



Game & Fish News
by Arn Coulson

Outdoorsmen are a different breed. It is not very often you will hear us scream for help, unless of course someone steps on our toes, then watch out.

Right now we are not going to holler for help, but ask for co-operation. I am sure Rick Morgan, one of the executive directors of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) won't mind if I quote him, so here goes. He puts his appeal this way: "We have available an outstanding product, somewhat used but exceptionally serviceable. This amazing product will almost guarantee the preservation of our natural resources, it will almost guarantee that you, your sons, daughters and grandchildren will have the opportunity to hunt and fish in an enjoyable environment. "It will bring you the news of the outdoors and let you know what is happening to affect the future of your chosen interests. "It will put at your disposal 20,000 identical products, all designed to do the same job as yours. It is less expensive than your hunting fees, 50 to 100 times cheaper than curling or golf fees, and a lot cheaper than all other forms of recreation, unless you happen to just go along for the ride on another person's nickel. The special low price is \$8.75."

Of course you know what I am talking about by now, a membership in the OFAH. You already know what they are doing for you, you know some of the warning signs of what is happening to our environment. Remember the proposed dump in the garden of Halton.

Very shortly the common lake sucker will be coming up our streams by the thousands to spawn. This fish is very dear to most boys' hearts, as it is the first fish most of them catch that weighs more than half a pound.

Most people turn up their noses at this fish because of the small bones. Actually at this time of the year they are delicious, when the water is cold and the flesh firm and white.

I have eaten hundreds of suckers and intend to eat a lot more.

When filleting the fish stay an inch from the shoulder and two inches from the tail. This will give you a beautiful centre fillet, and when cooked right in oil or margarine is delicious. Try some.

The same thing applies to smelt. Anyone who has not tried these small fish is missing out on a treat. Like the smelt is sweet and very palatable, also very rich. The small ones rolled in batter and deep-fried, then the whole fish can be consumed.

Suckers and smelt are as necessary to an outdoorsman as spring onions, bush leeks and maple syrup.

The rainbow fishermen are still plying the waters of the Bruce Peninsula. On a trip last weekend Jim Coulson of Lowville Lorne Lyons, Don Kearney, Jim Smith, Jack Pearson and Delmar Coulson of Kilbride tried their skills, and according to reports to me only Jim and Delmar were successful, catching two beautiful fish.

Edward Roberts and son Jack from Hornby report a rather poor winter for hunting on account of deep snow. They did however bag a few nice foxes and they commanded a top price at the fur sale in North Bay.

Fox hunting has had a happy monetary reward this past couple of years. Besides being good healthy sport it also helps keep our fox population down to a level where our partridge, pheasant and wildfowl can keep ahead of their predators.

Our draw to raise funds for trout-stocking was a success, so soon the kids should enjoy good fishing in Milton, Kilbride, Lowville and Milton Heights.

Need umpires

Girls' ball team

An expanded Girl's Minor Softball Association in Milton will kick off its season on May 24.

That's the date the first house league game will be played while the rep teams will open their season during that week, according to the president of the association, Don Watson.

This season Milton will have four rep teams, one each from the squirt, pee wee, bantam and midget divisions. Last year only the midget division had a rep team.

Because of the increased number of rep teams Watson said the number of teams in the house league had been reduced.

Last year there were three house league divisions with four teams each, but this year there will only be two divisions with four teams each.

The only problem the association has run into with their expansion is in finding sponsors, said Watson. They are still looking for two sponsors for their rep teams.

The expansion in the rep teams was made possible because of the high turnout of girls at the registration.

Over 60 girls registered for the squirt division (ages 7-10), 45 for the pee wees (11-12), 32 for the bantams (13-14) and 17 for the midgets (15-16).

The girls who fail to make the squirt rep teams will be put into one house league division while the cuts from the pee wees and bantams will form another division.

Watson said coaches have not been hard to find but indicated there is a shortage of umpires.

Milton Tennis Club reducing membership

Milton Tennis Club, which operates on the courts at Rotary Park will be reducing its membership from last year, according to new president Roy Wollaston. Wollaston said the club had 400 members last year, far more than is ideal. The median number is about 75 players per court, he said, meaning Milton could reduce its membership to as few as 225.



ON TIPTOES, Lynn Grant connects with the ball, sending it blurring across the net in some early-season tennis action at Rotary Park.

The club is giving all existing members, that is those who were members last year, the first opportunity to rejoin. These people must register by May 1.

After May 1, new members will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Anyone wishing to join should send notice in writing to club secretary Cindy Hunt, 317 Laurier Ave, Milton. Former members who wish to renew their membership should also contact Mrs. Hunt.

Fees have increased this year, with a family ticket up to \$45, a senior member \$30, intermediate \$15 and junior \$12.

The club plans a full schedule of events, with regular men's, women's and junior nights, and some tournaments. The club expects to play inter-club tournaments at the junior level, and will be entering a men's team in the Halton-Wentworth division of the Ontario Lawn Tennis Association.

While two courts may be used on any particular night for special evening programs, one will always be open for general use by members, said Wollaston.

The club will officially open May 1, although the nets are already up and are being used.

Dorchester leads series

Dorchester Dolphins took a 3-1 stranglehold on the Ontario Hockey Association Intermediate B championship last weekend with two victories in Ganoque.

The Dolphins took Saturday's game 4-3 in overtime, then bounced back with a 4-1 win Sunday. Fifth game is Friday in Dorchester, at 8:30 p.m., with the sixth if necessary Sunday in Ganoque. A seventh game will be played back in Dorchester May 1.

Expansion plans dropped for MFL

The Milton Fastball League will not be expanding to six teams this year.

An executive member of the league, Doug McLaughlin, said the league's expansion plans fell through because Parks and Recreation Director Larry Arbie couldn't promise them the use of the new Brian Best Park diamond.

McLaughlin said the park still needs a lot of work to be playable.

"It may be ready halfway through the season but that's too late for us," he said.

The league had hoped to form one new team from Milton and add another team which was already staffed and sponsored from Acton. The difficulties in forming another team in Milton also helped to kill expansion plans admitted McLaughlin.

"There were a lot of guys who wanted to form another team," he said. "But none of them went out to get a sponsor."

The teams are already holding practices and the season will open on May 10. Each team will play 36 games.

Coaches for the four teams

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MILTON MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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