# Jim Ridley joins American League expansion team

By Colin Gibson Herald Sports Editor

Jim Ridley, a Physical Education, Guldance and Health School, has come to terms with the Toronto Blue Jays-an expansion team that will enter into competition in baseball's American League next season to act as part of their scouting team, whose purpose is to go out and discover Canadian ball players with the potential to go

on to the professional leagues. Jim signed an agreement with the Blue Jays on November 15 and his main duties will commence next April when he will be principally in charge of scouting players in the Inter-County and Niagara Peninsula he is aware of Canadian talent.

League. Between now and next April, Jim expects that he will be conducting clinics and attending speaking engagements: aff the while keeping teacher at Stewarttown Public his ear to the ground for word on talented area players.

> The Blue Jays have named Bobby Prentice as the head of the Canadian scouting operations and Ridley and Prentice are no strangers to each other. From 1973 until coming to terms with the Toronto team, Ridley worked under Prentice as part of the Detroit Tiger scouting contingent. Prentice, spent 17 years scouting for the Tigers, the last 10 of them as a full-time scout in Canada, so

Other sub-scouts that have been named, include; Ric Fleury, Manager of Leaside Maple Leafs, of the Holton County Senior League; Brian McRobbie a former catcher in Senior ball and John Osborne, a former infielder, now teaching in Edmonton.

The Blue Jays offer affords Ridley a chance to scout on a higher level, with more responsibility and authority. He views it as an opportunity to discover whether baseball is really his calling and in blunt terms, "whether or not, it likes me and I like it." All things considered, Ridley is willing to give the baseball world the next two or three years before he makes the final decision on whether to continue or devote

his time to the academic field. Jim's wife Penny, has given him her blessings to explore all possibilities.

"She's all for it," noted Jim. "To be honest, she got n bit angry at me last summer. because I was a bit bored. Penny believes that I should be happy and doing what I want to do and if it's baseball, then so be it." Jim and Penny have a five-month-old daughter Shannon, but she was unavailable for comment.

The better part of Ridley's life has a been spent travelling the baseball route and at times the way was paved with rocks, by no means a "Yellow Brick Road." He grew up in the west of Toronto and played minor ball in Toronto's Lake-

shore district. By his midteens his talents were becoming obvious and his team, the Columbus Boys Club, won the City Junior Championship in 1961 and 1962. In 1963, Jim was signed to a professional contract by Roland Gladu and Jim Fanning thow with the Montreal Expos) scouts for the Milwaukee Brayes. Then, the living-out-of-a-suitease life of a

minor leaguer began. In 1963,

Ridley played for five different

teams but blossomed in 1964

with West Palm Heach, of the Florida State League, That year, Jim's team won the league pennant and he was named to the loop's All-Star team. As a centre-fielder, Ridley won the defensive outfielder's crown, led the league in ionship twice and was named

triples and was second in stolen bases, with 14 and secoond in the league in hitting, batting .281.

In 1965, Ridley signed a Triple "A" contract and the traumas of the baseball player began. He injured his leg in spring training and upon his recuperation discovered that the "Powers-that-be" wanted to convert him to a pitcher. Jim attempted to obtain his release but was told "no way". Ridley packed his bags and headed for Quebec, where he played in the Quebec Senior Provincial League (Outlaw Professional) frum 1965-1971. During his tenure in Quebec Ridley won the batting champ-

on the other foot

buzzer ended the first period of

At that point, the count read

5-1, in the Raider's favor, and

to state that they dominated

the first period, would

ments on the bench.

the league's MVP in 1970. In 1971 the league folded and the highway beckoned.

Ridley returned to Ontario and played for the Toronto Maple Leafs, of the Intercounty League and 1972, proved a banner year. The Leafs won their league and playoff championships as well as the Ontario Championship, Jim won the batting title, with .386 average and was named the All-Star centrefielder.

Managerial aspirations then took over and Jim went to the Stratford Kraven Knits in 1973. where he managed and played the outfield. His team won the league title but lost in the playoffs, however, Jim was chosen, the All-Star Manager.

In 1974, Ridley expanded on his success.

His team won the loop title and Ridley emerged as the Triple Crown winner (batting, RBI's and homeruns) was named to the All-Star team and declared both regular sea-

son and playoff MVP. 1975 saw Jim move to the Guelph Forums, where he managed and played centrefield, but injuries plagued Jim personally and it wasn't a memorable year.

Last winter, Jim underwent a spinal fusion operation that effectively ended his playing career but now, the Blue Jay endeavour, could open up even brighter prospects.

Jim's scouling philosophy is simple. "You have to go out

and beat the bushes for talent" he commented "and I'm sure that there's an abundance of talent in Southern Ontario." The Georgetown baseball scene will be given close examination by Ridley and he would

like nothing better, than to see a local lad take the big step. The Blue Jays will have a team in operation in the New York-Pennsylvannia Rookie Leauge this coming June through August and Bob Prentice, Head Blue Jay Scout would like to see four or five Canadian ballplayers on this team.

Ridley is working towards this objective too and his task, as he puts it is now clear-out. "It's simply a matter now, of going out and finding the ballplayers with the ability."

COLIN GIBSON, SPORTS EDITOR

# Swimming Rebels prepare for season

By DREW CLARKE The GDHS Swimming Rebels, in preparation for the Halton County Interscholastic Swim Season, took a break from routine practices on Friday to participate in their first real test, an intrasquad

A large turnout enabled Coaches Tom Adams and Joyce Finley to divide the team into two balanced squads to compete head to head in a full slate of events. The meet served two purposes; it gave those swimmers in their competitive debut a chance to themselves under pressured race conditions and aiding their confidence but also providing coaches Adams and Finley with an opportunity to assess the training program and progress of their swimmers so far.

The meet itself was a spirited affair and highlighted the renewal of old rivalries among last year's teammates and some surprises from the ranks of the newcomers. Based on a scoring system which allocated 5 points for a 1st place finish, 3 for 2nd, and a single point for 3rd, the Rebel Blues squad captained by Gary Brown emerge vicorious by a 133-115 county over the Rebel Reds captained by Drew

Coach Adams was enthused by the overall performance

readers would like to share.

Sports Comment

Students question

sport's importance

By Colin Gibson

Herald Sports Editor

somewhat from the usual athletic fare, I had an interesting

experience last Wednesday afternoon, that I'm sure my

lism Department, had asked me to address some first and

second year students enrolled in the journalism course. I

must admit, I didn't really know what to expect, or

conversely what they expected of me, but as it turned out,

any situation, with the view that there is always something

to be learned, no matter how trivial. Wednesday's session

allowed me an opportunity to get a youthful perspective on

news, in general, and sports, in particular, and several

opinions that were expressed were refreshing to say the

year journalism students and they, quite naturally, were

concerned about such matters as financial considerations,

work-loads, responsibilities and opportunity for advance-

ment. What was note-worthy, however, about the meeting

with the second year students was that they were very

concerned about the stability and made it clear that they

were investigating all aspects of the journalistic world

in the state of our economy but it does demonstrate that

students and in this case, journalism students, are aware

that all is not roses in the working world and that career

students, who had chosen newswriting as an elective.

While the format employed was that of an interview, with

the students taking on the role of reporter, I turned some of

the questions around and re-directed them back to the

athletes, as a whole, are coddled, overpaid and receive

much more publicity than they truly deserve. One lad,

however, disagreed with this view and felt that Canadian

athletes should receive more money and this solution

Canadians into the athletic field, money should be poured

into athletics and that lucrative salaries should be

available once the pinnacle of sporting success was

reached, to act as an incentive. Strangely enough, as one

student pointed out, this is exactly what is happening now

and in no way, has Canada's amateur athletic endeavours,

in the international forum, improved to the point of being

outstanding high , school athletes (and she used her

brother's case as an example) received, virtually, a free

ride through school and exited with little, in terms of

educational benefits, than they had when they entered the

Perhaps these students, with their apparent disati-

staction for the athletic scene were exceptions. However,

it was obvious that there were some blatent problems in

Canadian sports that the students saw fit to comment upon

and for the most part, much of the criticism was justified.

Canada, it is apparent, that there must be a return to

basics. A re-vamping of the sports philosophy and actual

physical programs and it must be done at a very basic and

early, level. The youngsters are the ones that are being made to suffer because of inadequate programs and quite

naturally, their disatisfaction percolates outward as they

satisfied with half-measures. This is where improvements must be made and this is where the biggest dividends will

Youngsters are aware, nowadays, and they won't be

To improve the image of sports, especially in

A young female student was of the opinion, that

would solve our international athletic problems.

This, I feel, is a reflection of the general uncertainty

The second session was with a class of first year

The consensus of opinion was that professional

It was his opinion that in order to attract more young

before taking that first, all important step.

decisions must be made very carefully, indeed.

class.

noleworthy.

be found.

secondary school route.

The first skull session was with a class of second

it was a rather satisfying afternoon, for all concerned.

While this week's "Sports Comment" might digress

Ben Rose of Oakville's Sheridan College, Journa-

I am of the opinion, that one should enter situations

and spirit shown by his swimmers at the meet, but was cautious in pointing out that everyone of them needed work. He did however feel that hte meet would provide his charges with valuable experience and confidence going into next week's first meet at

M.M. Robinson's Angela Coughlan Pool in Burlington, The Swimming Rebs, who hope to move into the front ranks among Halton Swim teams, could aid their own cause with a good performance against M.M.R. Nelson, White Oaks, and Lord Elgin all of whom finished above Georgetown in last year's Halton Championships.

The final selections have been made, and Coach Larry White and Manager, Howard Briggs, feel they have a talented group on their Neilson's Midget 4-Town squad.

In order of selection, the team includes Steve Dodge, Larry Davis, Darren Kushmash, Alex Virag and Edgar Thatcher. Steve Krajacich. Alan Bower, Joe Spitzer, Jim Taggert, Curt Brownlee and Bill Kent help round out the squad, while the final selections included Scott Wilson, Ross Jeffery, Jamie Hanson, Scott Turner and Randy Dou-

RAIDER COACH, RON DIXON, wears a worried, the Riaders came up with an imsomewhat solemn expression, while viewing pressive performance and dropped the his charges in action during Monday might's. Athletics by a 7-3 count

# Raider-Thorold game Dixon needn't have

# Early slump halts Raiders

Thorold, the Georgelown Chrysler Raiders got off to a slow start, fell behind by a 3-0 count early in the Second period; then regained their composure and rallied over the last period-and-a-half only to come up a bit short

· The suspension that Raider stalwart, Neil Cotton is sitting out as a result of an incident in a game with Dunnville, quite probably had an effect on the eventual outcome, as Thorold scored one powerplay goal and counted two others while the teams were playing four aside The big Raider forward would no doubt have helped equalize the situation had he been able to don the blades

Thorold outshot the Raiders. 16-6 in the opening period, but Georgetown netminder, Mario MacDonald, couldn't really be faulted as only two rubber disks slipped by him. Campbell did the early damage for the Athletics, potting two markers within the space of 15

# Minor Atoms in first place

The Georgetown Minor Atoms played their most important game of the season last week and toppled Millon, 7-4, to claim first place in their league's standings.

The Georgetowners knew what a win represented and even though they were outplayed in the third period, held on to claim the crucial win.

The Minor Atoms surged to a 4-0 lead, midway through the second period and led, 6-1 before Milton finally got on track. Milton narrowed the local lead to 6-4 but the Georgetowners fought back and sealed the win with a goal just 22 seconds before the final buzzer

The win extended the Minor Atoms unbeaten string to 10 games and they are two points

up on Milton. Wayne Morrow and Keith Reiger fired a pair of goals, while Stephen Turner, Todd Cull and Brent Smith added singles. Danny King and Mike O'Brien had fine games, as did Stephen Marcolini, O'Brien picked up three assists.

The Minor Atoms played Oakville on Tuesday- at press time, the score was not available this Saturday they journey to Preston, while next Tuesday, they play Brampton.



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seconds, at the 18:39 mark, to saw the same thing happen allow Thorold to leave the ice Craig Simpson, on a pass with a 2-0 first period lead from Art Webster, got the Dave Pay extended the Radders to within striking Thorold lead to 3.0 with a goal distance with a goal at the 4:16

just a monute-and-eight seconds into the sandwich frame, but then, Raider Glen Robinson decided that enough was enough Robinson scored two massisted goals to get the Georgetowners back in the game, but his markers were interrupted by Pay's second marker of the game so that Thorold held a 4-2 lead just past the midway mark of the middle frame

Campbell got his hat trick at the 16-52 mark and the second period ended, with Thorold holding a 5.2 lead in the second, both goallenders were called upon to make nine

The Raiders problem. throughout the game, was that as soon as they got their of tense rolling. Thorold would bounce right back to destroy whatever momentum had been garnered Third period action

All was not gloom at the Raider bench however, and the local favorites kept pressing and at the 16:45 mark, Daley added his second of the night. As it turned out, there just wasn't enough time to overcome the early short-comings and Thorold held on to post the 8-5 win. Overall, Thorold outshot the Raiders, 34-25,

mark, but 14 seconds later.

Fred LaSeiva, blinked the red

light to once again give

Thorold a three goal ad-

(who is rapidly regaining his

classy style and scoring touch)

narrowed the Athletic margin

to 6 4, but once again, Thorold

apped the rally in the bud

Randy Montgomery scored a

powerplay goal at the 11:24

mark and Mike Poecer added

icing to the cake, with a

counter at the 12 50 mark.

At the 5:26 mark, Tom Daley

vantage, this time, 6-3

OHA Intermediate "A" standings as such as hard to come by and this is not the fault of the respective clubs who are vying for league laurels. Jack Searle, of Dundas, who is being paid by the loop's teams to compile this information has fallen down, badly, on the job, much the same as he did last year and to get stats, the various teams are finding that word-of-mouth information is a better pipeline than the league's official bureau.

Georgetown Chrysler Raider president, Neil Colton, passed on these stats. Monday night and simply stated, "This is all we've got." The statistics have been adjusted to include, Monday night's Raider-Thorold contest won by the hometown favourites, 7-3

LEAGUE STANDINGS

#### Thorold Georgetown Part Colborne Fort Erie Dundas Dannville 7 34 60

# Sunny Acre Midgets suffer first loss The Georgetown Sunny Acre Georgetowners managed just

Farms Major Midgets had their unbeaten string shattered last Sunday, when they were thumped, 5-1, by Oak-

In previous games, the locals had blanked Ching, 5-0, edged Millon, 3-2

Against Oakville, the in the corners. "Apples" were completely the opening frame. The games, can be recovered.

13 shots at the Oakville goaler and this tells the woeful tale Chris Murden, in nets for the Major Midgets, played well, but received little defensive help as his mates lacked

winpped Brampton, 7-1 and aggressiveness and were constantly beaten to the puck

On Wednesday (today) the outhustled, throughout the Sunny Acres lads meet Angame and the bad news came - caster and it's to be hoped that early, as Oakville scored their the team consistency, that was first goal, just 13 seconds into so in evidence in previous



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#### Chrysler Raiders avenge Friday loss to Thorold raiders The Georgetown Chrysler mulling over their Friday night Raiders effectively turned the win, but the Raider's first tables on the league's frontperiod dominence clearly estrunning Thorold Athletics, last ablished that this was, A NEW appeared willing to challenge John Langstreet, Tom Daley. Monday night in Georgetown; for the puck, John shifted GAME. gears and began to move up as the "Red and White" crew The second period saw a posted a decisive, 7-3 win and change in Thorold's attitude. the ice. He feinted past two Hooper, and while they outscored the staked a valid claim as con-Thorold players and from the tenders for loop laurels. Raiders, 2-1, they by no means edge of the face-off circle, Thorold had skated off to an controlled play as the Georgedrifted a waist-high slapshot 8.5 victory, in Thorold, on lowners continued with their Friday night, however, on

own positional, heads-up play. Monday the shoe, or as it Thorold found their skating literally was, the skates were legs, but the Raiders had never lost their's and matched the The way Monday's game visitors stride for stride and started out, the just over 200 emerged after 40 minutes of fans, might have been well play, with a 6-3 lead. advised to don protective head-The third period continued in gear as it appeared that yet much the same vein as the another offensive blitz was underway. Barely three-and-a-

second, with fast-paced, end-to end action highlighting play. half minutes had gone by and Both goaltenders, Upper in the local pucksters were alnets for Thorold and MacDonready in front by a 3-0 score. ald guarding the twine for the Thorold's Gino Farinnaci dec-Raiders, played superbly and ided to interrupt the Raider cheated rubber-bullet snipers scoring symphony when he on various scoring opportunitpotted a counter at the 4:41 mark but the hometown artists The fast-pace of the game, insisted that they were running

began to tell on both teams. the show and for good measure just past the 10 minute mark of scored twice more before the the third and final period and scrambly, centre-ice play took centre stage. When things did straighten out, however, it was the Raiders who carried the play and except for Upper, in the Thorold nets, the Athletics seemed at times, disoriented. Raider Captain John Boyce,

something of an understatement. The Chryslers had it all their own way, as the Athletics took advantage of a Thorold seemed content merely to put miscue with just four minutes in an occasional appearance to go in the game and provided on the ice, that rudely interthe crowd with one of the rupted their discussions congames outstanding individual efforts. Boyce corralled the cerning the seating arrangepuck in his own end and set up They might still have been the play. When no Athletic

towards the Thorold net. The Athletic goaltender, who had positioned himself well, was forced to smother the puck for a face-off, when Boyce charged in, in search of the possible retxiund

The games final goal was scored by Art Webster on a nice unassisted effort, with just 1:19 left to play and it capped a fine all-round, Raider performance. Tom Daley and Bill Currie, each fired a pair of goals for the Chryslers, while singles went to Glen Robinson. and Bob Elinesky. Overall the Raiders outshot Thorold, 40-29. For Thorold, Gino Farinnacci had two goals, while Frank Paone added a single.

The games' three stars as chosen by Art Stamp, were: Tom Daley, Bill Currie and Mario MacDonald.

MONDAYSLINEUP Mario MacDonald, John Boyce, Bob Elmesky, Ray Evans, Glen Robinson, Bob Fotheringham. Doug Tate. Pete Fendley Bill Currie, Craig Simpson

PAINTED Two parked cars in Glen Williams had white paint poured on them by unknown persons, Nov. 18, police said, Both vehicles were in their owners' driveway at the time.

Brad Butterworth, Steve Blundy, Art Webster and Craig

This Friday, the Raiders play host to Dundas, game time 8:30 p.m. at the Gordon Alcott Memorial, while the following Tuesday, they travel to Fort Eric.

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- · Reeve of Acton · Warden of Halton County

## CONCERNS

- High cost of education and resulting high taxes · Back to basics and the discipline of core curriculum
- Structured programs to ensure student mobility within the school system - Competition - minimum standards and goals
- System should rest of accountability of everyone involved
- Involvement of community in educational process.

## ISSUES

- Facilities should be functional, not expensive
- Add proven new methods, while retaining the best of the old . Demands for remedial teaching are excessive and increasing
- · Expenditure of approximately \$1,000,000 on a new Board room is highly questionable · Policies on re organization would benefit from further evaluation (e.g. demanding academic qualifications for Chairman as is presently required for department heads.)

For more information call (519) 853-1147 or (519) 853-1246

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