

## 'Round Robin

with Robin Inscow



Many events have been planned for Acton and surrounding area this summer with many taking place at Prospect Park.

Over the next couple of weekends Acton Minor Softball will be running their annual tourney which brings boys and girls of all ages to town for some friendly competition.

This coming Saturday the boys will see action with four atom, squirt and pee-wee teams jangling for championship honors.

In the atom division Acton will have two squads vying for the title against Eramosa and Brookville, while the squirt teams will come from Acton, Halton Rural, Brookville, Glen Williams, and Eramosa.

The two Acton Pee-Wee teams, Halton Rural and Tri-county have both entered with Cheltenham and Glen Williams.

Games are slated to begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning on both local diamonds.

Next weekend the girls teams should be here with an added bantam division. Games are to be slated for Friday night and all day Saturday to accommodate the extra group.

In July preparations are under way to host a team from Connecticut.

Recently the paper received a letter in the mail from a group of U.S. businessmen who take a week of their vacation each year and, simply, play ball.

This year the group is coming our way and if final details can be worked out they'll stop here for a couple of games on Saturday, July 23.

Their gimmick is an unusual one. There isn't one. They play two games, one fastball game and a slow pitch contest against teams with any profits from the game going to the charity of the host town's choice.

The Acton Industrial Fastball League is trying to set the game up and they'll probably square off against an all-star team with proceeds from the event going to the Rotary Club Easter Seal campaign.

Details are still being worked out. More when everything is finalized.

There will also be an Acton Industrial Fastball League tourney at the local park for ball enthusiasts.

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So far this season there seems to be a fewer number of local soccer and ball teams or results just aren't coming our way.

It seems that local sports groups gave up sending in results when informed that Monday at 5 p.m. is the deadline for submitting articles. In an attempt to get all the results we'll extend that until Tuesday morning.

One thing that the staff of the Free Press ask is that results come in weekly. Far too often stories or articles are submitted only when a team wins.

We ask that articles or score sheets be submitted every week if possible to keep readers informed of the result no matter how bad you feel your team is doing. You owe it to the parents, players, fans, sponsors and yourself.



The McKenzie-Smith girls three-pitch squad took top honours in their tournament division Thursday in Brookville. The girls pounded W.J. Dick Wildcats in the championship game, 19-3. Team members are: front row left to right: Kim Hagen, Margie Parker. Second row: Christine Sleep, Carrie Gallant, Brenda McMillan, Monica Parker. Third row: Tammy Forbes, Christa Lawson, Karie Gudgeon, Elizabeth Roebuck. Back row: Tammy Corkum, Linda Bollero, Kelly Harrison, Cindy Dunn.



The McKenzie-Smith boys three-pitch team won their area tournament in Brookville Thursday. The team defeated Holy Cross 19-2 in the final game to take the crown. Team members are: first row, left to right: Geoff Maltby, Raymond Authier. Second row: Paul Kilpatrick, Carl Yaroshak, Peter Cargill, Cyril Nibbs, David Haynes. Third row: Kostas Athanassoulis, David Roden, Greg Leatherland, Frank Katsileris, Darryl Bartlett, Scott Williams. Back row: David Hinz, John Van Dam, Evan Hayter.

# Free Press SPORTS

## Acton falls couple of runs short in Oldtimers' fastball tourney final

For the first time in three years the Acton Oldtimers knocked off the powerful Bramalea squad, but it just wasn't enough as they tried to win their own tourney at Prospect Park on the weekend.

The local Oldsters claimed the first game of the double knock-out final 3-0, but came up just short losing 4-3 in the second game.

The Harvey's Firestone crew opened the tourney with a 3-2 win over Scarborough before suffering their first loss of the event, 6-3 to Bramalea.

From there the locals went on a winning streak that included victories over Rexdale 3-2, Dwyer Truck 5-3, Milton 2-1 and the 3-0 win over Bramalea, before the second loss eliminated them.

Acton third sacker Jules Russiani was voted the tourney MVP, scoring five runs and being voted MVP in three separate

games.

It took the Acton Oldtimers eight innings to pick up their first win of the tourney as Milt Ball doubled and scored in the extra inning for the win.

Scarborough scored in the first and third innings while Acton matched them in the second and third, but from then on it was scoreless until Ball's smack.

In their second game the locals waited too long before coming to life, scoring all three of their runs in the final inning. Al Avery, Ball and Tim Penny did the damage for Acton after Bramalea had built up a 6-0 lead.

Acton rebounded scoring thrilling seventh inning win over Rexdale. Acton scored twice in the first inning while Rexdale counted in the first and fourth to deadlock the match, before Wes Kutasienski's base hit drove

home Penny with game winning run.

Four first inning runs provided the win for the Acton crew against Dwyer Truck Lines as Russiani, Tom Brain, Wes Kutasienski, and Jack Gudgeon all crossed the plate. A run by Penny put the icing on the cake in the fourth before Dwyer tried in vain to come back in the fifth with three runs.

Two third inning runs were enough to lift the Acton team past Milton and into the tourney final as Russiani and Brain again combined, scoring on Ball's double. Milton got one back in the sixth inning off Grant Usher, but the locals held on for the win and a shot at Bramalea.

Bramalea was stymied by the pitching of Roger Levesque in the first game of the final as they stranded nine runners in the seven inning contest.

Russiani scored twice for Harvey's Firestone with Brain crossing home for the other. Acton made the most of their chances stranding just four.

It was not to be, however, as two second inning runs and another pair in the third lifted Bramalea to the tourney title 4-3.

Acton got a run from Ball in the second inning and another from Kutasienski in the third to keep it close, but the Acton squad fell one short when it was all over as Ball scored his second of the game in the seventh inning.

Other teams that competed in the event included Limehouse and Georgetown Casselman Fuels.

### Tourney Summary

- Bramalea 9—Limehouse 0
- Acton 3—Scarborough 2
- Milton 4—Georgetown 3
- Rexdale 2—Dwyer Truck 1
- Bramalea 6—Acton 3
- Scarborough 7—Limehouse 2
- Dwyer Truck 2—Georgetown 1
- Milton 7—Rexdale 5
- Dwyer Truck 9—Scarborough 0
- Acton 3—Rexdale 2
- Bramalea 11—Milton 4
- Acton 5—Dwyer Truck 3
- Acton 2—Milton 1
- Acton 3—Bramalea 0
- Bramalea 4—Acton 3

### Villa 'A'

## Lacklustre performance

by Dave Dodds

Desmond's Acton Villa "A" came up with a lacklustre performance on Friday night losing their first game of the season 1-0 to Georgetown Meteor Blue at home.

As the score indicates it was a very closely fought game. Meteors had the better scoring chances by controlling the play at midfield, an area in which coach Dave Lewis feels he

has to work with his team.

Any scoring chances Acton had were nullified as they had no finishing touches in front of the Georgetown goal.

Acton played unusually poor in the this game and nobody was really outstanding. Villa will get a chance to get their game back to normal Wednesday night (tonight) as they travel to Milton to face Butcher.

## Tinny Masales: baseball digest

by Paul Nolan

There comes a point in the existence of a sportsman when he becomes more recognized for what he represents than for what he actually did. One who is able to recall the game of baseball, rather than the business of it, is a natural resource in search of a diamond drill bit.

Grenville "Tinny" Masales is a gold mine.

Tinny is one of Acton's classic sportsmen, known to the youngest of local bowlers and the eldest of local ballplayers. To hear him speak is fun. What a concept.

He talks of his start in baseball, in 1916, at age twelve. Two years later, Tinny began to travel to Toronto regularly to see the old Maple Leafs play. By 1920, when Arlie White joined him, he was hooked for life.

"There wasn't any Sunday baseball back then," Tinny recalls, "so Whitey and I used to sneak into the hotels to see the boys. We'd mix with the ballplayers."

He remembers the players: Sparky Anderson, Dale Alexander, Elston Howard.

"They were good guys. Now there are so many millionaires, they don't bother with you."

Tinny's interest wasn't restricted to just watching the game, of course. In 1922, he captained the town's Halton County Junior Champions. Fondly, he reviews the lineup: Neil Gibbons, George Jiggins, Sparky Drone, Bill Kaley, Frank Bauer, Walter Bauer. Arlie White played some outfield and caught some games for the team. Bob Scott was the manager.

"We were given a banquet in the old town hall after we won," Tinny recalls. "The town presented us with V-neck pullovers."

The following year, while playing for the Acton intermediates, he drove into third



Lifelong sportsman Tinny Masales reflects back upon some interesting times in his association with area baseball.

base and broke his right arm, right ankle, and his right leg in a single slide. "I had to turn southpaw for a while," Tinny recalls "but that didn't stop me. The players now come out of the game if they have a hang-nail. In the olden days we played more for the love of the game."

It's enough to make one pine for the early days of baseball. When the grass was real rather than plastic; an organic vision on a lozy afternoon in July. Wormburners.

Tinny isn't a cynic. He knows what he likes, though.

"Right now in pro ball, I like Pete Rose. You know his heart's in the game when he runs to first base after a walk."

He also pledges his faith to the Blue Jays of Toronto. "I listen to their games every night on the radio when I can, and I try to make Saturday games when they're playing at home."

"I've taken a lot of kidding, but this year I have a bet that they finish fourth or higher in their division. And an outside chance of winning it."

Tinny is "very much a Jays fan" even though they play on astroturf in a concrete stadium. But it's no secret that adaptability is a characteristic of any classic sportsman.

Tinny talks of a time "when Whitey, Lloyd (Masales) and I would go around town asking the sponsors for five dollars toward the town's teams." He adds that he's "tickled to death that so many people in town sponsor the kids' teams of today."

Tinny admits, however, that his interest in softball isn't quite as sincere and his love of baseball. "Hardball may be coming back, though," he says, he hopes.

However, anyone who has ever spoken of the game with Tinny Masales would likely be quick to add that it's never really left.



Acton Oldtimer Ron Hachey reaches for a pitch



Pitcher Grant Usher ducks as Acton Oldtimer team-mate Wes Kutasienski fires a throw to Tom Brain on first base during action against Rexdale on Sunday. Acton won this game, 3-2.



Pitcher Grant Usher winds up in Oldtimer action against Rexdale on Sunday.



Acton Oldtimer Don Archibald fouls off a pitch against Rexdale in Oldtimer Tournament action Sunday morning.



Wes Kutasienski, of the Acton Oldtimers sets his sights on first base during tournament action at Prospect Park Sunday.

