

Eighth in standings

Sabres win

by Diana Waltman
 What a difference a day makes!
 One day the Junior B Sabres were in last place with five losses and problem goaltending.
 The next day they sign 17-year-old Wayne McDougall, jump in a bus, zip up to Barrie and avenge their loss, astonish their opponents, silence their critics and delight their fans.
 Yes, they won. Not only did the Sabres win 5-4 Thursday night in Barrie, but they tied 3-3 Friday in Oakville and then, just to top it off they blasted their cross-town rivals, the Georgetown Gemins right out of Gordon Allcott Arena Sunday night with a 10-3 score.
 And who's that chortling all the way to the Community Centre for Friday's match against last year's league champion Streetsville Derbys?
 None other than coach Jules Russiani, who has been savoring the victories and the fact Sabres are now in eighth spot in Central Junior B standings, with five points.
 Behind them are Georgetown, Dixie, Streetsville and Milton in that order.
 "I'm very happy with the results," Russiani said. "I told you goaltending

would make a difference and it did.
 "Yup, I'm really happy."
 Of course the rest of the season has yet to be played and Russiani still isn't making any promises. He is still lamenting over the season's first losses two weekends ago.
 "We should have won those games. We outplayed Dixie and Barrie and we outshot them."
 "If we had won, we would be a lot further in the standings."
 The Sabres are five points out of first place, held by Brampton and only one point behind seventh-place Barrie. Barrie and Oakville are tied, but the Blades have a game in hand.
 Orillia is in fifth with seven points, Oak Ridges and Thornhill are tied with eight points and Burlington is in second spot with nine points.
 Sabres are stronger offensively too. They have connected for a total of 42 goals, compared to the 34 Barrie has scored or the 23 Oakville has netted.
 On the other end of the scale though, Sabres have more goals against (56) than any other team except Dixie. It's something Russiani says he's working on.
 "Our defensive game has improved," he said. "We've got a new defensive system



The new Acton Junior B goaltender in action Friday night as the Sabres tie the Blades in Oakville 3-3. Since Wayne McDougall took over in the nets, the Sabres have yet to lose a game.

where one of the forwards comes back on a rush. It's really cut down on shots on goal.
 "I think Oakville only got about three shots on net in the third period." The Gems only managed two.
 Sabres fought back in the third period in Barrie to nip the Colts 5-4.
 The game was tied 1-1 at the end of the first, after Glen Murray pocketed a goal at 9:21. Barry Trood picked up the assist.
 But by the end of the second Barrie had jumped into the lead with a 3-2 score. Donny Brown netted the second Acton marker at 3:08 of the middle frame. His linemate, Mike Monahan earned the assist.
 Barrie's lead was short-lived. The Sabres came back with two markers passing the Colts with a slim one-goal margin.
 The Trood-Murray (Ken Relf) line, which is proving to be an effective offensive weapon, struck again. Relf tied the game up at 4:45 with Trood and Murray assisting.
 Then Trood connected on a pass from Relf for the go ahead goal.
 Barrie came back to tie it but Murray spoiled their plans, clinching the first victory for Acton with less than two minutes left in the game. Trood and Bob Allsop earned aids.
 Bolstered by their win on the road, the Sabres marched into Oakville Arena Friday night ready to do battle with the Blades.
 They took a 3-1 lead right off the top with Murray potting a pair and Relf collecting the other marker.
 Murray scored just 39 seconds into the game with Mark Duval assisting.
 Relf followed suit at 7:04 with Denis Kirton picking up the bracket. Then Murray scored his second at 10:27. Dennis Charbonneau assisted on that one.
 The Blades whittled away the Sabres' precious lead however, tying the game 3-3 by the end of the second.
 The third period went scoreless.
 Both Thursday's and Friday's matches were without serious incident, but the Sabres will be feeling the effects of Sunday's Georgetown battle for the next two weeks.
 Thanks to a third-period fight, Sabres will

be without their captain Pat Fung for the next two contests and without Dollman for the next four.
 Both received major misconducts in an incident that had fans in the stands bawling.
 The Sabres were winning 6-2 when Fung starting mixing it up behind the net with some Gems. Dollman stepped in to give Fung a hand and both collected five minute majors and a major misconduct to boot.
 On his way to the bench Dollman was slugged from behind by another Gemini. He fell and received a second major misconduct on his way down.
 "It was a cheap shot," said Russiani. "The crowd provoked the fight, there were a couple of people badmouthing Patty (Fung) all night."
 "When Dollman was skating back to the box, one of their guys left his bench and hit Dollman from behind."
 "Dollman went down and covered up; it was a hard hit, and he gets another major misconduct. He wasn't even a part of it."
 "I pointed out the other guy left his bench to the referee but he didn't agree. It's not fair."
 The Gems were also slapped with a couple of major misconducts.
 Again the Sabres outshot Georgetown, 37-17, with a 15-2 margin in the final frame.
 Relf and Murray connected for the first two goals in the opening frame, both of them powerplay markers.
 Trood picked up an assist on Relf's goal while Murray went in alone.
 Fung scored the third goal in the second period, a powerplay effort from Trood and Allsop. That put the Sabres ahead 3-2. Goals by Relf and Murray, their second each, clinched the game. Murray and Relf assisted each other's marker's with Trood

taking the third assist. The second period ended 5-2 for the Sabres.
 Gary Williams scored his first goal of the season in the final 20 minutes. Then Trood, Charbonneau and Duval all scored on unassisted efforts.
 Art Keating connected on the final goal - another powerplay effort, with 3:10 left to go in the game. Charbonneau and Duval earned assists.
 "The morale of the team is fantastic," Russiani said of the wins. "They have really boosted our confidence."
 "The Trood, Relf and Murray line is really working hard. They put a lot of effort into the games and they're getting results."
 That's an understatement. That line has come up with 11 of the 18 goals scored over the weekend.
 But Russiani adds, the new line of Art Keating, Brown and Monahan is also a trio to watch. "I think once they start moving, they'll be one of the toughest lines in the league," he said.
 "They're a fast-skating line. No one can stay with them."
 Another bonus said Russiani, is Duval, who has size on his side and is using it. Russiani said the Sabres have worked out a deal with the midgets of the minor league so that Duval and Rob Vermuelen can play on both teams.
 If the schedule conflicts, Russiani said, they'll work something out. "Besides, they like playing Junior B."
 Especially when you're on a winner, right?

Sabres' next home game is Friday when Streetsville comes to town. Game time is 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1.25 for students, 50 cents for children under 12 and \$4 for a family pass.



Ouch! A Sabre player gets a quick elbow from Georgetown goalie while the referee was looking elsewhere during Sunday's 10-3 victory. Sabres second victory of the season (the first was Thursday in Barrie), was marred by rough play both on the ice and in the stands.

Midgets, Dodds tops in cross country runs

Acton High School Midget cross country team finished fourth out of 28 schools in the annual Oktoberfest Invitational Friday in Kitchener.
 Georgetown came first with 54 points, Agincourt finished second with 65 points and Waterloo C.I. finished third with 98 points.
 In the midget boys 4500 metre run, Rick Dodds was top Acton finisher. He came 13th. Brian Bollert finished 15th, Glenn Archer came 40th, Scott Altonby finished 50th, Richard Kilpatrick finished 66th, Ken Jesperson finished 67th and Rhys Gibb finished 181st.
 In the junior boys 6000 metre run, 175 runners finished, but individual times were not available.
 In the senior boys 7600 metres, AHS had an incomplete team, but David McGregor came 46th and Norman Bourassa came

52nd. There were 125 finishers in all.
 In the junior girls 3000 metre run, again AHS sent an incomplete team, but Heather Thatcher finished 15th and Elke Zlessig 63rd out of 122 runners who completed the course.
 Thursday the team competed in the White Oaks meet, with the midget boys team copping top honors, placing first with 24 points.
 White Oaks of Oakville came second with 24, Nelson of Burlington was third with 45, M.M. Robinson of Burlington placed fourth with 52, Montclair public school came fifth with 78 points and L.B. Pearson brought up the rear with 131 points.
 Rick Dodds was top finisher for AHS, placing second in midget boys 4500 metre run. Scott Altonby finished fourth, Glenn Archer came fifth, Brian Bollert finished 13th, Ken Jesperson came 20th and Rhys Gibb finished 31st.

The junior girls didn't send a complete team, but Elke Zlessig came sixth, Jeanette Gleson came seventh and Karen Brill finished 13th.
 In the junior boys 6000, Scott McDonough was top AHS finisher. He came sixth. Tony Wright followed in 15th place, Richard Kilpatrick finished 16th, Tom McDonough came 18th and David Forbes finished 22.
 In the senior boys 7600 metres David McGregor of AHS was the first runner to cross the finish line.
 Bill McKenzie came third, Norman Bourassa finished ninth and Brian Bollert came 10th.
 The cross country team members competed in the Halton championships next Wednesday, Oct. 22 at Kelso Conservation Area.
 The Peel-Halton are the following Wednesday, Oct. 29.



Allstar hockey begins its regular season this weekend, with two home games scheduled. The major peewees play Saturday and Ed's In-N-Out midgets face off Sunday at 12:30. Last year Acton's midgets had the best W-W record - they were undefeated.

Minor hockey begins

The Acton hockey season gets into full swing this weekend with the advent of allstar and house league schedules.
 About 435 are registered in hockey this year with 135 boys in allstar.
 Sponsors of the nine rep teams are the same as last year with two exceptions.
 Laing Construction is sponsoring the major atoms and UPWA is sponsoring the minor peewees.
 Alton McIssac Construction novices play their home games Saturdays at 3 p.m. The minor atoms Moms play at 7 p.m. Wednesday night, the major atoms play 4 p.m. Saturdays, the Rotary Club minor bants face off at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, the Acton Firefighters major bantams play 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Ed's In-N-Out midget home games are Sunday at 12:30 p.m.
 The Acton Free Press Juveniles are also back for another season. They play Saturdays at 6 p.m. This weekend features two home games. The major peewees play Saturday at 5 p.m. and the midgets play Sunday at 12:30 p.m.
 The major change this year of course is the different league. Waterloo-Wellington league was disbanded at the end of last season, so allstar teams are entered in the mantle division of the Hub League.
 Acton will face such teams as Woolwich, Hespeler, Fergus, New Hamburg and Elora.
 Allstar schedules for the following week will be printed each Wednesday in the Acton Free Press.
 The legion league schedule will also be published, both in Scoreboard.
 This year there are 22 teams in five divisions of legion hockey, with about 300 players including three girls. There is also one woman coach. Games start Saturday at 6 a.m. and continue until 1:40 with two matches scheduled for Sunday starting at 4:55 p.m.

The Acton Industrial hockey league begins their 1980-81 season Sunday with three games on tap.
 Acton Travel will meet Hellers in the first game of the year at 7 p.m. Family Cleaners and Nelson's Clothing square off at 8:20 p.m. and Acton Terminal Warehouse battle Lakeview Centre at 9:40 p.m.
 All Industrial league games will be played each Sunday during the same time slot at the Community Centre.
 There are 57 games featured in 10 weeks of hockey, with the regular season ending February 22.
 Each Sunday's slate will be published every Wednesday in the Acton Free Press.

Peewees short several players but win exhibition game anyway

Despite being short-staffed, the UPWA major peewees took a 5-1 decision over Guelph in an exhibition game, the first match of the year, Saturday at the Community Centre.
 Coach Barry Inoscoe said the results were pleasing, but had the peewees been able to ice a full team, the margin would have been a lot wider.
 Only 12 Acton players were able to dress for the game.
 Most of the action took place in the second period. That's when Acton's Kevin Lobsinger put the first marker past the Guelph goalie a minute and a half into the second frame. Steve Wagner and Gary McEachern picked up the assists.
 Gord Mitchell made it 2-0 three minutes later with a goal assisted by Lobsinger. The peewees opened up a three-goal lead with

the next marker by Clinton McMillan at 5:10, still in the second period. John Lloyd aided on the goal.
 Guelph broke Acton's bid for a shutout with what turned out to be their lone goal a few seconds later. Paul Brown netted the goal, after a pass from Greg Matthews at 5:48.
 But the peewees clinched it with two more goals in the remaining minutes of the second stanza. Mitchell pocketed an unassisted effort at 6:24. Then with just five

seconds left in the period, McMillan scored the final goal. Wagner earned the assist.
 The final 10 minutes of play were marred only by a few penalties. Acton picked up two for holding and tripping while George Frangos went to the dressing room 40 seconds earlier than everyone else for slashing.
 The next game for the major peewees is Saturday at 5 p.m. their first regular game of the season.
 season Skate 80, and offer a full program of skating. Two new novs have been hired, Nancy Lovett and Judy Swallow.
 Skating days will be Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Figure skating starts

Members of the Acton Figure Skating Club will be donning their blades tomorrow (Thursday) for the first day of skating for the new season.
 The club executive has nicknamed the

Baseball a bore

Diana Waltman

Is it over yet?
 Can I come out of the closet?
 Okay, here is my startling revelation. I hate baseball.
 Can't stand the silly game. Can't sit through it either.
 But before you start pitching spit balls at my newly painted car, let me explain.
 I think baseball is a grand game if you're a kid under 13 and it's a hot summer day and your mother has kicked you out of the house for the afternoon.
 I even played it when I was a kid. It was a good way to get in a lot of kicking and screaming and clawing. And that was just to find out who went to bat first. I always won because I hated outfield.
 I don't mind when grown men get dressed up in polo pyjamas to go galivanting around a rectangular dirt path. To each his own.
 However, when I am forced to watch grown men in polo pyjamas and caps and oversized gloves on their hands, galivanting around dirt paths, well, that's a different story.
 Let's face it, besides watching the street lights go on or grass grow baseball is the most boring spectacle ever invented.
 It's even worse when you have to write about it the next day. There are only so many ways to say he hit the ball and ran to first base.
 I ran out of them after my first week of reporting.
 Take the routine a team goes through before each inning. Please. Everyone pairs off and starts throwing the ball back and forth. This goes on for two or three minutes, then everyone gathers at the pitcher's mound and slaps everyone else on the bum with their glove before retreating to their respective corners.
 The catcher and the pitcher exchange seductive glances before the catcher makes obscene gestures with his finger positioned between his legs.
 Now at this point I am surmising he is telling the pitcher (or hurler or chucker), to throw a curve ball and not meet him after the game in the bushes by the Tannery.
 So they're ready, but the batter isn't.
 He's got to decide which bat is best. After that lengthy decision is made, he straightens his cap, hikes up the bottom half of his polo pyjamas, wipes his hand in the dirt and steps up to plate, digging in one toe at a time.
 Wait! Don't throw that ball. The batter has to get his signal from the third base coach, who looks like he's gone into convulsions. First he scratches his nose, then his elbow, then his rib, then his other elbow, then his eyebrow and then he tweaks his cap.
 Okay, it's all system go and on with the game. Whoops! The batter didn't like the look of the first throw. He steps aside, looking absolutely disgusted (whasamatter, chucker? Think I was born yesterday?) and the whole routine is repeated.
 At this point, I usually start examining my nail polish.
 Meanwhile those on the field and on the bench are cheering on their mates.
 "YaasaaaaahhhhhhhhhHHHHHHHHH!!! Dannyboy. You got him now Dannyboy. Wait for the good ones, Dannyboy. You got him where you want him now Dannyboy. Let him come to you Dannyboy, let him come to you. (and when he misses), Good eye, Dannyboy. Good eye!"
 I hate to be the one to point this out fellas, but you have abnormal speech habits.
 All sports have funny, little idiosyncrasies, but in baseball they are the only exciting part of the game. The most thrilling moment is usually somewhere around the fourth or fifth inning, when the umpire (he's the one dressed like the turtle wearing a mask so you can't see him yawning), stops the -abem-action to sweep off home plate.
 To give you an example of just how much action goes on in a game, the outfield has to pace themselves very carefully. Or they'll fall asleep before the ninth inning.
 If the situation ever arises where the bases are loaded, two down and the team's behind just one run in the bottom of the ninth, creating the tinnest morsel of excitement; after the pitcher and catcher, batter and third base coach make their preparations and after I take my place, camera focused on home plate, what happens?
 Strike three, he's out and end of game. I was attacked by ferocious, man eating mosquitoes to watch them blow my front page photograph.
 Baseball has got about as much thrill, spills, chills and speed as the constitutional talks, doing the dishes or downtown Acton on a Saturday night.
 Sorry, but baseball is much too slow for a faster-than-a-speeding-bullet, mild-mannered reporter like me.