

## Martin hopes to comeback as innovative coach

Feature by  
John Challinor

The age of the superior Canadian hockey team in international competition has ended.

The present Canadian hockey system, which is also the original Canadian hockey system, has reached its peak and it is now time to look at a means of revitalizing the system—a new method of coaching.

"The way our system is working now, we're going down," said Tom Martin, a transplanted Miltonian who has played hockey in the National Hockey League, the World Hockey Association, the old Canadian.

**Poor coaching in Canada**  
"Minor hockey is being destroyed by poor coaching," Martin insisted. "Granted, the men and women who take time out to coach our kids should not be criticized too much, because they are doing it for nothing."

"But they aren't really teaching the kids anything. I don't think the kids that are playing hockey now are as good as they were before," Martin admitted.

"The Russians and the Czechs are on a par or better than professionals and the Swedes are only a year or two behind us," Martin said. "We have to take a long hard look at our system, especially our coaching, or we're just not going to be competitive."

Martin is starting his third year as a Swedish professional and will join Viking I. K. of Hagfors this season as a player-coach. He previously played for Modon A.I.K., where Anders Hedberg came from, and I.F.K. Lullea.

"They have a completely different system over there," Martin smiled.

"The professionals only play about 36 games per season, whereas our pros play 80, but they practice twice as much as we do."

"They get the same amount of ice time but they work on their skills," Martin added. "They land train all summer—running, jogging, weightlifting, swimming and doing callisthenics. They are in terrific shape all year 'round."

"The only thing holding Canadians back is our reluctance to change," Martin said. "We just won't innovate."

**Deterioration of hockey**  
Martin can see the deterioration of the hockey

skills of Canadian youngsters at his hockey school at Mayfield Community Centre, just north of Bramalea.

"I've got 500 kids registered to go through four one week camps here," Martin said. "I bet only 15 of them can shoot a good pass."

"With these kids, or any hockey player, you have to make it fun," Martin laughed. "If I tell you we are going to do stops and starts for the next half hour you will slack off through the complete practice. The Swedes innovate interesting procedures in their practices which make the skills and the straight physical conditioning exercises fun for the hockey player."

"Rick Hay, coach of the Bramalea Blues, and I have a complete one week training program for these kids," Martin said. "They have accepted it and it is working. In a period where hockey camps are not doing too well, we are doing all right. These kids' parents are satisfied with our methods."

**End career in 1978**  
"I plan to end my hockey career as a player after this season," Martin said. "I'd like to get into coaching because I think I could help the system we have with what I've learned. I'd really like to coach Jr. 'A' but Milton's Jr. 'B' club would be a good place to start also. I wouldn't have to move from Milton. I think my coaching theories would benefit the club."

Martin was born in Toronto almost 30 years ago and came up through the old Toronto Marlboro system.

"I played three years with Marlies," Martin said. "In my final year I was the captain."

Martin joined the last Canada National Team for one season before playing for Toronto Maple Leafs' minor league team, the Tulsa Oilers.

He was traded to the Detroit Red Wings organization where he played with Fort Worth of the Central Hockey League and Virginia of the American Hockey League.

He jumped to the World Hockey Association in 1972 and played for three seasons with Toronto Toros.

Most WHA players minor-league.

"Over 80 per cent of the players in the WHA came from the AHL and the CHL," Martin admitted. "Most guys

never reported to them. He left for Sweden.

"I was not a great skater," Martin admitted. "But they always knocked me for it, even though I was doing my job and getting the goals. They always gave a rookie a better shot. I'm not angry about it. They just didn't have any hockey knowledge in that organization."

**Left for Sweden**  
Martin left for Sweden to join other North American pros such as Robin Sadler, Milt Black, Darwin Mott and Mike Amodio.

"I always had to work hard as a pro," Martin said.

One of the biggest thrills Martin ever had as a hockey player was being called up by Punch Imlach to play for Toronto for a few games, when he was still a Marlboro.

"Punch put me on late in the game," Martin laughed.

**Girls go all the way**

## Midgets Ont. champs

"They went out to win, and they did it," coach Bert Stewart reported after his Hornby midget girls' softball squad won the Ontario Rural Softball Assoc. midget championship in Port Stanley Saturday night.

Although the final game was an 8-5 victory, Stewart said the club "won more games by one run than any other team I have ever seen. They performed well under pressure and they always seemed to be able to come up with that one run."

Hornby defeated Port Stanley in two straight games, 4-3 at home and 8-5 in the away match Saturday. They had earlier put out Brookville in the semi-finals, winning two straight. Springbrook fell to the powerful Hornby girls in the quarter final round, as Hornby took the series with two wins and a loss—again by one run.

They had been given a bye into the quarter finals, after winning 11 of 14 league games in the Halton loop and winning all their league playoff games as well.

Star of the Hornby crew was hurler Diane St. John,

who pitched all but a few innings of their games all season. At one point she played four games in five nights—and won them all. At 15, Diane is a bantam playing midget ball.

Catcher was Judy Townsend, and others on the team were Debbie Dufour, Donna Stewart, Karen Brush, Terry Alkema, Donna Waters, Kathy Waters, Liz Leslie, Kathy Schreiber, Esther McNaughton, Eartha May,

Mary Jean Robinson, Stacey Neil and Kim Griffiths. The latter two girls moved away from the area part way through the season and despite feeling the loss the team continued on to the championship.

Manager was Dave Leslie and Nelson Sealer assisted in running the team.

The club also won the championship at the Glen Williams tournament.

**Register for girls' hockey**

Picking the puck up behind the net, the defence lays a perfect pass up to the centre. Breaking into the clear, she dekes the goalie, she shoots, she scores.

SHE? Yes, hockey for the girls is an accomplished fact and thriving in Georgetown. Two years ago a very progressive Georgetown and District Minor Hockey Association joined the rapidly expanding movement of girls to hockey by establishing a girls' league in their house

league system.

It's not ringette or a modified version, but the same hockey played by the guys. Girls wear the proper hockey equipment plus the helmet with complete face protection and hockey skates. This year, girls from 18 down to six are eligible to play. Those up to eight play in the tyke league. Girls from 9 to 13 play in the junior division and girls from 14 to 18 in the senior division. Last year the senior girls played exhibition games against the Hillsburgh, Orangeville, Inglewood, Oakville, Brampton and Bramalea League and participated in the Canadettes Brampton Tournament. The junior girls participated in their division play and the house league Day of Champions.

Pre-registration is a must. There are two days left in which to register. This is important in determining how many teams and their playing schedules. Fees are \$22 for one, \$34 for two and \$46 for three or more in the same family. Proof of age and a parent or guardian's signature are required.

Tonight (Wednesday), registration is from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, it takes place from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Both registrations are at Gordon Alcott Arena.

**Farmer Jacks home Sunday for southern Ont. series**

The place to be this weekend is Hornby Park on Sunday afternoon as they face Port Elgin in their first game for the Southern Ontario Championship.

Hornby put Picton away Wednesday night with a 7-5 win taking their toll in the first and eighth innings. In the first inning David McDowell and Andy Trenches crossed the plate after being walked by chucker Murphy of Picton. They held the 2-0 lead until the fourth inning when Dennis Neron and Gary Goyer came home. Curtis

Morris and Mike Leslie hurled for Jacks.

Goyer scored his second run of the evening and gave Picton a 3-2 lead in the sixth inning off a double. The game was broken loose in the eighth starting with David McDowell's hit. Trenches got a base on a fielder's choice.

With Trenches on first, Brian Paterson was walked and

Rod Stewart hit on. Juri Kudrasovs was given a base on balls and Rick Peavoy hit. That scored five runs for Hornby and provided an exciting finish for their Picton series.

Picton managed only two runs in the ninth but not enough for a win. Warren Ostrander and Fox came home.

Champion photos by Peter McCusker



MARTIN DUMPS THE PUCK past startled World Hockey Association rivals, the San Diego Mariners, now a defunct team in the now very unstable league. Martin played three seasons for Toronto and then was traded to San Diego.

Luckily, he did not report to the team because it folded midway through the season. He has been playing professional hockey in Sweden for the past two seasons.

## McCuaigs in finals

McCuaigs Insurance defeated Elsley Pharmacy in two games total runs Monday evening to secure their berth in the Milton Minor Baseball Association A-ball championship finals against Currie's Meats.

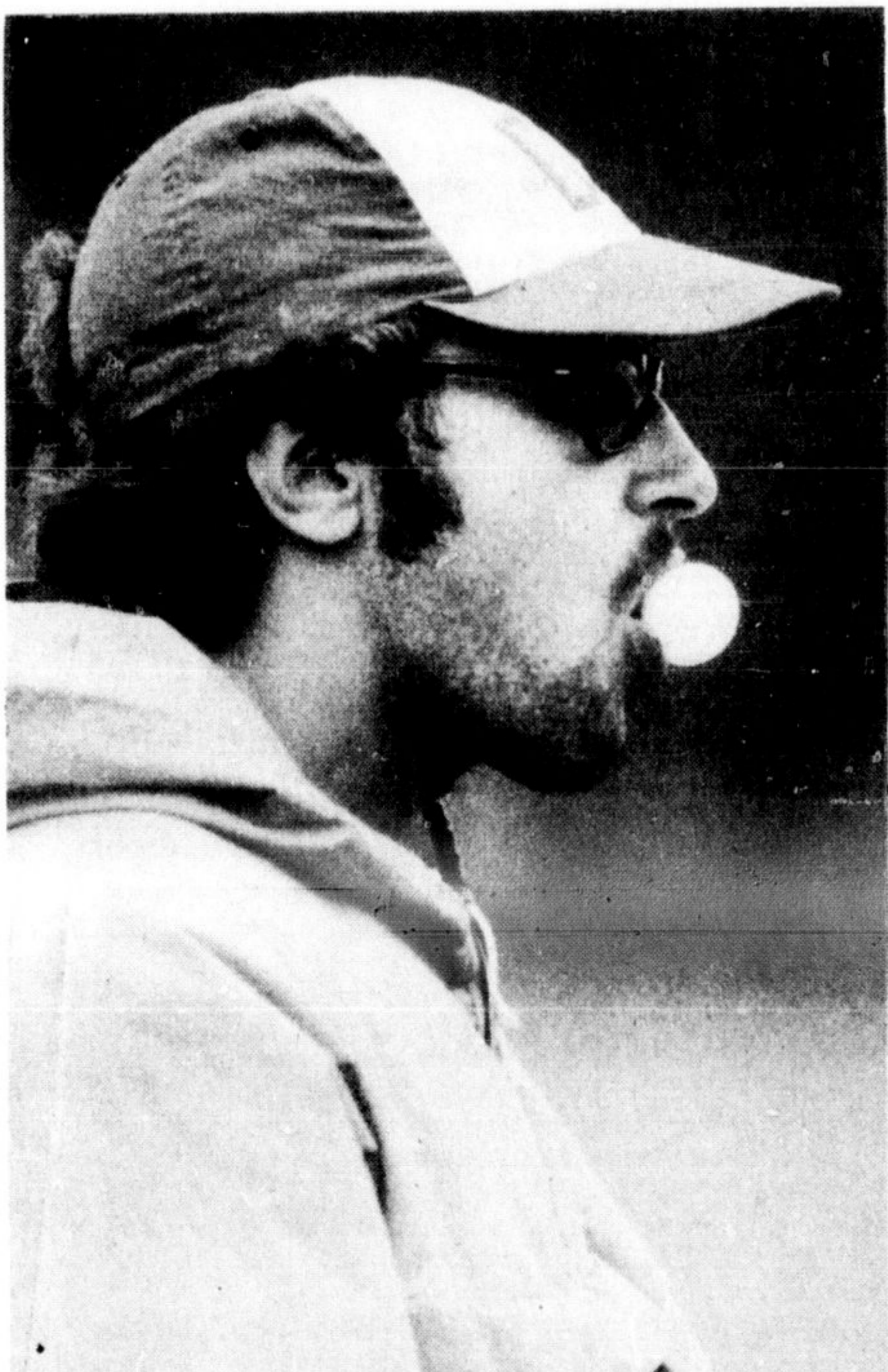
McCuaig chucker Steve Mays left no doubt he wanted the win, striking out seven Elsley batters and allowing only three hits in his 19-8 victory. Kevin Gervais scored four runs and three RBI's off his two singles and a double and teammate Mark Durnan scored three runs and tallied two RBI's with two hits. Dennis Poulin also had two hits for McCuaig.

Elsley pitcher Bill Cordette allowed 11 hits and walked 11 McCuaig batters. He was their top hitter with two and Dave Dies also had a hit.

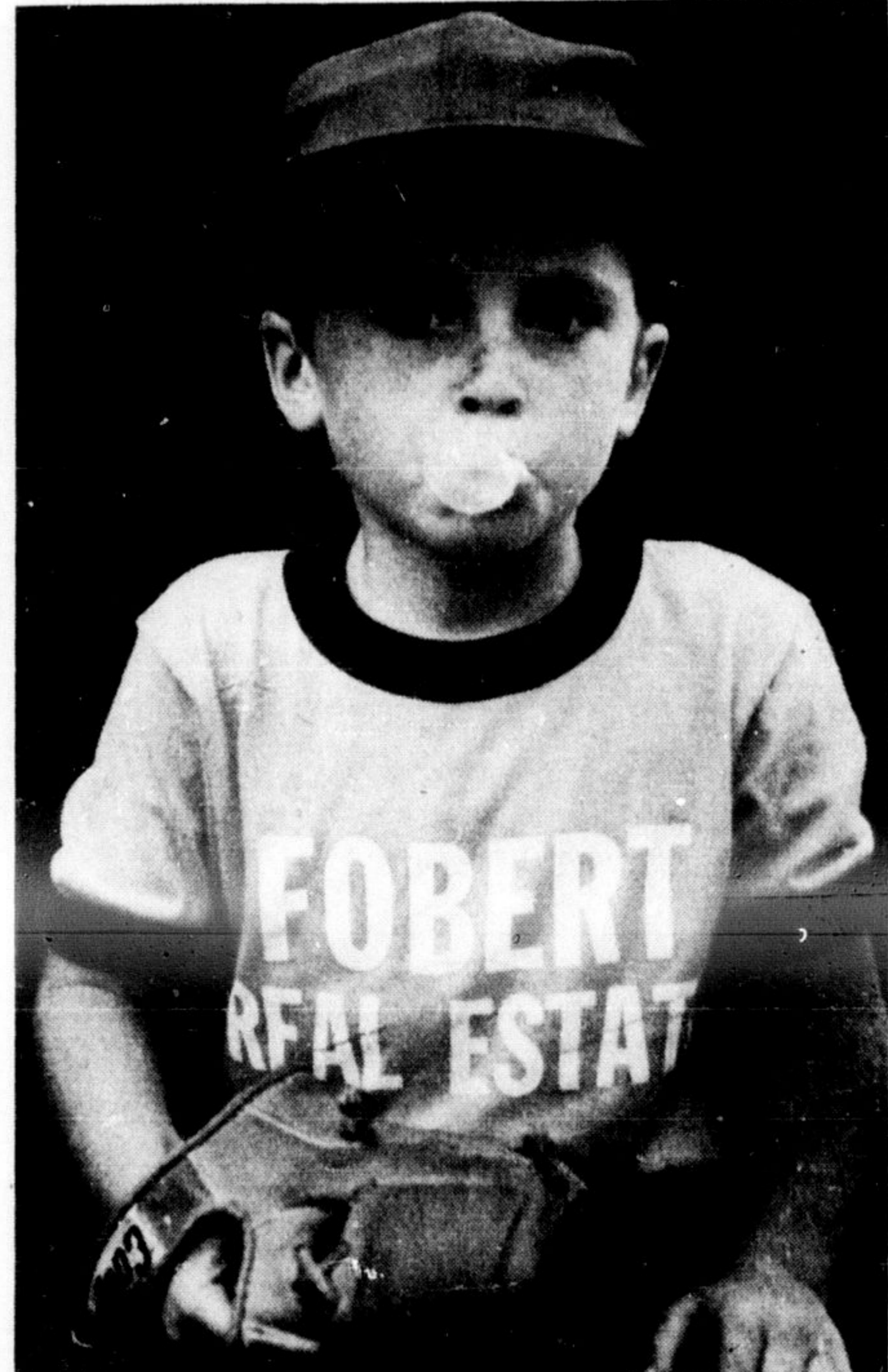
The championship games take place this weekend at Rotary Park. See inside story.

## Tridents open camp

Milton's Intermediate B Tridents open training camp Sunday at 10 a.m. at Milton Memorial Arena on Thompson Rd. The team has an exhibition game lined up for Sept. 30 with Six Nations Redmen and monies raised will go to the arena fund. Another home exhibition date with Ayr Rockets is set for Wednesday, Oct. 12.



MARCHAND'S RIGHT hand man in coaching duties is Huck Kelman who, as you can see, is proficient in working over the bubble gum while coaching third base.



ON THE BENCH for part of the game Gary Colling, 6, of winning Foberts had gum to keep his jaws active.

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