice Sunday.

As the baseball, soccer, lacrosse and tennis seasons begin to wind down, Acton Sabres of the Central Ontario Junior "B" Hockey League are winding up for the new season.

The Sabres are currently working on a dryland training program that will, with luck, give them an edge on the other 11 teams in the league from the start and put them into a play-off position for the first time in four years in the league.

Dry land sessions took place at Acton High School last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and will continue this week Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 7 p.m. Sabres coach Fred Buchanan is optimistic about the season ahead and invites anyone to attend camp.

Ice practices for the Central Ontario team be-

gins on Sunday night at Guelph's Memorial Arena at 7 p.m. Buchanan is expecting a large turn out at camp with over 60 invitations in the mail.

"I did some scouting at the end of last season" said Buchanan and there are five players from the Bramalea Juniors and three from the Alliston Junior "C" Hornets that should be in camp.

One player Buchanan said he was impressed with last season was Pat Fong of Bramalea. "He's the image of Dave Chapman," says Fred. Chapman paced the Sabres for two campaigns leading the league in scoring two seasons ago.

Reid Campbell, who toiled for the Sabres three seasons ago, may be back in Acton colors this year. Campbell, a

defenceman, left the Sabres in 1977 to play for the Dixie Tier Two "A" where he became one of the league's all-star players. Last year Campbell attended Cornell University on a hockey scholarship.

The Sabres first exhibition contest could be as early as next Wednesday night against the Can-Am Hockey School from Guelph.

The Sabres will open their 1979-80 schedule on September 29 when they travel to Orillia. On September 30 the locals are scheduled to meet the Georgetown Gemini at Alcott in Georgetown. Home opener for the Sabres pits them against the defending Ontario Junior "B" Champion Streetsville Derbys Friday October 6. The following night the Dixie Bee Hives will be in town.



Acton Sabres of the Central Ontario Junior "B" hockey league are busy preparing for the coming season. Brad Buchanan has been with the club for three years and is back for another season. Last year the Sabres finished eleventh in the 12 team loop

and are looking toward the play-offs this time around. Sabres open their home season against the defending Ontario champion Streetsville Derbys on October 6.

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Leaves for Europe Saturday

Confidence the key for Parker



Kevin Parker will be going to Europe this weekend to compete in two competitions in France and West Germany. The 18-year-old is about as confident as they come.

Kevin Parker exudes confidence on and off the ice. There is little doubt in his mind where he's at and what he's headed for.

For the past month, the Campbellville figure skater has been working out with the Kitchener-Waterloo Figure Skating Club at the Rink in the Park near the University in Waterloo.

His practices take up much of his time during the week, leaving him time for himself only on the weekend which he takes advantage of by returning to his hometown to renew acquaintances.

But throughout it all, Parker is quite confident the time and effort will pay off in the end for him.

The time may come shortly when Parker joins several other skaters for two senior competitions in Europe starting on Monday and continuing until Sept. 4.

This is the second time around for Parker who will compete in the Coup des Alpes Grand Prix in St. Gervais France and in the Nebelhorn Trophy in Garmish, West Germany.

Parker leaves Saturday for the events much better prepared, he says, than he was for the Canadian nationals or the European events last year. Not

only has he one more year of experience behind him but he has a stronger attitude.

"I tried too hard at the nationals," he says. "I could have won it but I just didn't complete the jumps."

In the nationals, Parker finished second to Brian Orser, of Penetanguishene, after Orser dazzled the crowd with one of the finest free-skating programs for a junior ever in the world.

Orser moved up from ninth to second after the compulsory short program, something which disagrees with Parker.

"It was kind of a joke the way they pulled him up from ninth to second," says Parker. "They wanted the championships to be between him and me. But that's politics and this sport has lots of it."

"It's fine if you're one of the skaters the judges more or less select beforehand to do well. But to do that you've got to get more international experience and that's how this trip will help out."

Orser represents the opposite of Parker. Shy to the point of bashfulness, he displays little of the confidence of Parker.

Parker's coach John Coughill says he agrees that Kevin has picked up more confidence.

"It (confidence) comes with age," says Coughill. "Sometimes Kevin gets it in his mind what he wants to do, has to do and he does it. He's got it in his mind what his goals are."

"He's progressing quite well. He's an extremely hard worker and he knows what's in store for him. But it's mainly

experience which helps any skater acquire confidence."

Last week Parker started practising according to the European time which is an attempt to reduce the problem of jet lag when each of the skaters fly overseas.

He finished fourth overall in France last year and followed it up with a fifth-place showing in Germany the next week.

Bantams near series upset

Acton Halton Rural Thompson Fuel Bantams are on the verge of upsetting Glen Williams in league play-off action. The Acton boys, who finished fourth in regular season play, topped the Glen, who placed second, in the opening game of the series 7-1 and then earned a seven all draw in game two.

The second game of the

series was under protest as the Acton side felt the game should have been completed but according to the Acton coach the Glen refused to take the field.

In game one Acton allowed only a single seventh inning tally holding Glen Williams at bay most of the way.

Acton took the lead in the third inning of the

game as Bruce Shannon reached the plate.

Three more tallies in the fifth inning, a single in the sixth and a three run seventh gave the locals the win.

Gary White and Bruce Shannon each crossed the plate twice for Acton while Denis Champagne, Rusty Elliott, and Dean Hughes added singles.

Having a "ball"

After 63 years "Pop" still loves it

At 75 years old, Harold Main may not be one of the more well known area residents but as "Pop" Main there won't be many who frequent Prospect Park who don't recognize the ball enthusiast.

Pop has been involved in baseball, softball or softball, since he moved to town 14 years ago.

Before his move to Acton Pop was involved in the sports world in Sherbrooke, Quebec. "I've been playing and coaching for 63 years," says Pop and I still love it."

Although he has been missing from the coaching ranks in Acton this year he is still optimistic about returning to his pastime next season. He decided to take a rest this season but can still be found watching the locals in action at Prospect Park.

From 1950 to 1952 Pop worked for the Cleveland Indians in Sherbrooke with their Class C farm team. The Cleveland team was moved out of Sherbrooke following the '52 season, according to Pop, when problems between management and public erupted.

Most of his life he has

been involved with hardball but when Acton Minor Ball turned "soft", so did Pop. In six years of softball Pop has coached three league championship teams and three playoff championship teams.

Pop says the last year's Acton pee-wee girls must be rated the best talent of all the ball teams he has coached. "They had good hitting, good pitching and speed on the bases," a combination necessary on all winning ball teams.

Although he has had his success with softball teams Pop would still rather see hardball or baseball in town.

"I was against the change from the start" said Pop. "I was the only member of Acton Minor Ball to vote against the change the year we switched." He would still like to see hardball back in Acton.

Two of the more memorable moments Pop noted were when he attended the Little League Championships in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. There he watched teams from Taiwan and Mexico as well as Canada and the United States.

Pop has coached teams for Little League to

Men's League over the years and all are detailed in one of the five scrapbooks he keeps in his home.

At the wind-up of Acton ball each year for the past four seasons Pop has presented an award donated by himself for "Sportsmanship" on and off the field" he said.

When asked what his wife, Louise, thought about his involvement in ball he replied, "She knows I love it and doesn't interfere." Pop said he usually spent five nights a week at the park with ball teams. "I can remember one year," said Pop. "That I was there six nights a week."

Although Pop has temporarily retired for the ball coaching he will still offer advice to anyone who asks. "Last night at the Industrial games (Acton Industrial League) a player asked me why he wasn't hitting. He did like I told him and he hit a three-bagger," said Pop.

Pop hopes to be back behind a bench or at third base with one of the minor teams next year and for years to come. "I'll be there for as long as my hoofs will hold me," says Pop. "I'm only young yet."



"Pop" Main is not involved in Minor Ball this season but for the past 14 years he shared his knowledge for the game with both hardball and softball teams. Shown here is "Pop" ten years ago when he coached the Acton Bantam Hardball team. At 75 years of age "Pop" is planning on returning to the coaching ranks next year.

The memory of William (Bill) Campbell will long be remembered in the minds of many of the people who knew him as a person one could always talk to about problems.

Bill died last Monday in his 45th year leaving his wife, Carol, four sons, Ian, Gary, Paul and Stephen, a daughter Sharon, and two grandsons.

The 'silver fox' as he was known to many around the Acton Community Centre was a long time member of the Acton Sabres Junior Hockey Club executive and the team's general manager.

As a member of that team for five seasons I found Bill an extremely understanding, personable and dedicated man. Bill was the type of person who thought nothing of sitting down with one of his players or a friend and try to sort out problems, whether it be team-wise or personal.

On more than one occasion I can remember pulling away from the Acton arena for hockey games and Bill would remain behind. Bill was not the type of person to miss a game involving 'his' team, and he probably wasn't about to miss this one. He would, more than likely, be waiting for a player or players who had to work late or had car trouble. Bill would go out of his way to make sure that those who wanted to play would be there.

Besides his involvement with the Sabres organization Bill could be found at the Community Centre on numerous occasions watching his boys' minor hockey careers or daughter Sharon's figure skating.

At the start of last season Bill temporarily resigned his post with the Sabres to concentrate on his Campbell and Patterson Limited insurance adjusting business. By mid-season Bill was back in his familiar spot behind the Acton net shaking his head with regards to the latest happenings.

I for one knew that if ever a problem developed, Bill Campbell would be there to help sort things out and make things comfortable.

To the Campbell family my deepest condolences. Bill Campbell will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

To the Acton Sabres, Bill worked extensive hours to build a contender. Don't let him down.

After two years of toiling with the Acton Sabres Kelly McArthur may be on the move.

The Hillsburgh native who has played with the Sabres since his first year midget will start his training with the Acton team Sunday when they take to the ice in Guelph but will be leaving at the end of the month to attend camp with other hopefuls of the Toronto Marlboros of the OHA Major Junior 'A'

Hornby clobbered

Acton's L and L Ford Squirts embarrassed Hornby in Halton Rural play-offs last week as they sent a total of 52 batters to the plate in five innings of baseball, counting 30 runs while allowing Hornby just one.

Paced by the five for five batting performance of Tom Bartolac, the L and L team pounded out

30 hits and 10 walks. Bartolac, Kevin Lob-singer and Spencer Smith each poked home runs for Acton.

Acton counted five runs in each of the first two innings of the match, six third inning scores and a total of 14 in the fourth while Hornby picked up their single in the second.

Rockwood hosts PWSA

Nine teams from across the province will be in Rockwood this weekend to compete in the Provincial Womens Softball Championships (PWSA) juvenile division.

Teams from host Rockwood, Cobourg, Glenfield, Barrie, New Bendal, Riverside (Windsor), Port Stanley, Port Colborne, and Bridgton will be vying for the title.

Rockwood meets Riverside in their first round match on Friday night at 7:30 p.m.