



# Jock Tock

By John Bottomley

## Three Acton teams end season with big wins

Three Acton teams distinguished themselves in varying degrees this week, the major atoms, the minor bantams and the minor peewees.

The atoms of course, took Milton in five games to win the OMHA zone championship for "A" level teams. The last time a zone title rested in Acton was ten years ago, when the same age group, then called novice, did the trick.

The atoms had to eliminate five teams from the playoffs to get where they did, the same number of teams you would have to face if you were making a run for an All-Ontario championship.

It is an achievement well worth praise, the more so because the Acton team, a "BB" club, got its title playing against "A" clubs.

It was just an odd coincidence, but Acton, Georgetown and Milton all had top-notch major atom teams this year. Georgetown took the "AA" zone championships just last week, yet Milton defeated them six games out of six in the regular Tri-county season, finishing the season with an unblemished record.

The Milton team really showed their stuff after the surprise of the first two games. They proved they were a fine team to come back as hard as they did when they were in a corner. The losses to Acton must have been a big shock to the Milton atoms, but they did not let up, to their credit.

## Forwards learned that they can score

One important thing about these final games against Milton: the Acton forwards learned that they too could score. The talent has been there all along, but the boys have always been content to give the puck to Mike Hudson. With him back on defence, the other forwards had to do their own scoring, and they proved they were capable of getting their goals against a tough Milton squad.

In the end, that might be the best part of the series for the boys from a playing standpoint. When a team is playing in the younger age groups it can get away with having a one man team, but the higher you go, the harder that gets. Witness what happened to the atoms when they came up against some really strong teams in the finals. They were very nearly dropped by Paris. Now the boys know they can do it, it will make them a far better team next year.

Coaches Bob Faseruk and Andy Berry, as well as manager Bob Raine have done their job well. This is not just a good team, it is a good, clean team. The boys have been taught sportsmanship and fair play, and that is the most important thing they will ever learn from sports.

## Bants, peewees take trophies for league and consolation

The minor bantams, after being eliminated from OMHA playoffs by Southwest London came back to the Wellington-Waterloo series with style, taking the league championship with ease from Elmira.

The bants have performed well over the season, and with their win became the only Acton hockey team of the year to win a league title in Wellington-Waterloo action.

The minor peewees took the Wellington-Waterloo consolation championship after a three game series with Fergus. They played 53 games this season, and coach Barry Inscope reports he is very pleased with the boys' play. Congratulations to all these teams, their coaches and their managers.

## More sports in Acton for summer athletes

It looks like there could be a bigger variety of summer sports for Acton kids to choose from this summer. If things go right, there will be a minor lacrosse system set up and three girls' soccer teams playing.

Until this year, there has been no outlet for girls to play soccer in Acton, mostly because of a relatively small interest. Which is not to say the interest was insignificant, but there just were not enough people to form a girls' house league, either players or managers and coaches.

Now the personnel problem has been solved by the Georgetown girls' soccer house league. Acton teams will be able to play in the league, which gives us a start on the road to having a full girls' house league of our own.

The lacrosse system is also a good idea, I tend to think. Judging by the number of young people who were watching the Junior C Rams last season, there is plenty of interest among local kids in the sport. With the number of good lacrosse people we have in town, we should be able to find coaches and managers easily to look after three teams.

There is also a possibility of getting a senior team this season. I don't know yet if they would play league games, which I doubt, or exhibition games, which is more likely. Many members of the All-Ontario champion Rams of a few years ago are still in town, and would make a strong team if they got together again.

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## Sports & Recreation

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Second Section

# Atoms stop Milton in O/T to gain OMHA zone title

Pulling superforward Mike Hudson back to defence proved to be the key for the Acton major atoms as they topped a determined Milton squad 4-2 in overtime Saturday, taking the OMHA "A" zone championship with the win.

Hudson was being shadowed throughout the series by Milton's Paul Rowan, and atoms coach Bob Faseruk called it "the best man to man coverage I've ever seen." By pulling Hudson back on defence, Faseruk broke up the powerful Rowan-Tim Pollen combination that could have hurt the Acton squad.

"If Milton had played those two together, it would have been much tougher," Faseruk commented.

The two teams played to a 3-3 overtime tie last Wednesday at the arena.

The Acton atoms had been looking forward to a matchup with the much heralded Milton atoms for a long time, but Faseruk contends that it "didn't bother me who we played as long as we won."

With Hudson back on defence, the other team for-

wards had to take up the slack. Trying to fill the gap left by a player who scored more than 155 goals during the season was a tall order, but the atoms came through, especially Tony Van Dam and Sandy Waites. Van Dam was moved from defence to forward to replace Hudson, and contributed one goal and two assists in his first outing up front.

Last Wednesday's game was a clean, fast, up and down affair, with both teams wanting the win. Milton had their backs to the wall and Acton wanted to wrap it up at home, and the combined determination led to some exciting hockey.

Milton found the range first after six minutes in the first frame as Gary Bissonette connected on a screen shot from the point which sneaked by Steven Taillefer. Les Berry tied it up two minutes after from Van Dam to end the scoring in the period.

Van Dam gave Acton a 2-1 lead with four minutes left in the second period, taking a pass from Berry and Hudson for the score. Pressure by Milton paid off when Tim

Pollen dropped the puck behind Taillefer for their second goal.

Neither team could manage a score in the third period and the game went into overtime. Milton drew first blood here when Perri Hood broke through a pack of defenders to score. Faseruk pulled Taillefer in the last minute and the play worked as a Milton pass went astray and was taken in for a score by Hudson. Assists on the goal went to Van Dam and Sandy Waites.

Only three penalties were called in the game, each going to the visitors.

Saturday's game was again a fast played contest, with Acton determined to wrap it up. The Acton team benefited from a sterling performance by Taillefer in nets.

The game was scoreless until the halfway point of the second period, when Rowan connected to put Milton in front.

Bruce Raine tied the game with a long and low solo shot that fooled the Milton net-tender. Score at the end of the period was tied at one all.

Terry Danagher gave



MILTON CLEAR the puck from in front of their own net. Final games of the playoffs were close,

Acton their first lead of the game after just thirty five seconds of the final frame, connecting from Waites for the score.

Their lead lasted just two minutes before the Rowan-Pollen combination that had worried Faseruk clicked to send the game into overtime.

The overtime period was tight throughout, Waites scoring the winner with 4:15 remaining. Hudson garnered an assist on the point. With time running out, Milton

coach Bill Maxwell pulled his goalie in an attempt to gain the tie. The plan failed as the puck was sent to centre ice where Hudson picked it up and rifled it into the empty net with 17 seconds left.

Coach Faseruk made special mention of the defensive play of Dave Thomas, through the whole series.

On their way to the title the atoms compiled a record of 35 wins, 6 losses and four ties, including tourney and playoff games. They finished the

with two going to overtime. Both teams were pressing for the win.

season in second spot in the Wellington-Waterloo standings, despite a sparkling 19-1 record.

They eliminated five teams in playoff action, starting with two game sweeps of Orangeville and Elmira, taking three to eliminate first place finisher Hespeler, going to six against a tough Paris squad and finally taking Milton in five.

The boys did all this playing as a "BB" team against "A" teams, a fact which makes

their feat all the more amazing. Some of the teams they played came from towns with double and triple the population of Acton.

As part of their victory celebration, the players are being treated to a tour around town on the 1977 Studebaker fire truck Saturday at 1 p.m.

Although they have been getting calls for exhibition games with other zone champions, the atoms have called it a season and are hanging up their skates for the year.



ACTON ATOM NETMINDER Steven Taillefer was hot between the pipes for the final series with Milton, and his play made a big difference in the outcome.



ACTION WAS HEAVY when Acton and Elmira minor bantams played for the league title. Rick Greenly applies some body to halt Elmira forward, while Tim Ferguson awaits the outcome. Bants swept series in two straight.

## Minor bants blank Elmira to bring home league trophy

Acton minor bantams became the first Acton team to win a league championship this year as they topped Elmira 3-0 last Tuesday to complete a two game sweep of their Wellington-Waterloo playoff finals.

Tim Shields played a strong game in the Acton nets to deserve the shutout. Because his family is moving to the States in the summer this may have been his last game in an Acton uniform after many years of excellent goaltending.

The bants did all their scoring in the first period as Rusty Elliott gave them a 1-0 lead, all they needed, after just two minutes of play. Rob Vermeulen took advantage of a powerplay situation half-

way through the period, notching an unassisted score while Elmira's Gary Weber was off for a hooking charge. Tim Ferguson completed the scoring thirty seconds later from Andy Valvods.

Jeff Gill and Tim Evans were credited with assists on Elliott's game winner.

Acton were called five times for penalties playing in the Elmira rink. The home team picked up six charges. Acton blanked Elmira 3-0 in their first meeting last March 29, getting goals from Tim Ferguson, with a pair, and Mark Duval.

After compiling a 17-2 record in regular season play, the bants were eliminated by a big Southwest London team in OMHA playoffs. They then

eliminated Hespeler to earn their way into the league playoff finals.

The championship trophy and crests were presented to the winners after the game with congratulations from the Elmira team and fans.

Team scoring stats			
G	A	Pts	
Mark Duval	33	29	62
Rob Vermeulen	24	27	61
Gord McArthur	29	15	44
Tim Ferguson	18	15	33
Tim Evans	15	16	31
Jeff Gill	12	15	27
Jeff McNabb	6	8	14
Rusty Elliott	5	7	12
Rick Smith	1	10	11
Mike McRae	2	8	10
Brad Manes	2	5	7
Tim Shields, (G)	0	0	0
Tim Baker, (G)	0	0	0

Coach of the team is Cope Smith and the managers are Steve Marshall and Wilf Duval.

Minor bantam record  
Gp W L T Gf Ga  
57 36 17 4 191 109

Goalie stats  
Tim Shields played 30 games with a 17-10-3 record. He allowed 60 goals and posted five shutouts. Goals per game average was 2.00. Tim Baker played in 27 games, winning 19, losing seven and tying one. He registered nine shutouts, allowing only 47 goals for a 1.79 average.

## Level one registration

The coaching level one technical course for softball attracted 30 people and about half of them came from Halton Hills, according to Acton recreation supervisor Karen King.

A level one technical clinic for soccer has produced 20 registrations so far. Miss King pointed out there is still room for more.

The level one coaching theory course is being offered in Acton library over the next four Sundays.

Completion of both courses plus a certain amount of practical coaching experience qualifies a coach as a level one coach. This does not mean much now, beyond giving you a better background for coaching, but according to Miss King, "a few years down the road if certain sports bodies are organized enough some may require this sort of training."

One course, the Ontario Athletic Therapists' Clinic, had to be cancelled.



MINOR BANTAM RACES past two Elmira defencemen with the puck in last Friday's win at the arena. Acton lead the best of three final series with one win.