

Diana Waltmann

DeBruyn a big help to sports



"I'm just a guy who sits in the background helping out when it's needed."

The interview is only 15 minutes old, but it's the second time Gary DeBruyn, who was nominated for Halton Hills sports builder of the year, said this. He shuns publicity and recognition and is a little wary of a newspaper article on him.

"That's not what I'm in it for," he says.

DeBruyn's background is behind an umpire's mask as chief of the Acton Umpire Association, which he organized.

He's also former president of the Acton Figure Skating Club from 1968-71, former trainer for the Acton Rams Lacross team, from 1973-75, former trainer for the Acton Sabres junior B hockey club from the time they were formed until last season, former trainer of the intermediate B hockey club in 1963 until they folded in 1968, and coach of last year's midget girls baseball team.

Wait, there's more.

He also coached squirt girls to the Halton rural championships and won in 1977. He says he's just a silent observer in the figure skating club but helps out with the annual ice carnival, has been umpiring minor and industrial ball for about 10 years, all on a volunteer basis, and still finds time to attend high school basketball games because his youngest daughter Lori plays on the team.

Play ball
He's also played a little ball in Haltonville where he moved, along with his parents, from Holland, at the ripe old age of 12.

He had to give up ball because of a sore arm but that didn't stop him from coaching. He has also indulged in a little soccer while as a boy in Holland.

You could say Gary DeBruyn is somewhat involved in the Acton sport scene.

Yet it is difficult for him to pinpoint the highlights. Each sport has so many. "Seeing kids progress, seeing them out there to learn the game—that's the nicest memory," he says.

"I love working with teenage boys. I've worked with some great kids. I guess what sticks out most in my mind as far as hockey is concerned is the year the Sabres went Junior B. We didn't go far, but we weren't out-casted."

"That and seeing Dave Chapman win the scoring championship."

He pauses and his face lights up again.

"Seeing Kevin Parker and Cindy McGilloway make it through the ranks in figure skating is another highlight."

"I love sport. It keeps kids busy and off the streets. I hate sitting at home watching television."

DeBruyn said the biggest benefit was seeing his involvement in sports rub off on his three daughters.

Trophies galore
Colleen, Marilyn and Lori have all been amateur skaters. Now Colleen has turned pro. Lori is knee deep in high school athletics as well and everyone

bows. The trophy shelf is loaded down.

"But my wife Peggy deserves most of the credit," DeBruyn adds. "She's always at home alone."

Dog Tink completes the Mill Street family.

When DeBruyn was coaching ball, he says he never argued with the ump. "I knew what it felt like."

"The kids are there to learn ball, not see a coach argue with an umpire." So he says he doesn't win all the arguments.

DeBruyn admits there are a few things in minor sports he would like to see changed. As far as baseball is concerned, he says, he'd like to see a little more discipline on the bench and field.

In hockey more emphasis should be placed on teaching the fundamentals of the game than on winning, he states. "We have to teach them how to win properly."

DeBruyn agrees with the new CAHA ruling on bodychecking but doesn't like the severity of penalties.

The Figure Skating Club has a lot of its perspective, he adds. "Emphasis should go back to learning how to skate properly, provide a bit of competition and recreational fun."

Bigger club

DeBruyn says any boy or girl showing real class should go to a bigger club, following the example of Parker and McGilloway.

"But I like to stay in the background and help out when I can."



Gary DeBruyn.

"My wife says to slow down and I'm heeding her word after four years," DeBruyn chuckles. He's retired as trainer for the Sabres and they commemorated him with a lifetime membership.

He's also had to give up coaching minor ball this season although he's still umpiring five or six games a week.

"I'm just going to keep on going as long as I can," DeBruyn said.

"I just help out when I'm needed." Men like Gary DeBruyn are always needed.



Gary DeBruyn in action. He's the one behind the umpire's mask.

Bray athlete of year

A small crowd was in attendance at St. George's Anglican Church on Monday evening to watch as Acton swimmer Mark Bray was awarded the Royal Bank Trophy as the Halton Hills' Athlete of the Year.

Also honored at the dinner was the Miracle Food Mart Sportsbuilder of the Year Herb Robinson. Both were chosen from three finalists with winners being announced for the first time at the dinner.

Bray, an international swimmer, was a finalist for the first time while figure skater Kris Barber was a runner-up for the third time and last year's winner Ian Clark earned recognition again.

The 14-year-old Bray earned the award

on his performance on the year. He has matured into one of Canada's budding young swimmers. Mark was in Heidelberg, West Germany, over the past year competing against top world competition placing fourth and eighth in a pre-Olympic Meet.

Sportsbuilder of the Year, Herb Robinson, edged out Acton's Gary DeBruyn and Georgetown's Jim Ford for the award. Mr. Robinson was honored for his participation in Legion sponsored sports, in organization of the Bantam Tournament, his involvement in lacrosse along with being the Tri-

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Gaels' luck rubs off on Oldtimers

The Acton Rams oldtimers walked off with a 16-9 victory over Brooklyn Green Gaels Monday, in the Gaels' first appearance at the Community Centre.

The Rams had jumped into a 5-1 lead at the end of the first period, and were going strong in the opening minutes of the second. But the Gaels fought back in the second, completing several scoring plays to make it 7-5 for the Rams by the end of the middle frame.

Rams coach Howard Dwyer said Gaels are used to a rough and ready contact game, so the match was chippy. But adds Dwyer, the game was tame compared to a real lacrosse match.

Two Rams were injured in the contest, requiring stitches.

Paul Wilson led the Rams with three goals and an assist.

Fred Allen, George Artum and Ron Turkosz each scored a pair, with Turkosz adding an assist. Single markers came from Bob Turkosz and Steve Wilson. Mike Rippon, Ian Cambell, Gord Scott, Bob Turkosz and Wilson all earned assists.

The game was delayed mid-way through the second period when a light bulb crashed on the floor.

The June 5 game, in which the Rams downed the Mississauga Oldtimers 18-7, won't be televised on Halton cable until the Mississauga station has aired them. That should take a couple of weeks, according to Dwyer.

The Rams have scheduled an exhibition match with Orangeville Junior B team Monday at the Community Centre. They meet Mississauga Thursday, June 26.

Sixteen local teams host annual tourney

Play ball. Acton will be hosting their annual Invitational Softball Tournament this weekend with 33 teams from Acton and area competing for 10 trophies.

Teams from Eramosa, Milton, Omagh, Ponsby, Brookville, Hornby, Maryhill, Lowville, Glen Williams plus 10 Acton squads will be participating, including a few allstar teams.

Acton starts Friday at 6:30 p.m. with Eramosa and Milton stepping up to bat in the midget girls division.

Omagh and Ponsby square off in bantam boys also at 6:30 p.m. and Omagh and Brookville meet in the midget boys game at 7:45 p.m.

Saturday the first Acton team sees action against Hornby at 9 a.m. in the atom boys division.

Milton and Maryhill, and Eramosa and Lowville compete in bantam girls and squirt boys respectively, also at 9 a.m.

The Acton atom girls play Eramosa at 10:15 a.m., the Acton squirt girls play Eramosa also at 10:15, the atom boys face Glen Williams at 11:30 a.m., the tri-county

squirt girls play Milton at 11:30 a.m. and the midget boys square off against Glen Williams at 12:45 p.m.

Acton squirt boys play at 12:45, the Acton midget girls pace Limehouse at 2 p.m., the Acton pee-wee boys battle Eramosa at 2 p.m., the Acton bantams boys and the pee-wee girls play at 3:15 and the bantam girls face Brookville at 4:30 p.m.

All championship and consolation games will be played on Sunday.

Teams will be battling for championship trophies including Bruce Cargill's Motor Homes, Halton Hills Furniture Award, Emily's Natural Foods trophy, Family Cleaners trophy, L & L Ford Award, Home Hardware Award, Acton Travel Award, Reliable Taxi Award, Lakeview Centre trophy and Family Barber Shop trophy.

Crests will also be given to all participants in the tournament for championships, finalists, consolation championships and competitor.

Gary DeBruyn is umpire in chief of the tournament, and games will be played according to Canadian Amateur Softball

Tri County

Foodland fights back—whips Maryhill 25-21

A-B Foodland atom boys fought back from a 15-3 deficit in Friday's tri-county match, to take Maryhill 25-21.

David Harrison, Mike Williams and Doug Bastal scored the first three runs in the opening frame to make it 15-3 by the bottom of the second.

Shawn Dryden came in for relief at the start of the third allowing Maryhill only six more runs in three innings with eight strikeouts.

Acton was still down six runs at the bottom of the fifth and final innings, but a grand slam by Mike Williams ended the game with Acton the winners.

Dryden, Bastal, Williams, Troy Winters, Robert Lockhurst and Scott McKee also crossed the plate in the third innings.

Dryden, Williams, Winters, Lockhurst, Bill Wirth and Scott Rowsell scored in the fourth and Williams, Wirth, Winters, Lockhurst, Rowsell, Dryden, Bastal, McKee and Ron Salmon touched home in the fifth.

Foodland sees action again tonight (Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m. against Ponsby.

Transmissioners fall

When the Acton Transmissioners fall, they fall hard. The squirt boys' team fell 13-1 to Caledonia in the Lowville Minor Softball tournament Sunday.

Mike Baker, Craig Cadenhead and David Haynes all hit singles for Acton.

Haynes hurled the game, chalking up seven strike-outs.

Ed's continue streak

Ed's In-N-Out midgets continued their winning ways Monday with a 7-1 victory over Millgrove in tri-county ball action at Prospect Park.

Denis Kirton hurled the complete game, allowing a single run by Simons in the sixth inning.

Ed's scored five runs in the first inning. Rick Greenly, Kirton, Tim Evans, Tim Baker, and Mark Duval crossed the plate to

score the runs. Duval repeated his performance in the third inning and Tom Shannon touched home in the fourth to complete Ed's scoring plays.

Ed's luck ran out in the Lowville tournament Saturday. They were eliminated in the first game by a strong Caledonia squad.

Ed's opened the scoring with a single run—their only run of the game, by Rick Greenly in the top of the second.

Caledonia came back in the third with three runs by John Kichinko, Dale Wilson and Mike Simonson.

Kichinko and Don Henning scoring two more runs in the seventh to end the game 5-1.

Buildall splits series

Mackenzie-Buildall bantams split a home and home series with Eramosa losing the first game 8-11 in Rockwood Thursday and coming back to take the second match 10-2 Monday at Prospect Park.

Despite a four-run seventh inning, Eramosa held on for the victory in Thursday's match.

The bantams only managed two hits in the first four innings, from Bruce Shannon and Gary White.

White came back in the sixth with a run, along with Brian Demone, Brian Canary and Paul Cargill.

White made it 8-5 in the top of the seventh, still for Eramosa before Cargill, David Emmerson, and Rick Dodds touched home. Eramosa scored a single run in the third, three more in the fourth, four runs in the fifth and a triple in the sixth to win the game.

Monday was a different story.

White started things off at the top of the first with a run, followed by a single via Canary.

Canary, Cargill, Tim Briggs, Ted Lindsay, Chris Hicks and Demone scored the other Acton runs.

Eramosa's two runs were scored in the first six innings.

Roden bats two home

The Acton Family Restaurant pee-wee girls handed Maryhill a 22-13 loss in the first match the two teams played, last Wednesday.

Jackie Roden scored the only homer of the game, with Annie Grien and Lisa Cadenhead on base.

Earlier on Tuesday, June 10, the Restaurant pee-wees improved their scoring

over Brookville, but not enough to win the game. Brookville handed them a 27-9 loss. The first meeting of the two teams ended in a 49-4 score.

Saturday saw a battle of the sexes of sorts, with the pee-wees playing an exhibition match against the Halton Rural pee-wee boys. The boys won the game 15-9 although it was quite competitive.

Hay fever at Acton Open

More than 100 golfers competed in the annual Acton Open at Halton Heights course Saturday.

Dwayne Hay won the tournament shooting a 69. Dave Johnston came second with 71 and Brian Robertson finished third.

Bill Nikolak won the OGA trophy. Ken Fryer took the seniors trophy for gol-

fers over 55 years old, Barry Inscow won the best left-hander award and Warren Hawthorne won best junior.

John Snow shot a 148, consequently winning the "most honest golfer" award.

Lorne Norton, Glen McKenzie and Bruce McPhail finished first, second and third in the net scoring.



Our serve

Christine Steen, left, and Marcia Gregg picked up all of the awards between them during the indoor winter season at the Wellington Racquets Club. Gregg won the club singles championship, while Steen took the award for singles league play. As a doubles team they were formidable, capturing both the club championship and the doubles league award. Both are members of the Acton Ladies team and play out of the Acton Tennis Club as well. There are more than 16 members from Guelph area playing at Wellington club, to Acton's eight, according to Gregg.

Association (CASA) rules. All teams compete in either Halton Rural or Tri-County leagues.

Acton teams competing include: Tyler Tedbits (atom girls), A & B Foodland (atom boys), Nellis Construction (Atom boys), IGA squirts (girls), Olympia Squirts (girls), Family Restaurant (pee-wee girls), Halton Hills Furniture (bantam boys),

Achilles Motors (midget girls), Ed's In-N-Out (midget boys), plus an allstar squirt boys team and an allstar pee-wee boys team.

Organizing the annual event is Chris Schuts with help from Bob Paul, Andy Williams, Ted Sankey, and Brian Canary.

The booth at Prospect Park will be open.

An allstar bantam boys squad lost a hard-fought game to Pembroke 4-0 in the Lowville tournament Saturday.

Two Acton hits came from Cargill and Ian Paul.

Mackenzie-Buildall's next game is Monday at Prospect Park when the bantams face Brookville. Tuesday, June 24 they travel to Ponsby.

Tedbits suffer losses

Tyler's Tedbits suffered a 9-4 loss in Brookville, Monday, June 9. At the bottom of the fourth the score was tied 3-3, until Brookville raced to victory, scoring six

runs. Paula Demontmorency slammed a home run, and Angela Dunn hit a powerful triple.

Fast pitching by Maryhill on Wednesday, June 11, slowed the Atom girls, to a 22-3 loss. Tracy Brundie, Paula Demontmorency and Paula Raine slid into home plate, while Debbey Patey, Andrea Gudgeon, and Angela Dunn shared pitching duties against the excellent batting power of Maryhill.

Tyler's Tedbits will be playing Wednesday night at Sir Donald Mann park at 6:30, and are also entering the Acton Minor Ball Tournament this weekend.

Halton-Rural report

Haynes pitches no-hitter

Acton Optimist squirts squeezed a 3-3 tie from Glen Williams in Georgetown Friday, after nipping them 3-1 Wednesday in Acton. David Paul slugged a triple in Friday's match, David Haynes and Craig Cadenhead each hit doubles while David Roden and Scott Williams batted singles.

Haynes completed the Wednesday's match on the Acton mound with 11 strike-outs.

Jason Henderson batted a two-bagger, along with David Paul. Haynes, Wayne Durose, Troy Foster and David Hayward hit singles.

Limehouse edged the Optimists 4-2 Thursday. First basemen Shawn McFadden was outstanding on defence, making several good plays.

Williams struck out five batters in the losing effort.

Cadenhead hit a double and single in the game, with other singles coming from Foster and Henderson.

Optimists walloped Lowville 6-0 last Monday, June 9, partly due to a homer by Wayne MacEachern, and a no-hitter by Haynes.

Henderson, Cadenhead, Cargill and Haynes all scored hits.

Haynes outdid himself in the match, pitching a no-hitter with 14 strike-outs.

Nellis over Omagh 11-2

Nellis Construction Atom Boys defeated Omagh 11-2 in Halton Rural League action last week. Jason Campbell started on the mound for Acton and after two the score was 3-2.

Crossing the plate for Acton were Jamie Worthman, Shawn Dryden and Jeff Fuller. Omagh runs were scored by Tim Fulsang and Greg Harris.

Shawn Dryden took over the pitching duties in the third allowing only one base hit in the remainder of the game. After four complete innings Acton had scored eight more runs with single scores going to Don McLean, Jason Campbell, Worthman, Dryden, Fuller, Chris Lindsay, Paul Sankey and Todd DeForest making the final score of 11-2.

In previous action the Atoms played two games against Glen Williams losing 4-1 and 4-0. Unfortunately, the Acton hitters could not get past the fine pitching performance of the Glen's Charlie Hancock. Acton's only run was scored by Paul Sankey on a pitching error. Losing pitcher was Dryden. The Atoms are now 2-2 for the season.

Olympia held back

Only four runs in the fifth inning by Milton squirts Wednesday, June 11 in Acton, held off Olympia Drive-in girls from another victory.

Milton won the game 10-6. The game was tied 6-6 from the second inning to the fourth, but Milton kept Acton off the scoreboard in the last bat.

Karlie Gudgeon went the distance on the mound for Acton.

Jill Briggs scored a run for Acton in the first inning. Tammy Corkum and Gudgeon hit singles but were left on base.

In the second, Briggs slugged a single, again. Singles also came from Gudgeon, Colleen Nowlan, Tammy Rogers, Francie Kolozsvari, with Corkum batting a two-bagger.

Olympia had equally bad luck in an earlier match as Lowville downed them 12-7 on Tuesday June 10.

The first inning closed with a 5-3 score for Lowville. Acton hits came from the bats of Gudgeon and Kelly Fitzgerald.

Lowville and Olympia each scored a single run in the second inning, none in the third, then Lowville let loose with six big runs in the fourth inning.

Olympia hits came from Kim Hagan, Nowlan, Tammy Rogers and Kolozsvari. Gudgeon and Cindy Dunn batted hits in the fifth inning but were unable to get in any runs.

The game ended 12-7. Olympia's next game is tonight (Wednesday) at Hornby.

They will be joining forces with the tri-county squirts to compete in the three-day Acton Ball Tournament this weekend.