

Sabres collecting goals — only in wrong net



Sabres goalie Rob Bremner scrambles madly for the puck during a Friday night's Junior B game in Oakville. Although Bremner reached the puck first, Oakville Blades won the contest anyway, 9-4.

by Diana Waltmann

About the only bright spot for the Acton Sabres and their fans last weekend was the scenery of Buffalo, New York. And if you have ever been to Buffalo in January, or at least watched Eyewitness News, you'll know that's not saying much.

First the Sabres were outskated 9-4 by the Oakville Blades Friday night. Then they were trounced 10-4 by the Burlington Cougars Saturday night. Sunday the Sabres shuffled off to Buffalo to play the second half of their home and home series against the American Sabres... and came out with a 10-2 scolding.

Although they made a strong showing against the Buffalo team in Acton before Christmas, the hometown Sabres didn't do as well in the States. "The larger ice surface did us in," coach Jules Russiani lamented. "They have a fast-skating hockey club, but we couldn't move the puck out of our own zone."

"In Acton we took the body and slowed them down but here we couldn't seem to get untracked."

Russiani added the players were somewhat awed by the Buffalo Auditorium but it was a "good experience". Dennis Kirton and Roy Dollman got the Sabres goals.

In Burlington Saturday, the Cougars jumped to a two-goal lead; Walter Sulug netted the first and Derek Murphy

scored the second a minute later.

The Cougars made it 3-0 two minutes into the second frame before Glen Murray connected at 3:30. The Sabres came within reach when Neil Anderson counted with a powerplay effort at 8:16. But the Cougars only replied with two more goals by Captain Rob McConnell and Wayne Macleod at 13:33 and 14:55.

Murray netted his second of the night on another powerplay marker from Pat Fung at 16:31 to make it 5-3 but the Cougars, who hold third place in league standings, countered with two quick ones. Sulug scored at 17:12 and Mark Litton beat goalie Steve Kruk 29 seconds later at 7:41.

"We fell apart in the second period for five to 10 minutes," Russiani explained, "but we outplayed them. We had a good first period and a good third, but lax goaltending was a problem."

Sabres played stronger in the third period, although they only got one goal by Barry Trood at 12:09, to the Cougars three. Burlington's final marker came while Mike Monahan was off for elbowing.

Goaltending chores were split in the game. Kruk was pulled with two minutes to go in the second and Bremner completed the match. The Sabres played a cleaner game than their opponents however, serving only four minor penalties. The Cougars sat out nine.

The 9-4 score in Oakville was not indicative of the Sabres play either. The Swordsman were only one goal behind by the end of the first period and outplayed both themselves and the Blades in the first 10 minutes of the second.

Oakville's Rob Bernier opened the scoring at 1:48 of the first. Dollman tied it but Bernier beat goalie Bremner on the powerplay.

Neil Anderson connected 57 seconds into the second period to tie the game before Murray scored the go-ahead goal on a powerplay at 1:49. Penalties hurt the team, though. The Blades responded shortly after with another powerplay goal to tie the game 3-3. Brian Murray reached around Bremner to net the puck while Monahan was off for roughing.

Another powerplay goal, this time while Anderson was sitting out a boarding charge, gave the Blades a 4-3 edge at 10:50 and although Acton attempted a comeback, Dollman getting his second of the night at 16:21, Oakville was ahead to stay. Bob Trood scored the clincher at 17:41 to end the second period 6-4. The Sabres fell apart in the third period, with the Blades scoring three unanswered goals—Brian Marvel with two and Ian Collier with a single.

Steve Miller and Dennis Charbonneau each collected an assist. Murray and Fung, playing strong games, picked up two assists



Follow the bouncing puck. Sabre goalie Rob Bremner is flat on his back after stopping an Oakville Blade attack on the Acton net Friday night.

Sabre Barry Trood (No. 9) chases the puck with an unidentified Blade not far behind. Blades won the game 9-4.

(Photo by DIANA WALTSMANN)

Moms even in tourney

The Acton minor atom hockey came out even in a tournament in Tillsonburg over the Christmas vacation. They won three, lost three and tied one, winding up in fourth spot.

On Saturday, December 22, they lost to Port Dover 5-0, and tied Kitchener 0-0. They dined Kitchener Queensmount 4-2 on Thursday, December 27, before losing their second battle 7-1 to Stonebrook.

Their second win came courtesy of Cambridge a 4-0 shutout on Sunday, December 30, and their third victory was a 1-0 contest against the Kitchener Blue Jays on New Year's day. Tillsonburg spoiled the New Year however, handing the Moms a 5-1 defeat.

Leading the scorers were Carl Yaroschak with three goals and two assists. Troy Foster picked up three goals and one assist, Greg Leatherland netted two and helped on a third. Ken Woychesko scored a single, Rob Murray and Lee Yaroschak had one assist each.

All the games saw plenty of scoring chances for the Moms, with good goaltending at both ends.

In more recent Waterloo-Wilmington action Saturday, Woolwich scored on a breakaway to win a match in regular season play. Goalies Evan Hayter and Scott Williams played strong games, as did defencemen Rob Murray, Lee Yaroschak, Brent Wedge and John Van Dam.

Scoring chances were plentiful in the contest, but the Moms couldn't capitalize. The next home game is tonight against Orangeville. Game time is 7:05 p.m.

Lakeview crushed 8-4

Blow Press crushed Lakeview in Acton Industrial League shinny action Sunday night at the Community Centre in an 8-3 victory.

Wayne Allan opened the scoring for Blow Press on an unassisted goal at 2:41 of the first period. Bill Fields gave them a two goal lead, netting the second marker at 7:08, assisted by Bruce MacPherson and Dave Paul. Allan helped himself to another goal, at 15:58, ending the period with a 3-0 lead for Blow Press.

Fields scored his second of the night, assisted by Henry Toebes and MacPherson at 4:51 of the second period before Lakeview managed to light up the scoreboard with a goal by Bart Jacobs at 9:45. The second period ended 4-1.

Toebes replied again for Blow Press, assisted by Fields, at 2:59 of the third period, and Ken Owens made it 6-1 at 5:03. Lakeview rallied and Bruce Cooksley netted one at 6:20. But Blow Press proved too much for them, scoring two more goals, one by Rick Henderson at 14:18 and the next by MacPherson at 16:08.

Floyd Hiller squeezed one past Blow Press goalie Robin Incoe before the game ended 8-3.

Allan, Owens and

Fields picked up assists for Blow Press. Ron Schmidt received one for Lakeview.

Hellers win another A third period rally by Hellers gave them a 6-3 victory over Family Cleaners in the second game Sunday night. Hellers took the lead on a marker by Russ Van Fleet at 14:25 of the first period. Bill Severinski picked up the assist.

Ernie Ruck tied it up 1-1 for Family Cleaners on a goal assisted by Tim MacIntyre at 10:21 of the second. Lorne Gordon replied shortly after that, at 14:08, to give Hellers a short-lived lead, before Bill Manes of Family Cleaners tied it again at 2-2. The period ended that way.

Van Fleet got his second of the night at 9:29 of the third while Jess Towlesley increased Hellers' lead by two at 13:01. Fred Allan scored a comeback goal, assisted by Joe DeForest and Manes at 16:33 to come within one, but Randy MacIntyre and John Ashby clinched the victory with two more goals late in the third period.

VanFleet got two assists, as did Ashley and Dave Thompson. Severinski copped a single.

Ernie Ruck picked up a single for Family Cleaners.

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Gotcha! Recreation department gymnastics teacher Janet Armstrong acts as safety for GINETTE CALSIE, of Greenore Cres., during Saturday's practice session on the uneven bars at the high school. The recreation department

conducts senior and intermediate classes at the high school and beginner classes at McKenzie-Smith Middle School. Girls from Georgetown and Rockwood also participate.

Minor bantams are first despite their chippy play

Rotary Club minor bantams suffered their third setback of the season last week, but they came back for revenge against New Hamburg Saturday in Acton.

The bantams downed New Hamburg 2-0 in a penalty-ridden game. Brad MacPherson and Jim Richard netted the goals, with both assists going to Paul Cargill.

Coach Ruddy Holmes said the referees let the game get out of control, with New Hamburg players tossing verbal abuses at the Acton bench. Woolwich handed the bantams their third defeat, at the Acton Community Centre Saturday evening, when they beat them 3-1. MacPherson scored the first goal, from Coverdale and Danagher, to give Acton a one-point lead at the end of the first period. But Woolwich scored in the second to tie it and went ahead 3-1 in the third.

In a post-Christmas tournament in Milton the minor bantams fared much worse. They lost the first game, a 4-3 heartbreaker to their Georgetown rivals. It was a close game, with only four minor penalties served. MacPherson, Cargill and Dodds each netted markers in individual efforts.

Acton came up flat in the second match losing 5-3 against Stoney Creek but the score was not

indicative of the play. Stoney Creek had jumped to a four-goal lead before Acton appeared on the scoreboard half-way through the second period.

Stoney Creek scored another to make it 5-1 before Acton netted two in the last few minutes of the game. Acton markers came from Milne, Cargill and Jim Richard.

Fans saw better hockey from the team in a recent exhibition match against Richmond Hill's AA minor bantams. Acton recorded an impressive 4-3 victory over Richmond Hill in a close game played December 31.

Coach Ruddy Holmes complimented his team's effort, saying they played good "up and down" hockey.

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Tame Cats tonight

Redmen show strength

Acton senior Redmen whipped themselves into shape for the regular season by winning two of three games in the Markham basketball tournament Saturday.

Redmen's regular season starts again today with a triple-header against White Oaks. Redmen needed an overtime period in the first game of the tournament to squeak past Dunbarton 62-60. Bob McClure played a strong game for the Redmen, netting 20 points and earning the title top defensive player of the

game. Glen Scott also had a strong offensive game, scoring 13 points.

In the second match Chris Lysholm sunk two foul shots in the last 20 seconds of the fourth quarter, robbing Toronto's Earl Haig team of a victory by one point. Martin Osso scored 25 points in the Redmen's 49-48 win, while Lysholm shot 15. Martin was named top defensive player of the game.

The Redmen handed the third game 68-32 to St. Catharines Lakeport, unfortunately for Acton the team threw some bad

passes against a quick Lakeport squad. Osso was the top scorer in the game, getting nine points.

After today's triple header, the midget and

Acton, before facing Dixie Sunday. In an earlier contest in Orillia, the Sabres were humbled 12-4 by the Travelways. Glen Murray picked up three points in the match, scoring two goals and assisting Pat Fung on another. Fung also picked up an assist. Kelly Shaw netted the other Sabre marker, with assists credited to Bob Fleckhart, Neil Anderson and two for Wade Vickery.

W-W dates

- Wednesday, January 9
7:05 p.m. — Minor Atom vs Orangeville
8:10 p.m. — Minor Peevee vs Hespler
Saturday, January 12
1:40 p.m. — Novice vs Woolwich
2:45 p.m. — Major Atom vs Fergus
3:50 p.m. — Major peevee vs Fergus.
Tuesday, January 15
7:05 p.m. — Minor Bantam vs Fergus.

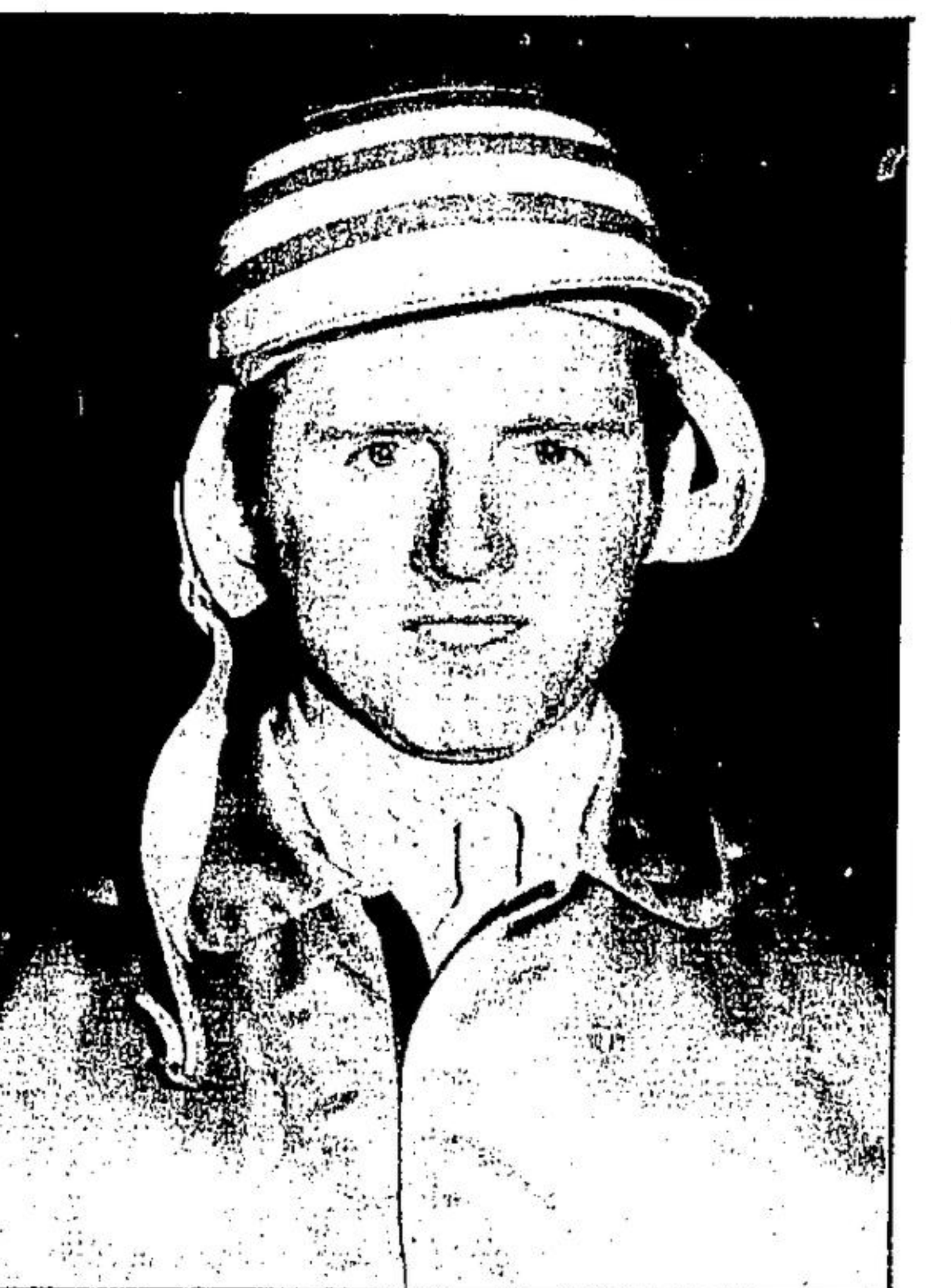
B-ball tourney

Acton District High School will be holding the first part of their annual red and white basketball tournament this Saturday.

The tournament is a way of introducing the facilities and faces of Acton High to public school students. Boys teams from McKenzie-Smith, Stewarttown, Erin, Fairview, Centennial, W.I. Dick, Lancaster and Rolling Meadows will be competing in the games, scheduled to start at 9 a.m.

The first game features McKenzie-Smith against Erin, the second game matches Stewarttown and Rolling Meadows, Fairview has a run at Lancaster in the third contest and W.I. Dick meets Centennial in the

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Driver Ron Waples was honored by the Ontario Jockey Club and the provincial government recently with a ceremony at Greenwood Raceway.

Waples day at raceway

It was not Ron Waples' day.

The Ontario Jockey Club and the provincial government may have declared it Ron Waples Day and the 10,983 fans who attended Greenwood raceway for the New Year's ceremony may have favored the Rockwood driver in six of his nine races, but it was definitely not Ron Waples' day.

Waples, who captured the 1979 North American dash-winning title and drove to 440 first-place finishes last year, didn't win a single race on the first day of a brand-new decade.

But if 1979 is any indication, the talented driver will have no problems repeating his performance for the 1980s. He finished first 364 times on the Greenwood-Mohawk circuit and his trotters earned \$1,462,468 in winnings last year.

In recognition of his achievements, Waples received cufflinks, a composite photograph showing his 400th Canadian victory, a horse blanket naming him as the '79 dash-winning champ and a plaque presented to him by Ontario Consumer Affairs Minister Frank Drea, in a ceremony after the fifth race.