

Rejuvenation sought in proposed Junior 'B' merger

Last night (Tuesday) at the North Halton Golf and Country Club, Georgetown Junior B Gemini elected a new executive and discussed an issue that could well lead to the building of a club able to beat the best in the Central League.

Although the meeting is past our press-deadline, it has been no secret that both the Acton Sabres and Gemini have been holding closed door talks on the topic of joining forces for the 1982-83 season.

The meeting last Tuesday could decide if the idea is workable and acceptable to the new executive members of the Gemini.

The Acton Sabres last Thursday re-elected virtually every member from the 1981-82 season and only added a few more directors, so their position on the matter depends on the response from Georgetown. Georgetown originally approached the

Sabres on the idea. Although both teams filed two separate entry fees for the 1982-83 season last April 15, the teams still could amalgamate, but approval must be sought through the governing body, the Ontario

Hockey Association. Scheduling for the Junior B league begins in early June, so if the teams were to join together, the agreement would have to be finalized within the next three weeks or so.

The OHA executive could not be reached for comment Monday, but Central Ontario Junior B convenor Bruce Ireland says he doesn't foresee problems in the OHA approving the merger.

Ireland says he's in agreement with an Acton-Georgetown merger because "one team in a community makes sense."

The most obvious advantage in amalgamating teams is the added selection of quality hockey players to draw from. A combined Halton Hills entry would have access to talent from two minor hockey systems, conceivably making them as competitive as perennial powerhouses like

Oakville and Burlington.

Three years ago Georgetown were defeated by Burlington in the first round of playoff action. Last year Acton were downed by Burlington in the first round in seven games, then were pushed out from further competition this year by the Oakville Blades in the first round.

"I can't see any one of us (Acton or Georgetown) going further than the first round of playoffs under the present system," Gemini general manager Bob Tost says.

Tost's personal opinion on the topic of merger is that it's a move in the right direction.

Both teams have much to gain from a joining of forces, for similar and different reasons. Acton has problems each year in finding enough ice time in September

because the arena is in use for the Fall Fair. If the two teams joined, the lack of practice time and pre-season ice scheduling would be alleviated.

The Georgetown Gemini would benefit

from combined fund-raising drives and the Acton Booster club.

Playoff hockey generates more revenue so a combined team able to survive more than one round of playoffs would also be more financially lucrative.

Crowd response from Acton and Georgetown fans would increase gate receipts and put both teams on a better financial footing.

Acton Sabres coach Jules Russiani is convinced a combined team would be a real contender - competitive enough to give Oakville and Burlington a real run for their money.

He sees the biggest advantage in building a strong competitive team, but financially the Acton coach also realizes the advantages for both hockey centres.

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Sports beat

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Sports Editor



JULES RUSSIANI

Acton Sabres coach sees a definite advantage in joining Junior B clubs. A Halton Hills team could challenge the perennial powers like Oakville and Burlington, he says.

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the HERALD Sportsweek

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Hoddinott captures title in annual squash tourney

Dr. Boyd Hoddinott won the "A" division final of the Georgetown Racquet Club's annual squash competition last Saturday night for the seventh consecutive year, beating Terry Madill.

The final club tournament of the season began six weeks ago when members started on the squash ladder where the top players met Saturday at the racquet club on Armstrong Ave. for the finals.

About 35 women and 90 men competed in the event. In the B division final it was Courtney Warner who outmaneuvered finalist Wally Zelek for top spot.

Bill Jack was the winner over finalist Les Johnson in the men's C championships while Dr. Bob Bourns defeated Jim Clark for the D division final.

The Men's Veteran division was won by Dave Steen as he defeated finalist Rod Eastwood.

LADIES DIVISION
Claiming a trophy in the Ladies A division was Dorreen Thompson who beat finalist Pat Harris. In the B division race it was Wendy Buykes who emerged the champion over Beth Steel.

The C division title went to Beryl Tyler who beat Mavis Eastwood, while the D category was claimed by Maggie

Patterson with the finalist title going to Sue Heslop.

Christine Kogon, one of the top ranked ladies in Ontario for squash received a special trophy from the club in recognition of her tournament play. She was the Ladies Open champion.

CONSOLATION
In the ladies consolation finals, Christine Williams was the D division victor while the C consolation title went to Cheryl Brown.

Brenda Sissett took the B category while Jan Cook was the A consolation victor for the women.

MEN'S CONSOLATION
In the men's consolation,

Chris Milne was the D category winner while Bill Le captured the C division title.

Doug Sowers was the B champion and Terry Gain was the A winner.

Local pro wants national golf tour

North Halton Golf and Country Club's Assistant Pro Terry Miskolczi is one of two Canadian organizers who are preparing for a Canadian Golf Tour in 1983.

Miskolczi, who has been a "Playing Pro" for North Halton for two years was on the Australian and New Zealand circuit this past winter.

In between playing dates, he is helping to establish a Canadian tour along with David Zinc, whose duties are confined to drumming up corporate sponsorship. Terry is responsible for setting up the qualifications for the tour.

"We have a lot of good Canadians, but no tour," Miskolczi says. "Our national organization has done nothing."

Already the plans include between 13-17 tournaments from coast to coast with three corporate sponsors committed to the project.

Miskolczi, who is the Canadian tournament player's representative, is hoping the tour would attract top international players with lucrative prize offerings, but he also realizes the need to support the golf talent in Canada.

The North Halton Assistant Pro is hoping to hold a press conference about the proposed 1983 tour this July.

Miskolczi has always worked at golf clubs since the time he was 14 years old. He went on a hockey scholarship as a goalie to Bowling Green State University in Ohio. After participating in varsity golf, track and field and hockey, he completed his Bachelor of Science degree.

Miskolczi was drafted and played two professional hockey games for Jacksonville. A Golf Pro since 1969, the Dunnville native has been affiliated with a number of clubs in Southern Ontario.

A golf pro assistant as compared to a playing pro is able to play more with members and take a more active role in merchandising, Miskolczi said.

Communication between the golf pro and the club members is something he wants to stress this summer and he hopes the Club Pros will be seen as teachers and "someone you can rely on."

A Georgetown resident for the past 11 years, Miskolczi will be writing a column on golf tips for The Herald on a regular basis and he invites your questions.

By calling The Herald sportsdesk at 877-2201, we will record your question and pass it on to Terry for him to answer in his column.

'Bill Smith' event June 21

The Sixth Annual Bill Smith golf tournament at North Halton Golf and Country Club will be on Monday, June 21 in Georgetown.

As in other years, the proceeds to the charitable tournament will go to the Canadian Cancer Society. Last year the tournament raised \$8,000 and the organizers are hoping for an even bigger and better turnout

this summer. Tee-off times are arranged for between 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please contact Brad Smith or Andy Murphy at 877-5161 to arrange a foursome if you wish to compete. Golf carts will be available on a first come, first served basis. Golfers participating can make donations in three different ways.

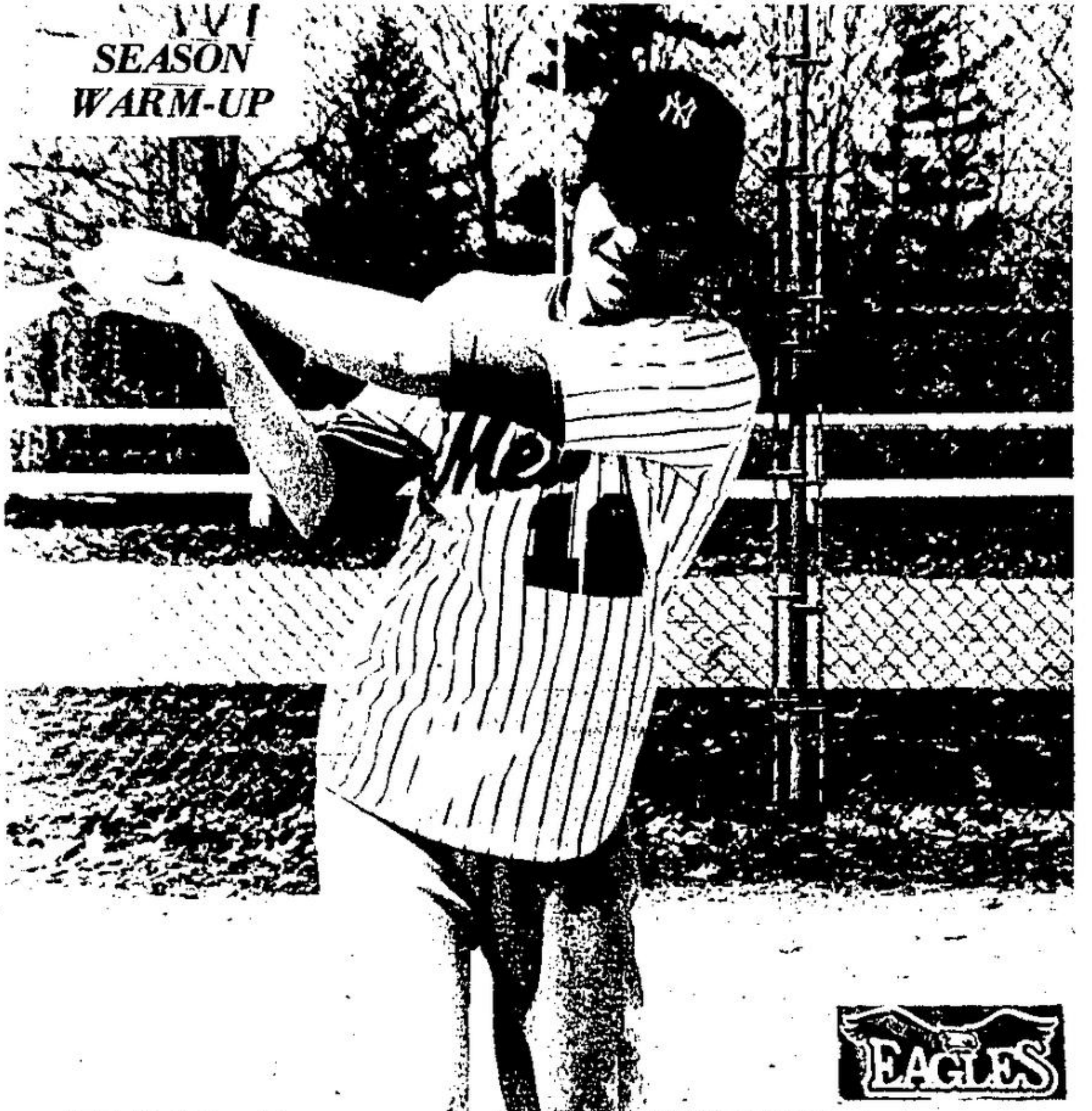
Saskatchewan-bound

On May 6, 282 athletes will converge on Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to compete in the 18th annual National Youth Bowling Council 5-Pin championships.

Representing Georgetown for Southern Ontario in the Bantam girls level are Michelle Webster, Toni McClements, Leanne Birt, Valerie Sabo and Lisa Brading.

The finalists are the end result of some 65,000 young bowlers who participated in elimination rounds which started back in January.

The championship will be conducted on a round robin, win and loss, match play system. The teams will bowl three games against each province and the singles two games against each province.



Captain Mike Friskney of the Georgetown Junior hardball club, the Eagles, warms up in a recent practice. Coach Kevin Burke is working the boys hard so they'll be ready for their season opener next week. (Herald photo by Ani Pederian)

Jon Cornwell second in Ohio dirt bike meet

Jon Cornwell, Georgetown, battled down to the wire with top American expert dirt trackers to take second place at this traditional season opening race in Ohio.

Some of the Americans were surprised to see Cornwell racing again with his accident last summer and the eventual winner sounded a little rueful when he commented after the final - "All I could hear was your motor - I couldn't shake you loose no matter what I tried!"

The racing between Cornwell and AMA rookie expert Tom Maitland was so hot and heavy the two riders easily outdistanced several of the seasoned veterans. During their heat Cornwell and Maitland knifed through the first turns ahead of the pack and dove into the corners with their tires rubbing and handlebars creaking.

On the third corner Maitland grabbed the lead with Cornwell tight on his tail. Two laps later Cornwell, cutting under Maitland tangled briefly with his bike and lost his brake pedal in the process.

The loss of the brake put a crimp in Cornwell's style but he managed in spite of it to hang onto second place.

The main event saw Cornwell and Maitland sitting on the front row with several other hot experts and again the two youthful experts

fought their way to the front. Maitland grabbed the lead right from the start but Cornwell, boxed in after a poor start carved a spectacular swath through the pack and by the fourth corner had settled down in pursuit of Maitland.

For nine more laps the two riders battled it out in every corner with Cornwell trying every move he knew to put Maitland out of position and Maitland hanging on desperately to his fragile lead.

By the end of the ninth lap the running dog fight had hauled every spectator to his feet and the roar was continuous as the thundering 750cc Harley Davidsons slid and bucked through the last turns.

Maitland edged ahead out of the last corner and streaked under the checkered flag a bare bike length ahead of Cornwell.

The two leaders outpaced the rest of the field by the length of the straightaway outdistancing some of the fastest talent in Ohio.

After the race Cornwell shrugged off the loss, saying "I kept taking the wrong line through corners one and two - it's really rough there and I kept hitting every bump and rut - that really cost me time - it's been two years since I rode this track and I've almost forgotten how to ride a soft cushion."

Asked if he would be back for the following weekend's race Cornwell shook his head - "No, I've got to get the bike ready for the National Championship Mile in

Springfield Illinois - there's an awful lot of work to do on it - we really just clobbered it together with some borrowed parts for this weekend - now we've got to get down to some serious tuning!"

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Area schools compete in road race

A number of young, and not so young runners competed very well in the Burlington Ninth Annual Road Race last Sunday, May 2.

This was a relay race with each member running approximately 3.75 miles to cover a 14.64 mile course.

Rhonda Ellard and Melissa Morey from St. Francis School teamed up with Jodie Ellard and Charlene van Cleef from Holy Cross. Running for The Cardinal Leger Track Club, they took first place for women 14 years and under.

Bruno Jaurnig, Darren Boudreau, Rory Kennedy and Joe McGuinness combined to give Holy Cross School a fourth place finish for men 14 years and under while Sean Cleary, Greg Clarke, Robble Morris and Brendan Cleary, all of Holy Cross School and running for the Leger Track Club, placed sixth in the same category.

The coaches got together to run the fastest time of 1 hour, 38 minutes and 56 seconds to place a respectable eighth for men 30-39 years, old. Coaches Rick Landry, Al Backmire and John Luciani with a grade 9 student, Danny Baptista, ran an average 6.39 mile over the distance.

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Close contact under the basket in ladies basketball action last Saturday afternoon was commonplace for the four remaining teams as they battled for the Georgetown crown. Spurs won the championship. Story on Page B5.