

# Sports Outlook

ROB RISK - Herald Sports Editor

## Dunlop surprises opponents en route to senior title



Dunlop Insurance second baseman Sandi Puckering hits the dirt to give shortstop Sue Walsh a good look at Re/Max player she was attempting to throw out at home plate. Walsh didn't stop the player from

scoring, but she was successful most of the season, which earned her MVP of the year honors in the Kinsmen Girls Softball League. (Herald photo)

The Dunlop Insurance Senior team surprised their opponents by winning the division title at the Fairgrounds on Tuesday.

After sitting at the bottom of their group, the Insurance squad beat Pictures and Presents 25-15, in the first of their round-robin playoff games. On Tuesday, they beat Mal Dodge's Re/Max 19-15 to take first place honours.

To add further insult to injury, the Re/Max squad, which had led the league for most of the season, were beaten out of second place when they lost 24-9 to Pictures and Presents.

Jim Ford, president of the Kinsmen Girls Softball league for the last 12 years, said this year was well run, but its senior division is in danger of being cancelled.

"It's really been deteriorating over the last three years. We had only 36 girls sign up to begin the season. You need seven players to field a team and for most games

they had to share people. I can remember when we used to have 12 senior teams."

Ford said one of the main reasons is the increase in fast food restaurants in Georgetown and more of the girls taking part time jobs after school.

"Otherwise, we had very good turnouts for the other groups and the parents always turned out in good numbers to help with the coaching or just to watch them play."

While he is unsure whether he will return as president of the league, Ford said he hoped interest among the seniors would pick up, since there are quite a few girls who still want to play.

"We've got some who are really into the league and help umpire some of the junior and intermediate games. I'll have to see how things go as we get closer to the spring."

## Sabres looking to improve with new players and schedule

The Acton Jr. C Sabres are slowly but surely whittling down their tryout roster as the beginning of the regular season approaches.

Sabres' coach and general manager Ken Steen had about 40 players last week and has already cut 10 as of Wednesday night's practice at the Gordon Alcott Arena.

"I've explained it to the guys here that even though they are still here after a few cuts, we're still waiting for a few of the Jr. B cuts to filter down to us after this weekend, so they're not necessarily in yet."

Goaltending is also an area that Steen said is being looked at by his staff. While they have Jim Mantione, a regular from last year returning, the hunt is still on for a player who can play on a regular basis alongside Mantione.

Steen was busy setting up an exhibition schedule in order to get a better look at some of his new recruits, with their first game taking place yesterday evening (Friday) at Alcott Arena against the Mount Forest Patriots, a team from the Western Junior C division.



After that, the Sabres play tonight in Stayner and will then play on Thursday evening in Flamborough before returning home to face Stayner on Friday.

The game against Mount Forest is a sign of things to come this season, since an interlocking home and home schedule was introduced by the league. Some of the teams from the Mid-Ontario division (Acton, Fergus and Orangeville) will play teams from the Western Ontario League, which include the Hanover Barons, Brussels Bulls, Grand Valley Harvesters, Walkerton Black Hawks, Goderich Sailors and the Mount Forest Patriots.

The other half of the Mid-Ontario teams will face off against squads from the Georgian Jr. C division: Bradford, Alliston and Schomberg are scheduled to play the Oro 77's, the Penelung Jr. Kings, Midland

Centennials, Parry Sound Brewers, Stayner Siskins, Innisfil Bruins and Huntsville Blair McCann's.

Steen said he likes the change to the season schedule since it is a way to add new life to the games for fans of both teams.

"It's good for everyone, since the fans get to see some new teams and it gives the players a chance to experience how some of the other teams perform. Seven games against teams in your own area was too much. With it down to four now, there's a lot more room for variety," said Steen.

Something else that is a little different for the Sabres if two of their "home" games will be played outside of Acton. On November 25, Fergus (resurrected from a few year's absence) will play Acton at the Erin Arena and on January 5, Bradford visits Acton in Hillsburgh.

"It's a way for the fans to get a little more interested in watching the team play. It's hoped that people in Erin and Hillsburgh will like what they saw and come out to Acton to see them again," said Steen.



Some goalie prospects of the Acton Sabres Jr. 'C' team take part in a skating drill put on by the coaching staff at Gordon Alcott Arena on Wednesday night. Sabres coach Ken Steen said goaltending is definitely one of the areas his staff is concentrating on improving before the season gets underway. (Herald photo)

## Acton Jr. C team starts season soon

### MID-ONTARIO JUNIOR 'C' ACTON SABRES 1990-1991 HOCKEY SCHEDULE

DATE	VISITORS	HOME
Friday, Oct. 5, 8:30 p.m.	Acton	Alliston
Friday, Oct. 12, 8:00 p.m.	Wingham	Acton
Saturday, Oct. 13, 8:00 p.m.	Brussels*	Acton
Friday, Oct. 19, 8:00 p.m.	Schomberg	Acton
Sunday, Oct. 21, 5:30 p.m.	Acton	Orangeville
Tuesday, Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m.	Acton	Fergus
Friday, Oct. 26, 8:00 p.m.	Hanover*	Acton
Friday, Nov. 2, 8:00 p.m.	Fergus	Acton
Sunday, Nov. 4, 2:00 p.m.	Acton*	Walkerton
Friday, Nov. 9, 8:00 p.m.	Mount Forest*	Acton
Sunday, Nov. 11, 1:30 p.m.	Orangeville	Schomberg
Thursday, Nov. 15, 8:15 p.m.	Acton	Schomberg
Friday, Nov. 16, 8:00 p.m.	Bradford	Acton
Sunday, Nov. 18, 2:00 p.m.	Acton*	Brussels
Friday, Nov. 23, 8:30 p.m.	Acton*	Goderich
Sunday, Nov. 25, N/A	Fergus visits Acton in Erin	
Saturday, Dec. 1, 8:00 p.m.	Alliston	Acton
Sunday, Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m.	Walkerton*	Acton
Friday, Dec. 7, 8:30 p.m.	Acton*	Mount Forest
Sunday, Dec. 9, 7:00 p.m.	Bradford	Acton
Friday, Dec. 14, 8:30 p.m.	Acton*	Hanover
Friday, Dec. 21, 8:00 p.m.	Schomberg	Acton
Friday, Jan. 4, 8:00 p.m.	Acton	Orangeville
Saturday, Jan. 5, 8:00 p.m.	Bradford visits Acton in Hillsburgh	
Sunday, Jan. 6, 4:00 p.m.	Acton*	Grand Valley
Friday, Jan. 11, 8:00 p.m.	Grand Valley*	Acton
Saturday, Jan. 12, 8:00 p.m.	Alliston	Acton
Sunday, Jan. 13, 7:00 p.m.	Acton	Bradford
Thursday, Jan. 17, 8:15 p.m.	Acton	Schomberg
Friday, Jan. 18, 8:00 p.m.	Goderich*	Acton
Sunday, Jan. 20, 1:00 p.m.	Acton	Wingham
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 8:00 p.m.	Acton	Alliston
Saturday, Jan. 26, 8:00 p.m.	Orangeville	Acton
Friday, Feb. 1, 8:00 p.m.	Acton	Fergus

An asterisk (\*) denotes that the game is one of the interlocking matches with the Western Ontario Junior 'C' League.



Members of the Acton Sabres Jr. 'C' team runs through some line drills at the Gordon Alcott Arena Wednesday night during one of their practices. The team is preparing themselves for the regular season,

which gets underway on Oct. 5 in Alliston at 8:30 p.m. The Sabres will be playing an exhibition game in Stayner on Saturday (today) and on Wednesday they will be in Flamborough. (Herald photo)