



# Former Expo wanted them to win



PIRATES



Bill Stoneman

By MARK CLAIRMONT  
Sports editor

When the Montreal Expos lost out in their bid to capture the National Baseball League's east division pennant title Sunday, many Canadians, and not just baseball or sports fans, were saddened. One Georgetown resident was especially disappointed, as the final race these last few weeks had brought back many fine memories from a decade ago.

Bill Stoneman was one of the game's finest young pitchers in 1969 when he became one of the first players to don an Expos uniform for Canada's first major league baseball team, when the team set up shop at an old diamond in downtown Montreal, call Jarry Park. Today, 10 years later, he is the manager of a Royal Trust Savings branch in Mississauga.

Monday evening he sat down with this reporter and talked about the Expos' pennant race and recalled with fondness his four years pitching for the then new expansion team.

**IT WAS A SHAME**

"It was a shame they were beaten," Stoneman said. "I was excited, I was pulling for them like everybody else. I was in Montreal (earlier in the year) and saw Atlanta play. I didn't expect them to do this well. A few games over 500 maybe. Nobody had a super year. Everybody had a good year and that's all you have to do. A good solid year and nobody slumping. And they did it."

Stoneman should know what it takes to have a good year. He has had a few. As an Expo the right hander had good years most of the time. In his first year he threw a no hitter, than in '71 he had 17 wins and in 1973 he had another no hitter. His credentials speak for themselves. He came up through the Chicago Cubs organization and in 1966 signed with them. He spent a couple of years there and then went to the Expos where he left to go to California Angels for a year before retiring back to Montreal, where his wife was from.

"Expos simply stopped hustling and scoring runs," Stoneman said. "They had to be tired with all the double headers they had in September. Under the scheduling they did okay. The scheduling beat them. And so did the Pirates. That's nothing to hang your head about. They deserve the credit."

**SECOND BASE**

Stoneman took up with the trust company in ... and two years ago they moved him and their

head office to Toronto. He took up residence here in nearby Georgetown. Just a few weeks ago he was transferred to Mississauga. For him that is great as he likes to be closer to home so that he can get more involved in community life. This summer he was a second basemen for the C&S Plumbing team in a mens' fastball league. "It's great." He was named the team's most valuable player. He and some of the players went to Toronto to see a Minnesota Twins and Blue Jay game, compliments of his former Montreal manager Gene Mauch, who was also in a pennant race in the American League west division.

"Nobody knows the game better," (than Mauch), says Stoneman. "Managing baseball is as much a motivational thing as anything. You have to make sure (the players) they give all they have." Dick Williams, Expos' manager this year, did just that to help the team get where they got, says Stoneman. "He had them wanting, to win."

The Expos "are a much different team than when I was with them. Steve Rogers is the only one left, he came the first year I was there. Then they brought (Rusty) Staub back from Detroit. Gene (Mauch) was a disciplinarian. The (Expo) team this year have a lot of talent but thrive on little discipline. They have awfully young and talented outfielders, where it is hard for a guy like Staub to break into the lineup. Even at first Staub is no (Tony) Perez, but he can still hit. Their pitching staff might be in pretty good shape (for next year). (Dan) Schatzler, (Dave) Palmer and (Scott) Sanderson look good. They're young and have real live arms. They'll probably use some of the older pitcher as trade bait. Maybe even Steve Rogers."

**LOVES GAME**

Bill Stoneman played eight years in the major leagues and still loves the game, even though his work schedule and ball schedule make it difficult to catch all the Wednesday night games he's like. But, playing is still his real love as one can see when he talks about his local fastball team.

Asked whether he would like to get back into baseball's big league again, Stoneman says, "You mean with the Blue Jays now? I don't think they want a manager of a trust company."

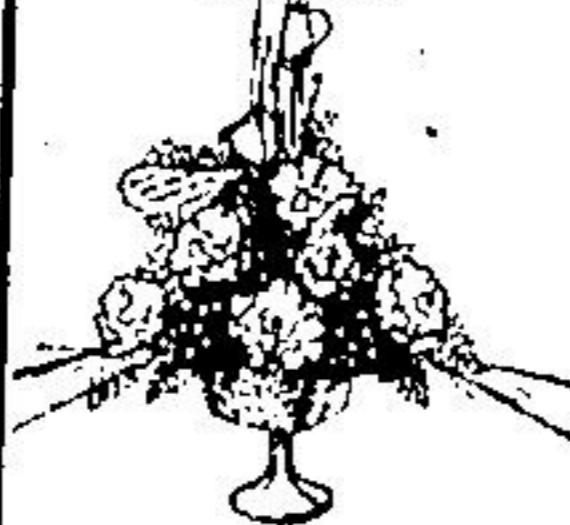


**SHOOTS!**

...Putting his all into this throw-in is a player on the Guelph men's team who are battling it out against Georgetown in men's soccer playdowns. The two teams play a tie-breaking sudden death final tomorrow evening in Guelph. Georgetown came back in this game last Wednesday to tie up the series with a 2-1 victory.

Remember  
Mother-In-Law's  
Day is Sunday,  
October 28.

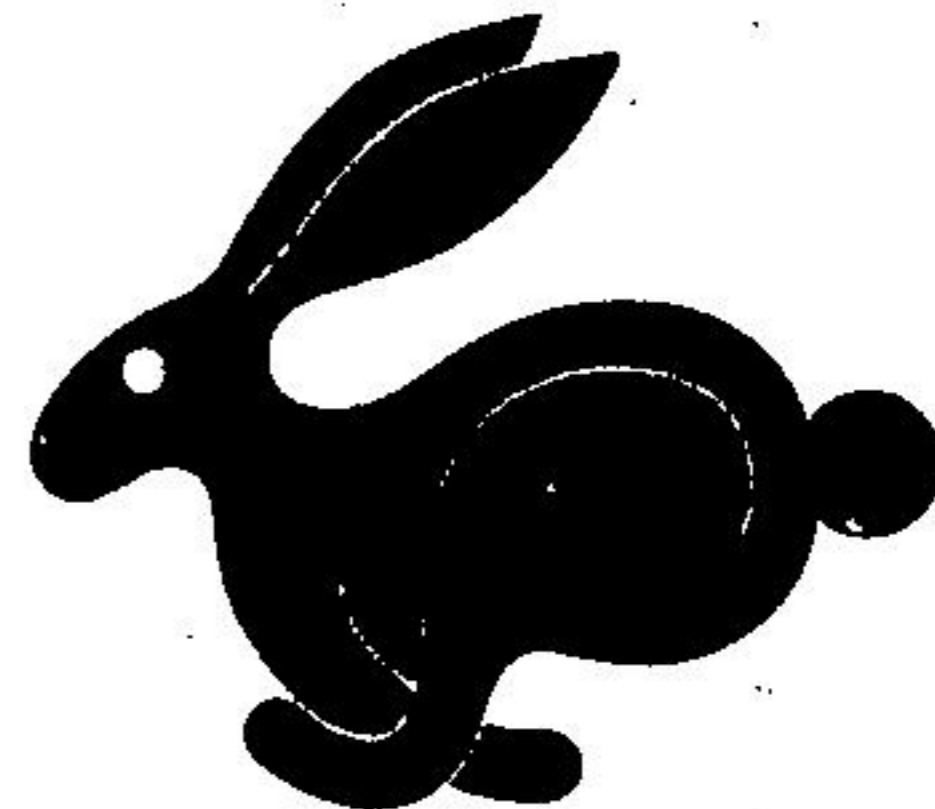
THIS WEEK ORDER  
OUR FTD CHARM-HER™  
BOUQUET.



She'll be charmed beyond words with our FTD Charm-Her™ Bouquet. Especially created to send or take to Mothers-In-Law everywhere. Call or visit us now.

**Family FLORISTS**  
82 Mill Street, Halton Hills  
877-6901  
The Greenhouse Florist

Pssst...  
Want to buy  
a Rabbit?



**The 80's are here**



**Baz Motors Ltd.**  
199 Guelph St.  
Georgetown

**877-5286**