

Arbic is a believer in his midgets

by Dave Dorken
Team records, standings and individual statistics may be impressive, but often they aren't worth the paper they're written on.
Case in point—Ed's In-and-Out Midgets.
On paper the squad appears to consist of a dozen or so hapless and inconsistent ball players, as their miserable 6-10 inter-county Fastball League record so clearly suggests.
The club has been adequate in the field, but usually forgets to bring their bats to the games.
Anyone knowledgeable on the baseball (and fastball) numbers game would perceive a short and merciful exit from post-season play ahead for Midgets.

Manager Dan Arbic has seen all of the stats, and has probably had nightmares of the clubs bevy of ninth inning losses. He also knows his club too well to write them off from any playoff success.
"I really believe we've got the talent, that it's possible (to win the championships) this year. I know we can put one game together, our problem is putting two or three games together—it has to be done in two weekends," said Arbic.
The club has a good chance of making it into two playoff tournaments. If it can beat Galt in one of the three remaining inter-county League make-up matches then Ed's will qualify for the finals.
Acton is already entered into the Ontario B

championship tourney since it's hosting the event.
The problem for Arbic begins when his players enter the two weekend tournaments.
The two biggest problems are hitting and experience.
Only four or five of the players on the team, namely Rob Vermeulen, Gord McArthur, Dave Wilson and Roy Spear, have been showing any consistency with the wood. The others are hitting the ball, but never when Midgets need to advance runners.
Midgets also need to gel, almost instantly.
"What hurts are the plays that never happen," explained Arbic. "They've got no problems on routine plays, just on some things they haven't seen enough

of, like rundowns."
Midgets have the ability to get themselves out of holes, but usually end up falling back into the same pit shortly after. Arbic feels this could change.
"I think we could win both tournaments with no problems, we've certainly got the potential, we just have to get everybody hitting the ball," said the manager.
Another problem that has worried Arbic is the lack of bodies. Last weekend it popped up once again in a tournament in Kirkton.
"We're only getting nine or 10 players out for tournaments. You can't win when your team only has nine ball players," said Arbic. "When you have

two, three or four players on the bench you can put another player in if one is having an off day."
When a player does have a bad day on Midgets they have to suffer through the game.
Last weekend in the Kirkton tourney the Ed's squad had a pair of good games, and as usual, one disappointment.
The Acton boys dropped Fullerton 14-6 in their first game, came out with a close 9-7 decision against Atwood in the second game then were dumped by Shakespear in the third bout 6-1.
"I hope we can do the job next year. We're building, we still need a couple more players," he said. "The players are coming around and learning what it's all about."

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Second Section



Swanston beats odds and opposing swimmers

By Dave Dorken
Alan Swanston should take a long trip to Las Vegas.
Last week the 22-year-old Rockwood swimmer went to Bucharest, Romania to compete in the World Student Games. His ability to beat the odds there didn't bring him a wind-fall in cash, just a hunk of bronze—the first medal won by the Canadian team.

Swanston's battles in the water were against higher odds than even the most rigged casino.
Recently Swanston competed in the Cuban national championships. Besides the pair of golds, three silvers and one bronze medal he took home he also carried a less valuable item—a flu bug.

"When I was in Cuba I picked up a bug, a couple of weeks before the Nationals," said Swanston. He still wasn't fully recovered from the "bug" when he arrived in Romania for the Student Games.
"We finished the Nationals Thursday, flew to Bucharest Friday, got there Saturday then started swimming Wednesday. There's not a lot of time to adjust to the conditions, the food, the weather and sleeping conditions. It took the swim team a few days to get rolling," said Swanston.

Jet lag

A healthy swimmer usually requires a day to adjust for every hour missed because of jet lag. The Canadian team had a mere three days to adapt when they should have had a week.
"As time progressed we got better. We were a little down since we weren't swimming that well in the beginning," said Swanston.
The Canadian contingent was down the list at the bottom of the medal winners, tied with such nobodies as South Korea, the Ivory Coast and Ghana with no medals.

His best

Swanston's personal best time of 2:09.27 in the 200m Individual Medley snapped the Canadians streak and brought home a bronze.
"It wasn't as much to be the first (to win a medal) it was just nice to win. It got everybody going a little," he said.
Swanston may have been getting over his bout with a Cuban version of Montezuma's Revenge,

when the rest of the team began feeling under the weather.
"Even the water you cook with or make tea with can have an effect on you," said Swanston. We just had to try and overcome it, there's nothing you can do about it. You're in good physical condition and if you're mentally pared you should still be able to swim fast. It does have an effect on you but you just have to overlook it and do your best," said Swanston.

An honor

"I felt quite honored. Because the swim team did so well the people in the Canadian organization asked the coach to pick a flag bearer," he said.
Being the first Canadian to win a medal, and the honor of carrying the flag for the contingent was a perfect ending to a most successful season.
Swanston already has won seven medals this year, competed in the prestigious World Student Games—second only to the Olympics in stature—and was nominated as the most valuable swimmer in his University of Waterloo team.
Last year he was faced with like the majority of Canadian athletes, one of the worst things possible—the Olympic boycott.
"1980 is gone, I don't want to look back, you can't

make it up," said Swanston. "We boycotted (the Olympics) and it's a fact of life."
"Mentally we were down, everybody was tired—people were talking of quitting, even the record holders," he said.
Swanston may not have had a chance to compete in the Olympics game but he showed he could compete against the best swimmers around—and come up in the medals.

Just human

"You know they (the Russians and West Germans) are really good, but it doesn't scare you. They're just as human as you are," he said.
While the Russian, West German and U.S. teams are considered to be the best, little Canada is creeping up pretty quickly. Like the "Crazy Canucks", our ski team, the swimmers are being noticed as quality athletes.

They're tops

"It's nice to know that you're one of the top swimmers in Canada, then you're bound to be an international caliber swimmer, one of the best in the world," said Swanston.
This prestige is lacking in most other sports he said.
"In other sports you can be the best in Canada, but you can't compete internationally, you get wiped up in competition," he said.
Swanston's slew of medals prove he can compete with any international swimmer.

Double Trouble for Ladies isn't merely a team name

The name Double Trouble seems to be an understatement.

The Acton Ladies Fastball League team has been dominating the league all season, recently they humiliated Rockwood twice, 18-7 and 15-9 and led Curling Club 9-4.

Shelly Young got the win in the 18-7 decision. Kathy Newman cannoned a four bagger for the winners, Doris Toebes, Janet McCutcheon and Newman scored three runs each for Double. Young, Ann Irwin, Jo Ann Berry and Jo-Ann Miller rounded the bags twice each, Judy Pink and Debbie Thornhill each put one run on the board.

Young again was solid on the mound and at the plate in the 15-9 decision. She hurled all seven innings and scored three runs for Double Trouble.

Newman also crossed the plate three times. Toebes, McCutcheon and Pink scored twice, Kim Break, Irwin and Jo-Ann Popp scored once each.

Young again was the winner as Double Trouble beat Curling Club 9-4. Popp and Miller both scored twice, McCutcheon, Young, Toebes, and Bonnie Hachey had one run each.

Strong-arm tactics

Stan was the man.
Desmond's used the strong arm of pitcher Stan Clarke to humiliate Bovis 14-2 in Condo Fastball League play last week.

Clarke went all the way on the mound, as well as scoring a pair of runs. Joe Daponte crossed home plate three times, Doug Pratt and Gus Jefferey scored twice each. Jules Russiant, Dave McGilloway, Mike Mattocks, Doug Luck and Barry Downs each rounded the bags once.

Henry Koprowski and John Casey scored for Bovis.
The win moves Desmonds into a first place tie with Jug City.

McBride is best

Being the best sometimes isn't good enough.
Last weekend Jim McBride fanned seven batters and was voted best pitcher in the Limehouse Fastball Tournament, but his Desmond's Tack Shop club still dropped a close 5-4 consolation championship to Unisal Construction.

Unisal took an early 1-0 lead when Glen McKenzie poked a double to score Dennis Kirton. Unisal stretched the margin when Kirton again scored.
Desmonds came on strong in the back half of the frame to tie things up at 2-2.

acton ball

Roy Bosch, Bill McGrath and Kirton rounded the bags in the top of the seventh to regain the lead, Doug Pratt smacked a single to score Desmonds' Dave McGilloway. Pratt scored to move Desmonds to 5-4.

With two out and the tying run on base, Jules Russiant popped out to end the game.

In the championship final Georgetown Merchants blanked McIlwraith Neighbours of Guelph 2-0.

Optimists pointless

Acton Optimists just didn't get the point.
The Halton Rural squirt fastball club dropped a costly 22-14 decision to Limehouse and were edged out of the playoffs.

Mike Williams played a strong game on the mound for Optimists, but still couldn't contain the powerful Limehouse sluggers.

Dave Harrison and Chris Lindsay both poked a double and a single for Acton. Paul Sankey, Mike Annett, Jason Campbell and Williams also connected with hits. Chad Neil and Shawn Dryden each got three walks and scored for the Optimists side.

Danny McLenn and Chris Griggs also rounded the bags on walks.

Optimists will play exhibition games of the remainder of the season.

Really 'fast' ball

Unisal Construction doesn't waste any time messing around the ball diamond.

Last weekend Unisal handily disposed of Bears 7-0 in a mere 40 minutes in Acton Industrial Fastball League play.

Wally Ella was credited with the win, and scored a pair of runs.

Unisal scored one run in the first frame when Ella scored. The club did the rest of its scoring in the second inning. Charlie Harrison pounded a triple and scored, Glen McKenzie, Bill McGrath and Ella all connected with singles and scored. Terry O'Brien also crossed the plate for Unisal.

Bears didn't have much better luck against Fredd Construction as they lost a 10-3 game. Bob Merrikin allowed only five hits and received the win. Alan

Hall and Barry Buchanan scored three runs each for the winners. Rick McArthur scored a pair of runs. Marvin McNabb and Bob Vermeulen crossed the plate on singles.
Mike Petkokk, Wayne DeForest and Greg Robson scored for Bears.

Indusmin Rocket to first place

by Hank Bouwman
The Indusmin Rockets won their final game of the regular schedule by edging Abitibi-Price 11-9. The Huttonville Hawks finished the schedule on a winning note 7-2 over the Ballinadaf Blue Jays while Abitibi won 8-0 forfeit over Ballinadaf.

The Rockets were in a must win situation in order to clinch the league title for the first time. Laing's Construction (Hustlers) were the league defending champs the past two years.

The Rockets led 2-0 going into the fifth inning as Joe Pereira scored three runs on three singles. Ron Prior was credited with three RBI's, on five singles. Frank Noseworthy had three RBI's on three singles. Dave Plehl led the Oilers as he scored both their runs with a single and double while Jim Case managed a single and double with a RBI and a solid effort in left field.

Laing's Construction took a 5-0 first inning lead before Abitibi-Price came back to tie the game. Ken Starkey rounded the bases as a ball was misplayed in right field. Roger Brown pitched a strong game for Abitibi-Price with solid fielding by Marty Zillio.

On Thursday night the Blue Jays had to default their first game to Abitibi-Price as they couldn't field a team for their 6:30 game. The 8:30 game saw the Huttonville Hawks on the winning end of a 7-2 score over the Blue Jays. Blue Jay centre fielder Dave Green had two singles while Keith Hayward put in a solid job at catching as well as contributing a double.

FINAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

Team	W	L	T	PTS
Indusmin Rockets	14	6	0	28
Laing's Construction	13	6	1	27
Huttonville Hawks	13	7	0	26
Abitibi-Price	11	9	0	22
Ballinadaf Blue-Jays	4	15	1	9
Petrohau Oilers	4	18	0	8



Right on... An Acton Minor peewee and his Georgetown opponent look like they're signaling for right turn during minor soccer action last week. (Below) Fit to be tied... Acton and Georgetown players get tangled up while chasing the ball during an exhibition match last night. Georgetown blanked Acton Optimists 3-0.

Minor soccer

The trouble with Angels

Bob's Angels beat Eramosa 5-2 in squirt house league soccer play.

Christopher McGeragle booted two goals for the winners, Jason Pun, Michael Kinnon and Philip Williamson each scored once.

Michael Turner scored both tallies for Eramosa. Eramosa started the game slowly then started to give Angels a run for their money. Shawn Reynolds, Arnon Solowonuk, Anne Marie Kinnon and Kelly McGeragle were standouts on the Angels side.

Shut-out Artist

If Brian Kuechler was an artist he wouldn't be too successful. All he ever draws is a blank.

Last week Kuechler was flawless in the net as Wolves shut-out Eramosa 8-0 in an Acton Soccer League squirt battle.

David Thorpe, and Jonathon Vietstra each booted a pair of markers, Sean Yamashita, Rodney Laver, Jeff Willis and Vietstra each split the tubes once.

In an exhibition game Tigers dropped Gunners 4-3. Derek Martin was the hot shooter for Gunners scoring all three tallies. Michael McMahon kicked in three goals and Matthew Robertson had a single for Tigers.

Gunners didn't field enough players for the league game, so the win was awarded to Tigers.

