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Soccer Corner

ALEX TOUGH

Playoff time

Play off soccer is here. It seems as though soccer is going the way of the national sport, hockey, in that the style of play differs from that of regular play during the regular season.

I have witnessed some brutal play in the past couple of weeks. Legal tackling has gone out of the window and some coaches are condoning the foul play of several players. Finesse players are being destroyed by, for the want of a better phrase, follow through tackles.

As far as I am concerned the rules and regulations are the same at any time of the season and should be applied from the first minute of the season until the last minute of the season. Regrettably this does not appear to be employed by other officials, on the field and on the touch lines.

It is about time that cheats were thrown out of the game for good. Most players have an occupation to consider after the match and can do without broken limbs or other serious injuries.

Of course, it is difficult to stop players from hacking each other when both teams start manner of play. However, the game official has the means to prevent this happening by the use of disciplinary action. Eject the brutes! Where one team starts the over the top physical stuff it is that moment when the officials must stamp on the offending players. When game officials ignore the dirty play there is bound to be a reaction from the other side.

It is the responsibility of all to see that 'bloodbaths' do not erupt.

The Inter County playoffs continued last Wednesday around the fields. Blazer lost their second match in succession, this time to Meteor by 1-5. The league winners are proving a formidable task for any team in opposition. Blazer players found the game hard going after a semi-final match on Monday. Also involved in the semi-final were Mariners who took a little time to get on track against Winchester. Winchester came to play 'playoff style' and ran out winners by 3-2. Winchester had a player ejected with ten minutes left for play and managed to hold off a Mariner come back. Merseyside and Meadowvale played to a 1-1 tie.

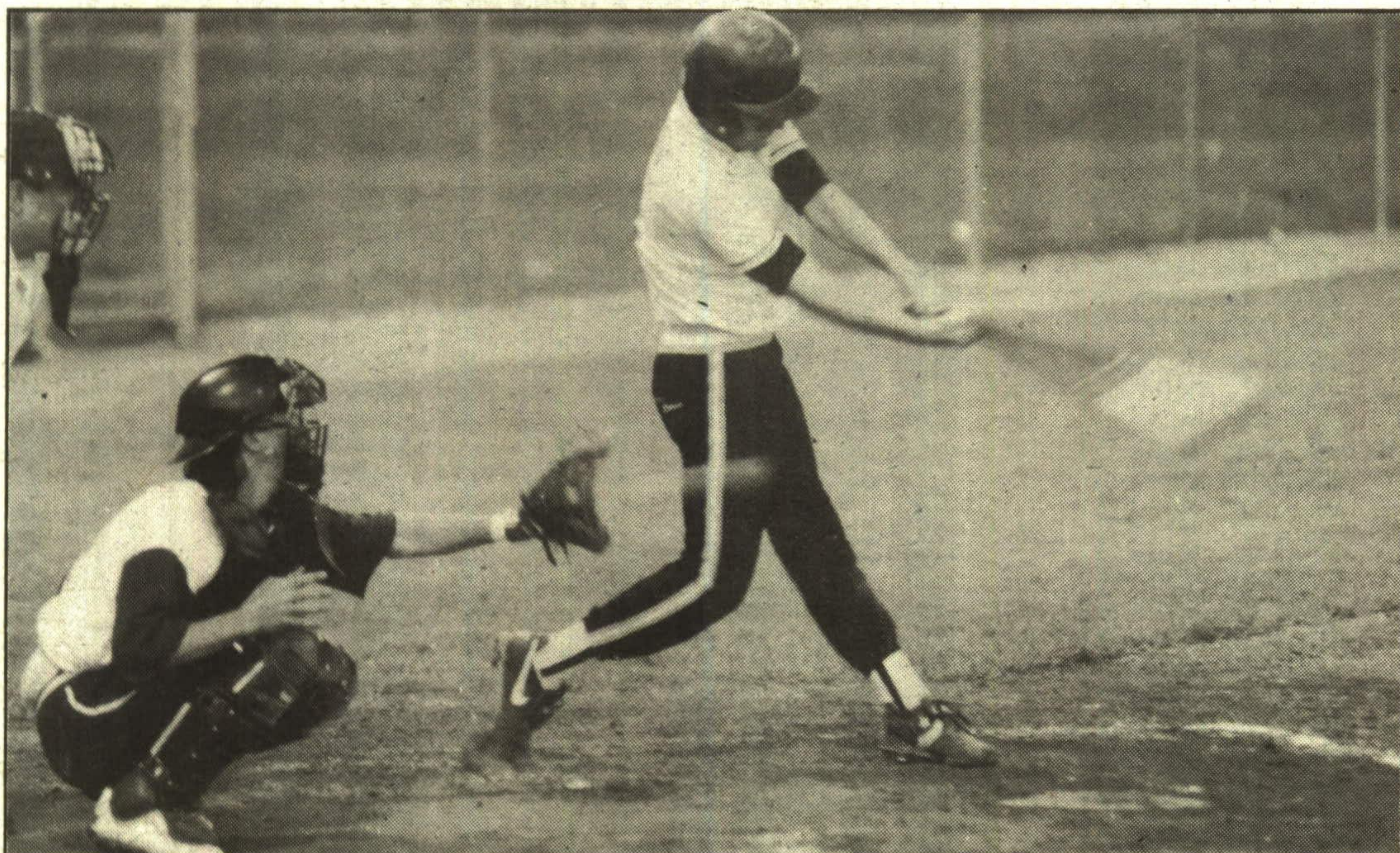
In the first division, the 'A' section has Meteor, Mersey and Winchester each with four points from the two games played so far. Section 'B' is led by Mariners with three points, Meadowvale has one point and Blazers have yet to gain a point.

In the second division Eagles routed a short handed Ajax by 10-0. Falcons netted an away win at Stingers by 5-1 and United defeated Milton 4-0.

Eagles and Caledon lead the 'A' section with six points each and Milton and Ajax have one point and zero points respectively. The latter teams have a hard task in front of them.

Section 'B' have United with six points, Falcons with four and Stingers with zero. Stingers need some success also to have a chance of going further after the round robins.

We all wish Andrew Jonkman a speedy recovery from his ankle break, received in the game against Mariners.



A swing and a miss...Georgetown Midget Eagles player Joe Sytephens takes a cut at the ball during the Ontario Baseball Association Midget championships in Sarnia last weekend. The local squad reached the final unbeaten but needed two games to secure the crown from a tough Blenheim squad. Photos by BARB STEPHENS

Ontario champs

Midget Eagles flying high after claiming OBA crown

By STEVE LeBLANC

Special to The Independent/Free Press

The Georgetown Stanley Acme Track Midget Eagles gave the Georgetown Baseball Association its second Ontario Championship in four years over the Labor Day weekend in Sarnia when they walked away with the OBA Midget "C" Championship crown.

Turning in strong efforts all weekend long, the Eagles had an extremely tough schedule (six games in 34 hours), and won five of their six games to capture the title. Outhitting their opposition 50-22, Georgetown made only 10 errors over the two-day, double knockout tournament and took down Blenheim 8-4 in the finals.

"It was just incredible, to play six games in two days and to play strong baseball, I think the players should be so proud of themselves," said Eagles' skipper Boyd Hoddinott, "We had a lot of fans from many communities saying they wanted us to win because the team was a class act. This was wonderful and it's something these players can carry with them throughout their lives."

Hoddinott first took over as head coach of the Midget Eagles in 1990 as has taken the team from an 0-20 record three years ago to a championship squad. Georgetown last won the midget championship in 1989.

The Eagles opened the tournament with a big 11-0 shutout over Bolton with a masterful pitching performance by Jose Mora. Swinging the big bats in the first game were Roy Stuckless, Grahame Kennedy and Jim Katsilieris, as well as Joe Stephens who scored three runs.

Outstanding defense combined with a three hit effort by hurler Don MacLeod gave the Eagles a 3-1 victory over Wilkinsburg in game two. MacLeod also went three for three at the plate and John Del Cozzo and Kennedy also delivered key hits in the game.

Kennedy pitched a solid game and had two RBIs in Georgetown's 9-6 win over Clinton in their last matchup of the first day of competition. Steve Onoprijenko and Brett Desouza also collected two RBIs in game three.

Clinton was knocked out early Sunday morning after a 3-2 loss by

the Eagles. Georgetown had great defense in their fourth game and received clutch hits from Doug Sheppard, Desouza, Onoprijenko and Roy Stuckless.

Four costly errors resulted in the Eagles' first loss of the tournament early Sunday afternoon to Blenheim. The Eagles outhit their opponents 11-2 but gave up four unearned runs during this 4-3 defeat.

With one loss each, Georgetown and Blenheim met in the championship finals late Sunday afternoon, where a six run fifth inning performance gave the Eagles an 8-4 win and the championship title.

The Georgetown Midget Eagles' roster this season included coaches Boyd Hoddinott, Andy Williams, Harvey Green and Gord Anderson and players John Del Cozzo, Brett Desouza, Paul Ingram, David Kalbarski, Jim Katsilieris, David Kelly, Grahame Kennedy, Joel Koeslag, Scott Lahey, Don MacLeod, Jose Mora, Steve Onoprijenko, Doug Sheppard, Joe Stephens, Roy Stuckless, Steven Bergwerff and Andrew Knee.



The Georgetown Stanley Acme Track Midget Eagles whoop it up after capturing the Ontario Baseball Association Midget "C" Championship on the weekend in Sarnia. Georgetown claimed the title with an 8-4 win over Blenheim. Team members included coaches Boyd Hoddinott, Andy Williams, Harvey Green and Gord Anderson. Players included John Delcozzo, Bret DeSouza, Paul Ingram, David Kalbarski, Jim Katsilieris, David Kerry, Graham Kennedy, Joel Koeslag, Scott Lahey, Don MacLeod, Jose Mora, Steve Onoprijenko, Doug Sheppard, Joe Stephens, Roy Stuckless, Steve Bergwerff and Andrew Knee.

Raiders preparing roster

By STEVE LeBLANC

Special to The Independent/Free Press

With the regular season less than two weeks away, the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders have been hard at work, honing their skills and preparing for Central Ontario Provincial Junior A hockey action.

Raider President Finn Poulstrup and head coach Gary Ford have signed five new names to this year's roster. With Trevor Brandt, Ian Ellis, Brent Ford, Randy Bond, Will North, Paul Stinnett, Ryan Brown, Colin Hooper, Andy Pazaver and Jason Parks already signed on for Junior A competition, Georgetown management has added local forward Doug Sheppard, left winger Mike Bajurny, defencemen Kris Arro and Dave Milek, and goaltender Nick Montissano to the lineup.

Sheppard, a talented Georgetown centre, was drafted by the Centennials of the OHL this spring and recently returned from training camp in North Bay. Also returning from OHL training camp action earlier this week was rear guard Dave Milek, who attended camp in Newmarket. Both are strong players who should help the team in their respective roles.

Also returning to the blueline this season will be Arro, who came to Georgetown from Milton during a three player trade in the middle of last season. Bajurny is a 6'3", 210 lbs. left winger from the Walkerton Junior C organization who will add muscle in the corners.

Montissano comes from the Owen Sound Senators organization and has looked solid recently in tournament and exhibition play. He will share the goaltending duties this season with puckstopper Paul Stinnett.

"What we're still looking for are three right wingers and three defencemen. They're in our camp somewhere, we just have to find them," said Raider President/GM Finn Poulstrup.

The Raiders split a home-and-home exhibition series with the Markham Waxers last weekend. Georgetown first took an 8-5 victory over the Waxers in Markham Friday night and then got pounded 12-4 Saturday evening at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena.

Cricketers win

Georgetown Cricket Club, the 1993 divisional champions, has now qualified for the finals in the Hamilton & District Cricket League by defeating Brantford C.C. in the semi-final game played on September 5, at Stewarttown Public School grounds.

Brantford won the toss and sent in Georgetown to bat. The opening pair of Buggy Boodram and Chamo Sookram put on 15 runs when Boodram was out for six. Dave John, the team's most prolific and hard hitting batsman, joined H. Ramnarine and the partnership reached 52 runs before John was out for a well played 25 runs.

C. Vassel hit eight boundaries in his individual score of 57 runs and Ramnarine was out next for a solid knock of 27 runs.

Brantford was all out for 86 runs thus giving Georgetown a victory by 76 runs.

Georgetown will be playing Mississauga Ramblers in the final game at Jack Darling Memorial Park, Mississauga, today (September 1w) to decide the league championship for 1993.