

'Round Robin

with Robin Incoe



All-star fever

The names Ron McKnight and Dave Kentner are often associated with hockey in Halton Hills but their interest certainly don't end there.

McKnight, a dispatcher with the Town of Halton Hills, is a former Acton 'Citizen of the Year' and a long time hockey supporter and fan. He is currently the secretary-treasurer for the Georgetown Referees' Association, is involved with the Acton Minor Hockey program and is the past secretary of the Tri-county Minor Hockey. He is a seasons ticket holder to Leaf games and is as Montreal Canadian as they come.

Dave Kentner, might be considered the hockey czar of Georgetown. He built a team that claimed the Hardy Cup and then reverted his talents to helping minor hockey regroup in Georgetown. Now he's back with the Ralders hoping to build a Canadian Senior 'A' champion.

What do these hockey types do in the off season?

Usually they attend the Major League Baseball All-star game.

That's right, for the past three seasons McKnight and Kentner have headed out on one day excursions to Cleveland, Montreal and this season Detroit's Cominsky Park to watch the July classic that most of us dream about attending and then end up watching on television.

This season was the third such trip for the local pair and they are already looking at next season's date in San Francisco, to see if they might be able to make it four in a row.

Why do they take in the Classic? "You get to see the best of both leagues," states McKnight, "there are some players like those from San Diego or Houston that you never get to see here."

Both Kentner and McKnight admit that each game has different aspects they can remember but this year's game gets credit as being the best in both minds.

"It was the best game of the three," says Kentner, "because the American League won." "It was the 50th anniversary," stated McKnight, "and after 12 years the American League finally won."

The pair left Toronto International early on game day and made the trip to Detroit in 25 minutes, according to Kentner, but that wasn't allowing for the time change.

After picking up a car from friendly youngster at Budget Rent-a-car the pair headed to pick up their tickets. That may have been the most exciting part of the whole day.

They were apparently told to ask for a certain person but no one had ever heard of anyone by that name. A little panic and a few calls later they had their tickets, four of them. Seems there were to have asked for tickets in the name of the person.

Well, the pair did manage to get to the ball game and had a couple of the best seats in the house, right behind home plate.

Oh, I said a little earlier they had four tickets. Well, they could have made a killing. According to Kentner the \$20 tickets were going for \$300 but the local pair didn't make a penny. The friendly helper at Budget sure enjoyed the game though. See, it does pay to be friendly and courteous.

The game itself was one that Kentner will remember. "I felt a special tingle when Stieb stepped to the rubber to throw the first pitch," commented the Georgetown caterer, "I'm not a crazed ball fan but there was still a tingle."

That tingle could have changed in a hurry as Stieb threw the ball over Rod Carew's head for the first error of the day but it was taken in stride as part of the jitters. "The only thing that would have helped Carew would have been a step ladder," commented Dave with a smile on his face.

Unlike Kentner, McKnight admits to being a ball fan for some time although it hadn't been feasible for him to attend a game until the Majors came to Toronto.

Now he attends about 20 games per season while Kentner takes in about six. While everyone seems to be jumping on the Blue Jay Express Ron McKnight never was a Toronto supporter. "I go and usually end up cheering for the other team," says Ron. He's a Yankee man in the American League and an Expo or Dodger supporter in the National League. Kentner follows the Jays and the Yankees but says his hearts with the Jays.

After watching the best against the best and the American League finally win, the Halton Hills residents retired to a local hotel for the night before catching the plane home so Kentner could get back to work and McKnight could continue with a week's holiday. I might add that the flight home took slightly longer, two hours and 25 minutes, thanks to the time change.

"We met nothing but super people," commented Kentner who had nothing but praise for the U.S. hospitality and that may have something to do with the reason the pair keep on planning a day or two at the Major League Baseball All-star game. That or the fact that they get an opportunity to meet people like Joe Garagiola, whom McKnight met in a Detroit hotel and got an autograph from.

But my bet is that it's more two friends taking time in their off season (away from the hockey season) to enjoy an excursion and probably some of the best baseball you will ever see. Let's face it, it's good old fashion baseball with lots of hitting and scoring as this year's 13-3 score indicates.

For now, it's back to watching the Blue Jays and pennant fever.



The Acton entry of Double Trouble won the consolation crown of Saturday's Powderpuff tournament at Prospect Park. Team members are, front row left to right: bathoys Troy MacDougall and Derek Robson. Kneeling in second row are: Pat Gudgeon, Sue Stone, Joanne Miller, and Janet Britton. Standing: Judy Pink, Debbie Manes, Cathy Grandy, Jackie Phelan, Kathy Kealey, coach Dave Stone, Linda Corkum, coach Jim Robson, Sue Robson, and Georgina Beerman.



The action was fast and furious at Prospect Park Saturday as 12 powder-puff teams tried for the Acton Curling Club tourney honors. Above, the host club in action.

Free Press SPORTS



Acton Junior A's talented shortstop Rick Greenley tries to tag a Smith Falls runner out at third during a second round game at the Canadian Eliminations in Waterloo on Saturday. Greenley, who has been a regular with the squad the past few seasons left the club following Saturday's games to join the Armed Forces. He is currently in British Columbia. The A's finished the tourney with two wins and two losses. Blinbrook topped Guelph 1-0 in the final to earn the trip to P.E.I. Guelph is in first in the Ontario Junior Fastball League and Acton is one of only two teams to beat the Royal City squad.

Squeakers have Royals rolling

The Royals edged past the Roadrunners into second spot in Acton Industrial Fastball League standings with a 4-3 victory Sunday. Tim Ferguson, Ken Hurren, Ian Campbell, and Jerry Marshall all crossed the plate for the winners in the game.

For the Roadrunners, it was Don Richards with a pair and Bruce MacPherson adding a lone run.

The Royals' Marshall struck out 12 batters to record the victory.

The team got some more fine hurling that same day with Bob Pendley pitching a 1-0 shutout over the Bears.

The Royals pulled this one out with an eighth-inning run by Jim McNabb.

Last Wednesday, the second-place squad came up with another 1-0 squeaker. This time they got by Desmonds.

The game was almost identical to the win over the Bears, as Dave Lawson scored the winner in the eighth frame.

Marshall was on the mound for this one and A's 18 Desmonds batsmen.

In other action, Desmonds came back on Sunday with a 12-1 win over the Acton A's. Don Archibald, Gord Allen, and Gus Jeffrey all crossed the plate twice for Desmonds in the contest. Dave McGilloway, Terry Powless, Joe Daponte, Clint Peacock, Ron Wood, and Roger Levesque each registered a single count.

For the A's, Brian Canary was the first and only batter to reach home plate.

Also on Sunday, the A's pounded the Bears by a 15-4 score.

Scott Somerville, Brian Canary, and Sid Barends pocketed three runs each for the A's. Pairs of runs went to Chris Schuts, Bill Routledge, and Steve Townsley. Bruce Canary was credited with the win.

Gary Barends, Al Telford, Greg Robson, and Mide Petkoff grabbed runs for the Bears on the day.

The A's bats were hot the night before as they blasted the Roadrunners, 19-6.

John Kennedy and Bruce Canary pulled off three-run games for the winners. Somerville, Townsley, Vince Thornton, Paul Cargill, and Brian Canary all added two runs, and singles went to Earl Maltby, and Dan Allen.

Keith Fendley and Dave Black each had a pair of runs for the Roadrunners, while Don Richards, Ron Hachey, Tim McQuarre, and Bruce MacPherson scored loners.

In further industrial play, the Bears got by Canadian Tire, 7-1 on Thursday.

	W	L	T	PTS
Fread	15	4	1	31
Royals	11	9	0	22
Roadrunners	10	7	1	21
HH Furniture	10	7	1	21
Acton A'S	9	9	2	20
Desmonds	9	9	1	19
Bears	6	13	1	13
Cdn. Tire	4	15	1	9

Kilpatrick scores game's only goal

by Dave Dodds
Desmonds' Acton Villa "A" returned to the win column by virtue of a 1-0 victory over Brackens in Acton Wednesday night.

As the score indicates this was a hard fought, entertaining game. The only goal came when the Brackens goalkeeper mishandled a free kick, Richard Kilpatrick pounced on it and slipped it into the net.

Villa's defence played well, although Brackens never looked like scoring in this game. Acton's best players were Richard Kilpatrick and Tony Quinn on the wings, as they gave the Brackens defence headaches and set up numerous scoring chances with fine crosses.

The game got a bit chippy at times, but the referee who handled the game well kept things under control and some nice soccer was played by both teams. Coach Dave Lewis thought the new players he brought up for this game played well and soon will have a well balanced team after they get a few games under their belt. Villa "A" play in Georgetown this Wednesday with an 8:30 kick off at Cedarvale.

Acton Villa "B" who didn't play last week return to action this week as they travel to Milton to play Milton Rangers with a 7 p.m. kick off. Let's hope they have a full squad of players for this game, as it would make things a lot easier for coach Bernie Fryers.

Juniors make presence felt

The Acton Junior A's Fastball Club didn't come home winners at the Canadian Eliminations this past weekend in Waterloo but they reached the final 10 before bowling out.

A total of 31 teams from around Ontario were competing for the right to travel to Prince Edward Island as Ontario's representative and the A's met some top notch competition in the process.

The Acton Juniors came out 7-3 winners in their opening game of the double knock-out event defeating Grimsby. Their luck wasn't as good as Smith Falls set them down 5-0 in their second contest before rebounding with a 7-2 triumph over North York. Jordan put the final nail in the A's coffin Sunday as they scored a 7-2 win eliminating the local squad.

The A's jumped on Grimsby early in their opening match claiming three runs in the first inning and singles in the second and third and a couple more in the fifth before Grimsby claimed three in the bottom of the fifth.

Glen Scott walked to lead the game off for the A's and after Gord McArthur sacrificed him over Dick Spear, reached safely. A single by Kelly McArthur scored two of the runs and McArthur rounded on a wild pitch and an error.

Mark Duval added to the Acton lead in the second inning as he doubled and scored as Tim Baker picked up a base hit.

Dick Spear extended the 4-0 lead in the third with a single swing of the bat and then Dick Spear and brother Roy Spear touched home in the fifth before Grimsby got on the board.

Dick Spear claimed the win from the mound striking out six in the seven inning match, allowing five hits. Kelly McArthur was two for two at the plate while Gord McArthur, Dick Spear, Dave Wilson, Duval and Baker pounded out one each.

In their second match, against the Smith Falls Junior Redmen the A's had trouble finding the batting handle.

Acton gave up a couple of first inning runs and then two more in the third and another in the seventh before getting their first and only base hit. Kelly McArthur broke the no-hit performance with a single with one out in the seventh.

Roy Spear suffered the loss pitching five innings before getting relief from Dave Wilson.

The A's bats came to life in their third game of the day Saturday as they claimed nine hits and seven runs before allowing North York pick up their two.

The A's claimed three runs in each of the second and fourth innings with Glen Scott providing the home run power in the second. Kelly McArthur reached on an error in the inning and scored on a Dave Wilson single to give Acton the lead. Scott followed Wilson with a two run shot and the A's were on their way.

Four straight singles in the fourth inning provided three more runs. Rusty Elliott, Rick Greenley, Gord McArthur and Tim Baker picked up the base hits.

Kelly McArthur added the final Acton run of the game as he reached on another North York error and scored on Dave Wilson's single.

Back at it early Sunday morning the A's probably wished they had stayed in bed. Five Jordan runs in the first inning all but ended the contest. Four errors and a walk, along with one hit did the damage to A's starter Dick Spear.

Jordan got two more off Acton reliever Roy Spear in the fifth before the A's got on the board with two of their own in the bottom of the inning.

Dave Wilson and Glen Scott touched the plate for the A's as Gord McArthur's single scored a pair of RBI's. The A's tried again in the seventh leaving a pair of runners but couldn't find enough to pull out the win and advance.

Now it's back to league and Ontario playoffs for the A's as they strive to claim the Ontario Junior Fastball League title.

Bullers soak Georgetown

The Acton Sit N Bullers shutout the Georgetown Ladies 3-0 last week tremendous rainstorm.

Carole Saxon registered a pair of markers for the locals in the match, while Pat Timmerman had a single.

Lenora Strokes, Carol Bousfield, and Sue Wilson all played well on defence to hold the win together.



Teamwork

Scott Hibbard, left, and Ken Kavanaugh of the Acton Tennis Club's Inter-County entry team up to return a volley in action Thursday. Acton drew with Brampton in the match.