



SPORT LITES

By BRIAN MCCRISTALL

TOUTED AS ONE OF THE TOP OFFICIALS in the game by N.H.L. referee-in-chief Cal Voss, Milton's Bruce Hood is looking forward to October and the coming hockey season. After three years of pounding the minor league beats, Bruce has been informed that he will get a chance to referee in the big top in the 1965-66 season. According to the local man in stripes, he could get as many as 20 games in the big time and he can hardly wait.

In a recent interview, Mr. Voss listed Bruce as one of the top officials and suggested that he would soon be in the major league. Bruce's season ended two weeks ago and he worked three games in the Western League finals between the Portland Buckaroos and the Vancouver Maple Leafs. Portland, under coach Hal Laycoe, won the best of seven series four games to one.



Asked if he thought refereeing in the N.H.L. would be tougher than in the high minors, Bruce mentioned, "it should be easier in the N.H.L., they play better hockey and they skate better, the only big difference will be the pressure." During the N.H.L. semi-finals the local official was on standby duty in one game in Montreal.

Bruce pointed out that breaking into the N.H.L.'s officiating rotation is a tough job. He recalled that although Art Skov has been working big league games for nine years, this was the first year that he was allowed to work the playoff finals. "It takes time to become a regular," the Milton man stated, "but it's worth it!"

SHORTS IN SPORTS

Lloyd Smith, a hard worker for minor baseball and minor hockey causes was honored at a going away "stag party" in the Royal Canadian Legion Hall recently. Nearly 30 friends attended the party and presented the guest of honor with a desk set. Lloyd has been moved to Montreal by his company. . . . Although there were less than 30 at the minor ball annual on Thursday evening, it could easily be described as a success. Everyone showed a keen interest in the summer sport for youngsters and Milton Red Sox manager Dick Clement offered to give valuable instruction to some of the young pitchers. If the 30 in attendance could be doubled, the success of the minor baseball program in town would be assured. . . . A shortage of baseball diamonds in the community makes it difficult when all-star teams try to arrange practice times. The fair grounds diamond is the only one presently suitable for Senior, Juvenile and Midget play and the rest of the minor squads have to fit in time at the fair grounds or shift to Rotary Park.

Umpires from the various centres in Halton County had a chance to brush up on their techniques at an umpires' school sponsored by the Halton County Baseball Association on Saturday. Veteran arbiter George Baines from Hamilton is in charge of the two week clinic which will conclude Sunday at 12:30 p.m. with a refresher course on the fair grounds diamond. The first session consisted mainly of across the table chatter and a chalk talk from the head man in blue. . . . Georgetown Giants promise to be much improved this year with the addition of former Miltonian Tony Boudreau and former Halton All-Star Paul Lawson of Acton. We mentioned last week that Tony should make the squad as a first stringer and Paul Lawson, who was several times named to the league All-Star team as a first baseman, attended his first practices with the Giants this week. Dude Lindsay, manager of the Giants in 1964, hasn't decided yet whether he'll be available this summer.

Two Milton Merchants Stars have been asked to attend Junior "A" training camps in the fall but it's possible both players will turn down the chance. Merchant manager Alan Parton reports that defenceman Joe Hore and forward Roger Wildfong are both considered Junior "A" prospects. Chicago is anxious to have Joe attend their St. Catharines try-out and Toronto hopes to have Roger attend their Marlic camp. Both played key roles in the Merchant success this season. . . . Although it had been mentioned previously that Frank Marchiori was being sought by Marlies, manager Parton reports no one has yet approached him about having the youngster try-out in the fall. It is believed that Frank's major holdback will be his age — he has only one season of Junior hockey remaining.

Golfers in the Milton area have a fine selection of courses to play on. Newest course in the district is Hornby Tower on the Seventh Line, just north of Hornby. It has 18 holes open and according to reports is in excellent shape. Wyldewood Golf Course, south of Hornby on the Seventh Line and just north of Drumquin, has been open for several years. Hornby Tower is strictly pay as you play but Wyldewood has a partial membership set-up. Other courses include Burlington Springs, Trafalgar Golf and Country Club, Caledon Town and Country Club and North Halton Country Club. All are within easy driving distance of Milton and can provide excellent golf. Trafalgar Golf and Country Club will host the Ontario Open Golf Tournament in June and some of the top performers in the golfing world will be on hand to share in the prize money.

The rebirth of tennis interest in town that started last year has continued into this summer and club president Ray Andress reports quite a few memberships have already been received. The president hopes play will be able to start within two weeks. Work has already started on the north Main St. courts and a new fencing will be erected on the south side and on front within the week. Soon as play starts the lights will be turned on. Anyone wishing to join should contact a member of the executive. Members include Mrs. J. W. McCutcheon at 878-9298 or secretary Ron Purdy at 878-9949.



—Staff Photo

BILL McTRACH was elected president of the Milton Minor Baseball Association for 1965, at the Association's annual meeting in the Union Hall on Thursday evening. Only 21 interested men attended the annual meeting, ratified some rule changes and elected the new executive. Registrations for less than 150 youngsters were received and because this is more than 50 less than anticipated, a final registration night will be held on Thursday (tomorrow night) beginning at 7 p.m. in the Union Hall. The registration night will be immediately followed by an umpires-coaches meeting. Shown seated in the front row are secretary-treasurer Alan Parton, president Mr. McTrach and past president Al Surbey. Standing in the back row are directors Bob Carr and Joe Wilson, second vice-president John Parrot, director Frank Clarke and first vice-president Murray Hood.

Bill McTrach Minor Ball Prexy Registration Deadline Extended

Veteran baseball coach and executive member Bill McTrach was named president of the Milton Minor Baseball Association for 1965, at the Association's annual meeting in the Union Hall on Thursday evening. About 22 interested adults attended the meeting and named Mr. McTrach to succeed retiring president Al Surbey who held the position for two years.

Register Thursday Night
Although more than 200 boys are expected to register for minor ball this year, less than 150 registrations were received before the start of the annual meeting. Because of the shortage of registrations it was decided to extend the deadline for registering to Thursday night (tomorrow). Any youngster wishing to play

minor ball this summer must be registered tomorrow night. Registration starts at 7 p.m. and will be immediately followed by a coaches and umpires' meeting. Anyone wishing to help out this summer is invited to attend the meeting.

Members of the 1965 executive include president Bill McTrach, past president Al Surbey, first vice-president Murray Hood, second vice-president John Parrot, secretary-treasurer Alan Parton and directors Frank Clarke, Joe Wilson and Bob Carr. Four men sought positions as directors with Steve Kijanka losing out. The remaining positions were filled by acclamations.

In accepting his new position Mr. McTrach asked for the co-

operation of everyone interested in minor ball and promised, "we will try to improve the diamonds and give the kids a good season of ball." He hoped more parents and adults would show an interest in minor ball this summer and stressed, "we appreciate all the help we can get but we never seem to have enough."

Rule Change
In a special rule change for the beginners' league or American league, it was decided that throughout the season managers must give all their players a turn at bat, regardless of whether or not the players are playing in the field. In other words, if an American league manager had 12 players, each player would have a turn at bat despite the fact that only nine players would play in the field at once. Previously this rule was only in effect for the first half of the season.

Milton Red Sox coach Dick Clement attended the meeting and congratulated the executive on the fine turn out. He told members the Sox would look after a Juvenile team this year and he personally would try to give tips to all the pitchers in the minor system whenever it was possible. The Sox manager was optimistic about the Juvenile team's chances this year and he said, "we'll have a strong club this year and these same boys will be the nucleus of a strong Intermediate or Senior team in a few years."

A financial statement was presented and it showed the Minor Baseball Association lost \$83.67 during the 1964 season. The loss was covered however, by a bank balance. Major reason for the loss was travel expenses. Total receipts for the year were \$2,293.02. Total expenses were \$2,209.35. At the end of the year the Association had a bank balance of \$87.67. The statement was presented by secretary-treasurer Alan Parton.

Sports Page

Dave Heffernan Joins Guelph Andrews Worries About Hurling

The mighty Campbellville Merchants, perennial Halton County league champions, may have troubles with their pitching staff, according to manager Len Andrews. Youthful Dave Heffernan, a pitching sensation with the Merchants last year, will probably suit up with Guelph C-Joys this summer and veteran All-Star Jack Roberts has been unable to make practices regularly because of work.

"We've only got one pitcher who'll be ready to go in the opener and that's Harry Hamilton," manager Andrews said. "Harry's been looking real good but with Dave gone and Jack not in shape, we could have some troubles," he continued. The Merchants, heavily favored to win league honors, will open in Georgetown on Wednesday May 19. Their first home game will be on Sunday, May 22.

Team to Beat
Despite problems in the pitching department the Merchants still rank as the team to beat in

the seven team circuit. Veterans Don Jovec and Al Wingrove will share the catching duties and the infield will stay pretty well put with Earl Cairns at first, Elmer Dredge at second, Stu King at short and Stan Henderson at third. In case of emergency Henderson will probably see some mound duty. Larry McPhail is available for outfield and infield duty and Al Wingrove, Ken Moore, Bill Elliot, Harry Zulersons and John Nicholson are the primary candidates for outfield posts.

"Our pitching certainly isn't as strong as last year unless somebody comes out of the woods to help us," manager Andrews said. "However," he added, "some of our hitters seem to be swinging real well and fellows like Stu King and Larry McPhail just seem to be reaching their peak."

The villagers, Halton Champions and also Intermediate "C" champs in 1964, regularly play their home games on Sunday.

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Spring Training Blues

Veteran Performers Miss Practices Sox Could Be Considerably Weaker

Baseball blues penetrated the camp of the Milton Red Sox this week. Five players whom the Sox have been counting on have yet to show up for spring practices and without them the club will be "considerably weaker".

Veteran ball stars Ron Phillips, Primo Rigo, Don Currie, Nip Gervais and Art McLansan have all failed to make opening practices and club mentor Dick Clement is "a little bit worried." Even without these boys we have the nucleus for a team but we'd be a lot stronger with them. I'd sure like to see them out," the popular field general reported. All the players previously indicated that they intended to play ball this season.

After the first few practices the Red Sox strong point seems to be the hurling. "Our pitching could be a lot better this year — the youngsters are really going along and they could surprise a lot of people". Still talking on the subject of pitching, Dick was a little peeved with the lack of recognition Nip Gervais received last season. Nip had four wins and one loss but according to his manager, "the rest of the guys in the league laughed when I suggested him for the All-Star team. As far as I'm concerned a man's

ability is reflected in his record and he had one of the better records in the league."

Pitching Strong
In addition to Ron Naylor, Merv Fletcher and Brian McDuffe, righthander Mike Boughton showed up at practice this week and he could help the team. "Mike's a little guy but he's got lots of desire and sometimes desire makes up for size. He's really giving it a try," the manager said. With Fletcher and Naylor as left-handers and McDuffe, Boughton and possibly Nip Gervais as right-handers, the Sox would have more pitchers than probably any other team in the league. Another hurler, ex-Sox Murray Whistler, attended Monday night's work-out and he has said that he might give it a try this year. If his arm comes around Murray could be another asset.

The opening game for the local Seniors is only a week away as they test the mighty Oakville Oaks in the schedule curtain raiser in Oakville on Wednesday, May 19. "We're certainly not as strong as last year without those veterans but even if they don't come out we'll still have a lot of fun," the manager suggested. The club's defence should be improved this year primarily because of addi-

tional experience for last year's rookies but hitting will remain a major question mark. "Some of the boys seem to be hitting the ball a lot better," he said, "and fellows like Merv Fletcher, Pete Sherritt and Brian McDuffe might hit for a pretty good average if they play regularly." First base will be a wide open position but the manager thinks pitchers Fletcher and Naylor can do a capable fill-in job. Phillips, if he comes out, is a strong defensive first sacker as well as being a heavy hitter.

Some work will be done on the diamond before the home opener against Hamilton on May 23. The mound will be torn down and rebuilt and fences will be erected from the dugouts to the screen. The new uniforms for the team are expected to arrive in time for the home opener.

Midgets, Juveniles Play 24 Game Loop Schedule

Milton Midget and Juvenile baseball teams will play their first games of the season in Dundas on the 24th and 25th of May respectively, according to schedules announced this week.

Both squads will be competing in 9 team leagues as the expanded Halton County Minor Baseball leagues begin what promises to be an exciting season. In a special rule change for the beginners' league or American league, it was decided that throughout the season managers must give all their players a turn at bat, regardless of whether or not the players are playing in the field. In other words, if an American league manager had 12 players, each player would have a turn at bat despite the fact that only nine players would play in the field at once. Previously this rule was only in effect for the first half of the season.

The Midgets will compete in a league with Burlington, Watertown, Dundas, Brampton, Oakville, Fergus, Georgetown and Campbellville and it is expected they will play a 24 game schedule.

The Juveniles will play a 24 game schedule competing ag-

ainst teams from Dundas, Watertown, Brampton, Brantlea, Oakville, Fergus, Georgetown and Erindale.

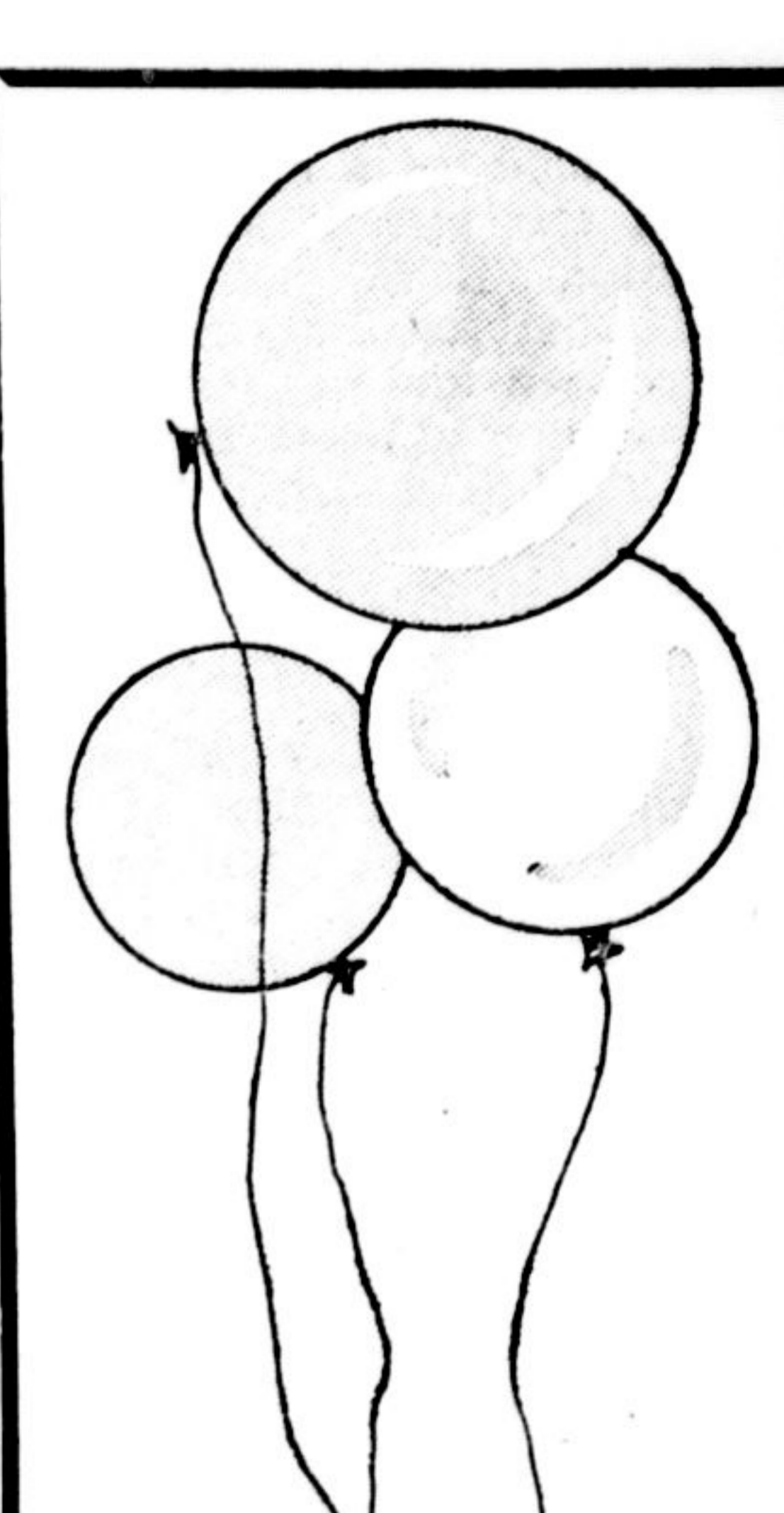
All Milton's Halton County entries will be classed as "B" teams this year. For the first time there will be no O.B.A. elimination series for Halton County teams. The top team in each class at the end of the regular schedule will advance to the O.B.A. playdowns. Murray Hood of Milton, a member of the Halton County Executive, reports the new set up is an advantage for Milton teams as they will get a month longer of regular season play. Previously the Halton schedules usually ended in the third week of July but because of the new arrangement, league schedules will last through until the third week of August.



UMPIRES - COACHES MEETING AND FINAL REGISTRATION NIGHT FOR MINOR BASEBALL

WILL BE HELD
THURSDAY -- MAY 13th
IN THE UNION HALL

★ Youngsters wishing to play Minor Baseball this summer must be registered. Registration starts at 7 p.m.
★ A meeting of all persons interested in umpiring, coaching or helping in any other way will begin at 8 p.m., immediately following the registration.



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