

# Green hoping to catch on with Canadian baseball squad

By PAUL FERRIERA

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Curtis Green dreams of someday signing a professional baseball contract.

For now, however, the 23-year-old Georgetown resident is concentrating on making the Canadian national team, as it gears up for the world championships in Nicaragua later this summer.

The two aspirations fit rather nicely on Green's baseball line of progression.

He recently graduated from Troy State University in Troy, Alabama, where he starred as a catcher/first baseman.

This past season he batted .325 with 3 home runs and 28 runs batted in. His performance led Troy State to an impressive 35-16 record, the highlight being a victory over College World Series qualifier and cross-state rival, Auburn University.

Green's fine play earned him several individual honors, including East Coast Conference All-Conference catcher, All-

Conference Tournament catcher and player of the week.

He saved his best performance for the season-ending conference tourney, where he went 11 for 16 at the plate in six games to grab the All-Conference Tournament Most Valuable Player award.

The athletic accolades were complemented by an academic award in mid-May, when Green was recognized at Troy State's Honors Convocation for having the highest grade point average (3.28) among all graduating male-student athletes. He received the James Burns award for his efforts.

"Receiving the award was an honor," Green, who graduated with a major in criminal justice and a minor in psychology, said.

In his four years at Troy State, which is located 65 kilometres south of Montgomery, he got to see first-hand the importance of the

"great American pastime."

"When you play baseball down in the States, it's a lot more serious than up here," the product of the Georgetown Minor Baseball Association said.

Green, who tended goal for the Ontario Hockey League's Guelph Platers before heading to Troy State on a baseball scholarship, likens American baseball to Canadian hockey.

"We're just as serious about hockey in Canada as they are about baseball in the States," he said.

With his collegiate career behind him, Green will now attempt to make the Canadian national team. In preparation for the upcoming World Championships, the team has invited him to its training camp in Windsor beginning July 4.

Of the 40 players invited to the training camp, 22 will make the team.



CURTIS GREEN

Green does have some experience on the national team. He was a member of the 1992 squad which failed to qualify for the Barcelona Summer Olympics.

Even though the national team is first and foremost on his mind, he hopes to sign a professional contract with a major league team in the near future.

Thus far, the 6-foot-4, 215 pound free agent has been approached by one team, the Houston Astros.

Green thinks his chances at a professional contract may improve because he's a left-handed hitting catcher with a strong arm.

"There aren't many of those around," he said.

Dr. Boyd Hoddinott, who coached Green all the way from house league to junior, wouldn't be surprised if he eventually signed a pro deal.

"He's a great athlete and he really works hard. I think he should have gone with baseball over hockey a long time ago, but that was his choice," Hoddinott said.

HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

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### Sports

#### SHORTS

#### Fourth straight

Acton Heartland Shipping Supplies won its fourth consecutive rookie baseball game Monday night, beating Campbellville 19-11. Wesley Kentner led the offensive charge with three singles. Other top offensive performers were Patrick Sherren (double and single), Derrick McKeown (2 singles) and Michael Borg (double). Brock Spear, Kody Killingbeck, Adam Burgess, Aaron Chiasson, Kyle Creasey and Jesse Spiers all hit singles. Reid Hendry and Matthew Dayman had solid games behind the plate and Greg Cole made the defensive play of the game by throwing out a Campbellville player at first.

#### Bluebird Golf

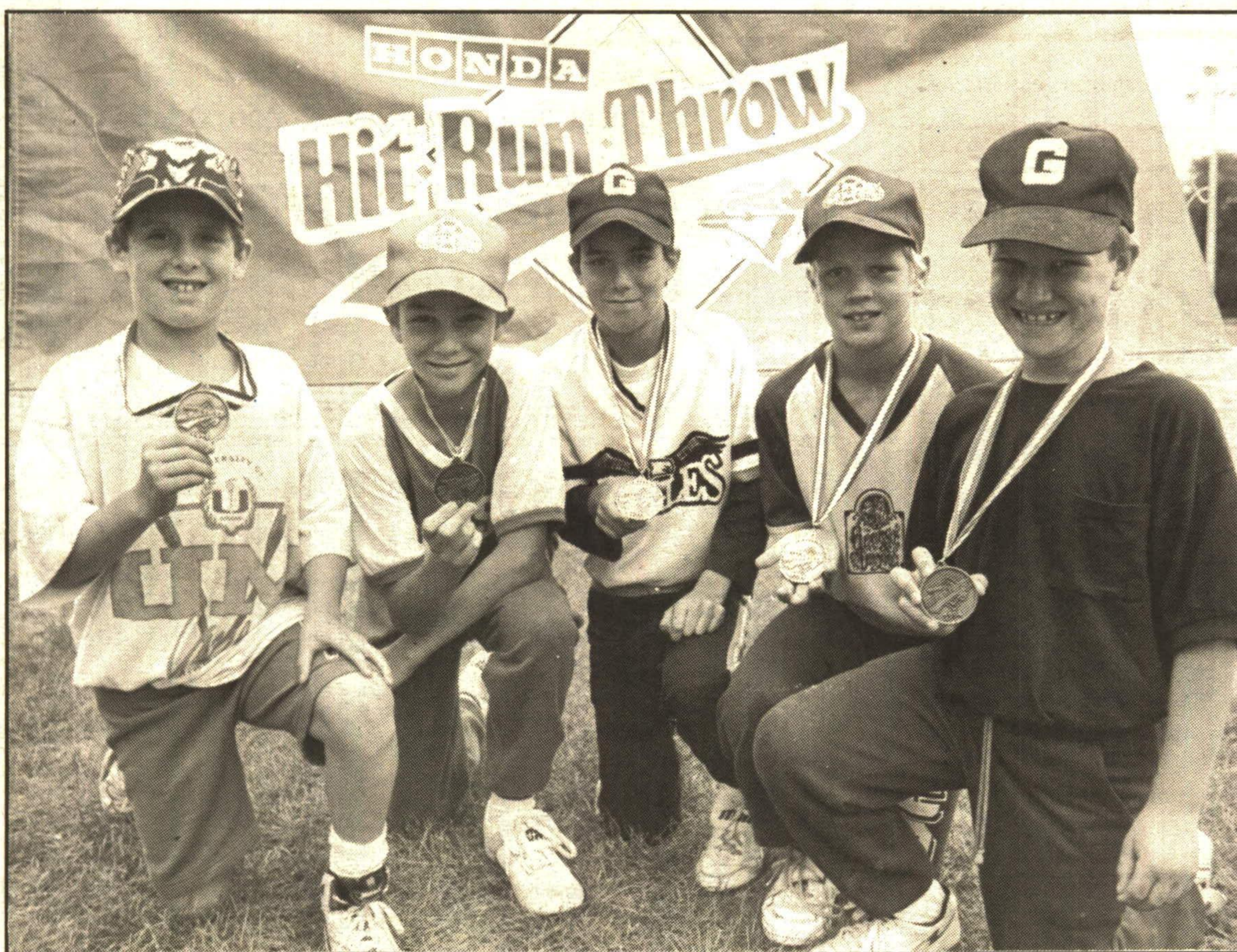
The 10th annual Bluebird golf tournament is slated for Acton Meadows September 12. The event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in support of the Ontario Arthritis Society. In the previous nine years, \$30,000 has been raised. Cost to play in the tourney is \$60 and includes a prize and dinner. For more information, contact George Miehm at 877-2697 or Bob Smith at 873-6325.

#### Limehouse wins

The Limehouse bantam boys baseball team defeated visiting Acton "I" 7-3 June 23. Acton opened the scoring with two runs in the top of the second. In the bottom of the inning, a Glen Kilmer base hit drove in J.J. Shoebridge and Chad Adamson to knot the score at two. Acton scored two more runs in their half of the fourth, but Limehouse responded with a run of its own. Limehouse then broke open the game with four runs in the fifth. Kilmer led off with a double, which was followed by hits by Peter Lemiski and Scott Ellis. With the bases loaded, Bryan McAnsh lifted a sacrifice fly to score one run and Greg Denny cashed in the other two with a hit. Denny scored the game's final run.

#### Fergus no match

Acton Andy's Restaurant under-15 all-stars continue to take on all comers and beat them handily. The latest conquest was a 6-1 thrashing of Fergus. Jon Routledge and Brian McIntyre both scored two goals. Other Acton markers were supplied by Andre Savard and Ben Muggridge.



### Top performers

There was plenty of action at the Glen Williams Ball Park last Saturday as Georgetown Honda sponsored their annual Hit, Run and Throw competition. Among the winners were (from left) Adam Kemp, 3rd-7 and 8 year-old

division, Mike Boyle, 3rd-9 and 10 year-old division, Steve Dennis, 2nd-9 and 10 year-olds, Michael Eichstedt 1st-9 and 10 year-olds, and Kyle Termini, 1st-7 and 8 year-old division.

Photo by SIMON WILSON

## SOBs strike out against Optimists

The S.O.B.'s have finally been beaten in Georgetown service club slow pitch league action. After reeling off six victories to open the season, the team was felled by Optimist Club 10-9 June 26. The star for Optimist Club was John Viera, who homered and scored the winning run.

In other action:

- Living Lighting doused Firemen 17-10;
- Behind the fine defence of Glen

Dean, Lions doubled up Newfoundland Club 6-3;

-Kendale hammered Random Car Club 17-5 despite the three for three hitting performance of Random's Bob McDonald;

-Guy Chapado's three hits led Elks to a 10-6 win over Kinsmen;

-Knechtel's squandered a three for three effort by Mike James in an 18-6 loss to Park Lincoln.

Even with the loss, S.O.B.'s still hold a two point advantage over

Kendale and Park Lincoln in the "B" division. Optimist Club sits fourth, another two points back. In fifth is Random Car Club, while lowly Knechtel's is sixth with no points.

In the "A" division, Living Lighting and Lions are tied for first with nine points. Kinsmen are a point back, Newfoundland Club is two behind, Elks trails by six and the fireless Firemen are a full nine points in arrears.

## Rams fall to rivals

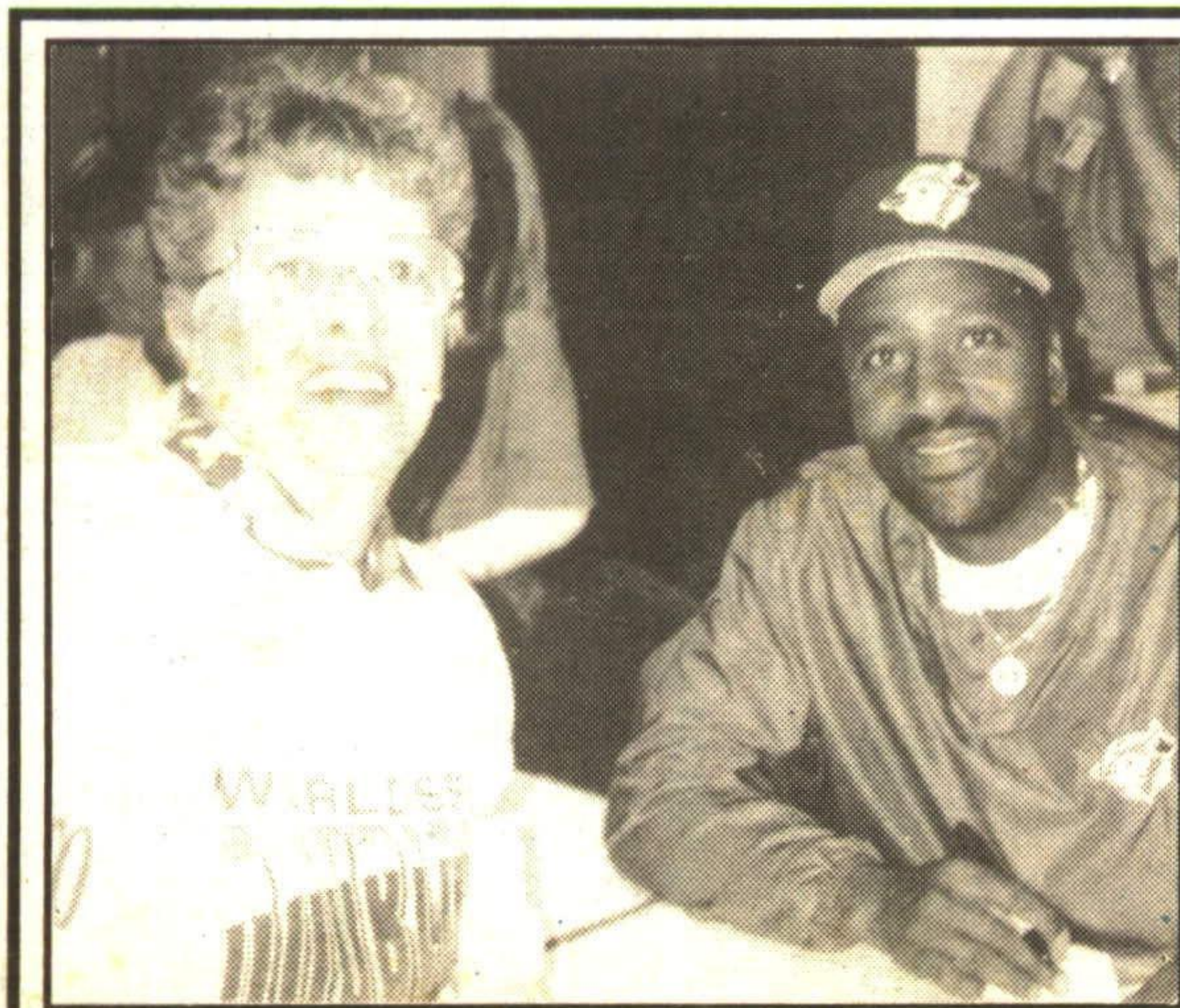
The Acton Rams lacrosse teams had a tough time the week of June 20th as only the Acton North Halton Material Handling Tyke Rams managed a victory in league action.

The tykes travelled to Fergus for their third and final game against the hosts this season.

Acton took control early and coasted to an easy 7-1 triumph. Matt Lyons scored three for Acton, with single markers going to Chad Artem, Nick Newby, Matt Bronizewski and Andrew Friolet. Assists went to Scott Williams (2), Brady Masters, Steve Terry, Newby, Bronizewski and Kyle Osborne. With the win, which gave the Rams a 2-1 series edge over Fergus, Acton's record now stands at five wins, three losses and one tie.

The Acton McIntyre Fuels/Crowe Construction Novice Rams were not as successful, as they ran into a much-improved Owen Sound team that was looking for revenge. Owen Sound had suffered an 11-3 drubbing at the hands of Acton three weeks earlier. Owen Sound got their revenge, soundly beating the Rams 7-4. Rams' goals were provided by Adam Lindsay (2), Mike Dube and Steve Atkinson. Dube, Justin Cole, David Lyons and Matt Wolfer received credit for Rams' assists. The loss leaves Acton with a record of five wins and four losses.

Meanwhile, the Acton Mackenzie-Chapman/Bantam Rams suffered from a week-and-a-half layoff and fell victim to Owen Sound 9-2. Richard Raju scored both of Acton's goals. Assists went to Kyle Artem (2), Shawn Weatherall and Jason Christopher. Acton also played in a tournament in Napanee, where they lost the "A" championship to Nepean. In the opening rounds of the tourney, Acton trounced Gloucester 12-2 and hammered Six Nations 10-1.



### Flyin' high with the Blue Jays

It was a family affair at a recent Blue Jays game as Betty Perkins (left) and daughter Peggy Barber got the opportunity to lunch with the likes of players Joe Carter and Pat Hentgen. Peggy won the opportunity to visit with her favorite Jays through a draw held at Varian Canada and took mom along. A total of 25 people were lucky enough to get to meet their baseball heroes

