

Merchants take heavy losses in gruelling finish

By Peter McCusker
Milton Merchants baseball club will not be participating in any Ontario Baseball Association play, after losing four games this week.

Merchants finished the regular season schedule with a 15-13 record, matching their first year club record set in 1977.

Dundas Chiefs climbed to the league-leading position with a pair of weekend wins over Merchants. The playoff

schedule will be set at a league meeting tonight and team officials are hoping to start at home here Saturday.

In the drive to lose their OBA spot, Merchants began with a 10-7 loss to Leaside Leafs on Tuesday evening after holding a 5-2 lead. Leaside batters nailed two home runs with the first two men at the plate. Wayne Marchand was the losing pitcher, going five innings before Roger Clement was called to finish the

game.

Merchants' bullpen was found depleted and so they called up Hap Perrott and Dave Turner from the juniors on the weekend.

Merchants' Trevor Houston grabbed the winning run off a base hit in the seventh inning Thursday at Brian Best Park to give Merchants a 4-3 win over the Cambridge Pirates. Rick "Skip" McTrach, Wade Bekar and Loris Faggion were the other Mer-

chants to cross the plate with Bekar and Faggion cracking homeruns back-to-back in the second inning.

Ray Tonelli was the winning chucker, allowing eight hits in seven innings. He walked four batters and allowed three runs. Jim Martel was handed the loss.

On Friday Milton battled Brampton Athletics for a 6-5 loss marathon that lasted 15 innings.

Robert E. Lee started on the mound for Milton and went seven and two-thirds innings before Marchand took over.

McTrach and Glen Turner handed Milton a 2-0 lead in the opening inning when McTrach walked and Turner singled. Adams, Goodison and Snyder of Brampton tallied runs to take a 3-2 lead in the second inning off three hits and two bases on balls.

Designated hitter Norm Mowbray singled for the tying run and Loris Faggion was walked to load the go-ahead number on the bases in the sixth.

Wilson tied the game in the sixth after getting on base on shortstop Gary Naylor's error.

Andy Hull was walked in the 12th inning and it looked like Milton could end the game after Naylor was allowed on base by an error.

Trevor Houston singled to drive in Hull. Brian Ferris of Brampton cracked a double

and tied the contest again.

Batters went down in order for both teams over the next three innings. Dave Dash of Brampton allowed on base in the 15th on an error by third baseman Ken Armstrong. Adams sacrificed and a Don Hearn error allowed the winning run.

MET DUNDAS
Milton met Dundas twice to complete the schedule on the weekend.

At Brian Best Park on Saturday, Terry Flynn pitched in a 20-12 slugfest to defeat Milton.

Hearn crossed the plate three times with two home runs and a single and Trev Houston, Glen Turner and Gary Naylor each scored two runs. Houston had three hits, Turner three singles, and Naylor a hit and a walk.

Other Merchant runs were by Andy Hull with a home run, Ken Armstrong off a walk and Gerry Connell with a base hit.

Dundas peppered runs between the third and ninth innings. Gord Dowbiggen and John Lethbridge each chalked up four runs to their totals and Paul Bassey and Steve Alexanders had three trips across the plate each.

Pitchers George McDonald of Dundas and Hap Perrott of Milton had a better day on the mound Sunday in Dundas. McDonald was the winning

hurler as he held Milton Merchants to two runs off eight hits and struck out 11 batters.

Both Milton runs came in the second inning, taking a 2-1 lead. Naylor cracked a home run to tie the game and Larry Beaulieu hit a single. Two fly outs and a triple by McTrach scored Beaulieu.

Dundas rallied in the third inning to regain their lead and claim the win and first

place in the Timmis Division. Paul Bassi started things off by being walked, John Valvasori and Doug Shortridge singled and Dan Buist was given a base on balls. Russ Hill connected on one of Perrott's throws for a triple and four runs were scored for a 5-2 ball game.

John Lethbridge claimed Dundas' final run in the sixth inning after being walked.

MILTON MERCHANTS

Regular season leaders		
Batting Avg.	Runs	
Trevor Houston	.369	Don Hearn
Glen Turner	.361	Andy Hull
Gary Naylor	.340	Glen Turner
Don Hearn	.333	Gary Naylor
Wade Bekar	.333	Skip McTrach
Andy Hull	.327	Wade Bekar

RBI		
	Home Runs	
Gary Naylor	36	Wade Bekar
Andy Hull	27	Gary Naylor
Glen Turner	25	Andy Hull
Wade Bekar	16	Don Hearn
Don Hearn	15	Glen Turner
Ken Armstrong	12	

Colonial Juniors head east for OBA playoffs

Thurlow, a small town 10 miles north of Belleville, provides the first opposition for Milton's Colonial Dormer Juniors as they head into the OBA playoffs this weekend.

At press time there were plans for a game in Thurlow on Saturday and probably a return match here Sunday at 2 p.m. in Brian Best Park, but the schedule was not confirmed. Dormers will play a best of three round in the "D" Division quarter finals.

The Thurlow club claimed the honors in the Eastern Ontario Baseball Association.

pointed out all the other clubs are really A class clubs.

Dormers are coached by Doug Hyatt and Doug McCutcheon. Pitching duties are handled by Hap Perrott, Carl Caputo and Dave Turner — both Perrott and Turner have also seen some action with the senior Merchants this year as well.

The club is relying on the strong bats of Bill Russell, Steve McCutcheon, Dave

Turner, Doug Thomson and Paul McCann to carry them through in the playoffs.

During the season just ended, Dormers seemed to do better against the bigger, stronger teams than against the weaker sisters in the league. They beat Hamilton and Brampton clubs, and topped Oakville twice among their six victories. Milton Juniors had two tied games and lost 16 games this season.

Manager Perrott said some of the players had never played organized baseball before this year, so the club has made a creditable showing in its first year of organization. They got off to a weak start, but finished quite strong and the boys are all "up" for the playoffs.

Other teams still in contention in the D loop include Walkerton, Gull River (near Windsor) and a London area team.

Impressive finish for local runners

SIXTH PLACE
Milton Juniors ended up in sixth place in the seven-team Halton Junior loop, in their first year of play. Mississauga was first and entered the A class OBA playoffs. Burlington was second, Oakville third, Brampton fourth (and entered the B class), Hamilton fifth, Milton sixth and Waterdown, which ended in seventh place, headed into the C playdowns.

Manager John Perrott

The Milton Road Runners have again shown that group work and extra miles can pay dividends.

The local street running club entered the Police Games Marathon as a five man relay team. The first four runners covered five miles each with the last man going six miles in the stretch.

The five were John Phelps, Jeff Banner, Peter Schmidt, Roy Poloni and Bryan Kerr who turned in an astounding performance for a young team, placing 13th of 135 teams.

The finish surpassed all expectations of club organizer Bryan Kerr. He noted the challenge issued by the Metro Toronto Police was taken well as the local club defeated their squad.

Roy Poloni and Schmidt also competed in a 10 mile road race Aug. 10 in Toronto. Under extremely hot conditions, Poloni ran a 59 minutes, 33 seconds time and narrowly missed a medal placing. Schmidt completed a 62 minute, 29 second performance in which he showed excellent pace judgment and aggressiveness, according to Kerr.

He said the club is getting stronger—but it still can improve.

"There are a lot of people jogging around out there who are hesitant to call for information," he told The Champion.

"We're not a speed club," Kerr explained. "We want everyone to have help and encouragement with their running."

Mr. Kerr extended an open invitation to interested joggers and runners to meet the club at Hilton Falls at 8 a.m. on Saturdays or call 878-1689 to arrange a morning or evening jog.

Kerr's motto is, no one is too slow.

FUN RUN
The Milton Road Runners will be holding a 10km Fun Run around the town on Sunday, Sept. 3.

It is open to anyone over 12 years old and entry forms should be submitted by 1:30 p.m. race day. The start is on Thomas St. between J. M. Denyes school and the Milton fair grounds and it is also the finish. The entry fee is \$1.

The run is being called the "Steam-Era 10 Km Fun Run" and is in conjunction with the Milton Chamber of Commerce's Old Fashioned Day weekend.

Races in four age groups are offered. Junior for 19 years and under. Open for those 20-29 years and Masters for those over 30. A Women's Open will also be held.

Brookville girls up in ORSA semi

The Brookville pee-wee girls played their first game in a best of three Ontario Rural Softball Association playdown defeating Springfield 20-8.

Springford started the scoring first as C. Pearce belted out a homerun. Brookville tied it up in the bottom of the first and after that it was Brookville all the way.

Brookville pitcher, Sue Kruk, pitched a fine game striking out 14 batters.

Brookville played a strong offensive game. The first batter, Tammy Hunter crossed the plate four times while the second batter, Denise Kennedy scored five times. Every Brookville batter scored at least once with the exception of Sandy Hunter, who proved to be instrumental as she drove in three runs. Cheryl Greenly and Kerry Kirton each hit homers for Brookville.

In the final inning Springfield made a gallant effort to come back as E. Rauw hit a grand slam.

Tridents open training camp

The slash of skate blades cutting ice, booming body checks and the sound of the puck crisply connecting on the blade of a hockey stick will be heard when the Milton Tridents Intermediate "B" hockey club of the Central Ontario League opens training camp Sept. 17.

The executive is expecting a high return of last year's players along with a few new faces from the Junior Flyers.

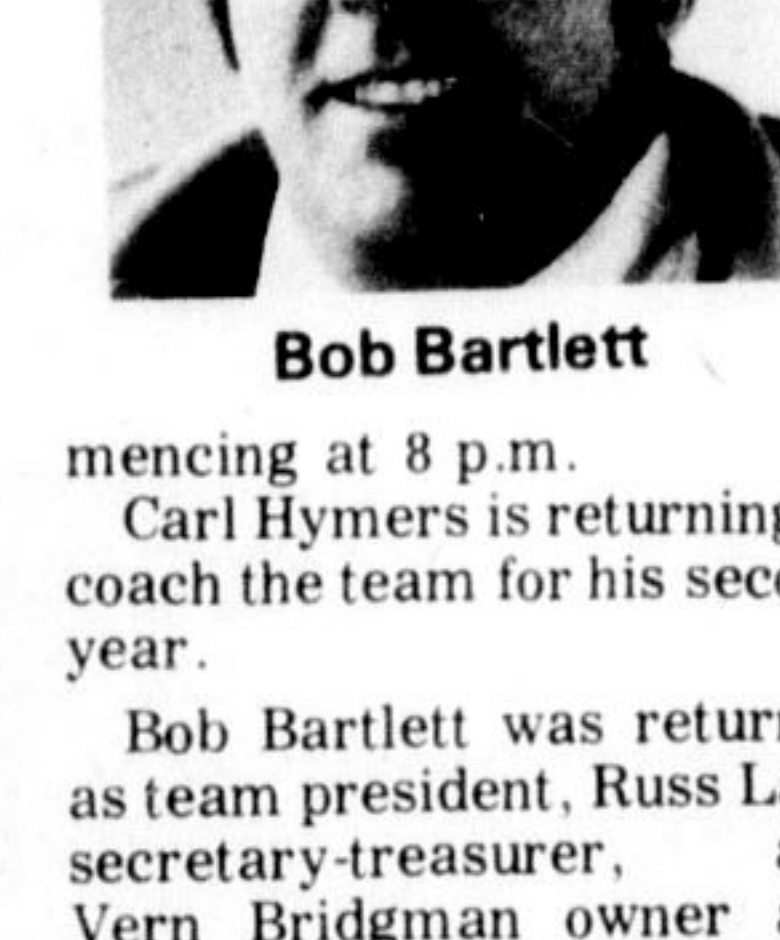
Publicity director Russ Lane expects to have 40-50

In division competition, Tridents will face Paris 29ers, Ayr Rockets, Plattsville, and new additions New Hamburg and St. Mary's.

Tuesday is home game night for Tridents at Milton Memorial Arena on Thompson Rd. with games commencing at 8 p.m.

Carl Hymers is returning to coach the team for his second year.

Bob Bartlett was returned as team president, Russ Lane secretary-treasurer, and Vern Bridgman owner and director. Dennis Buttery will be assisting Lane in the publicity department.



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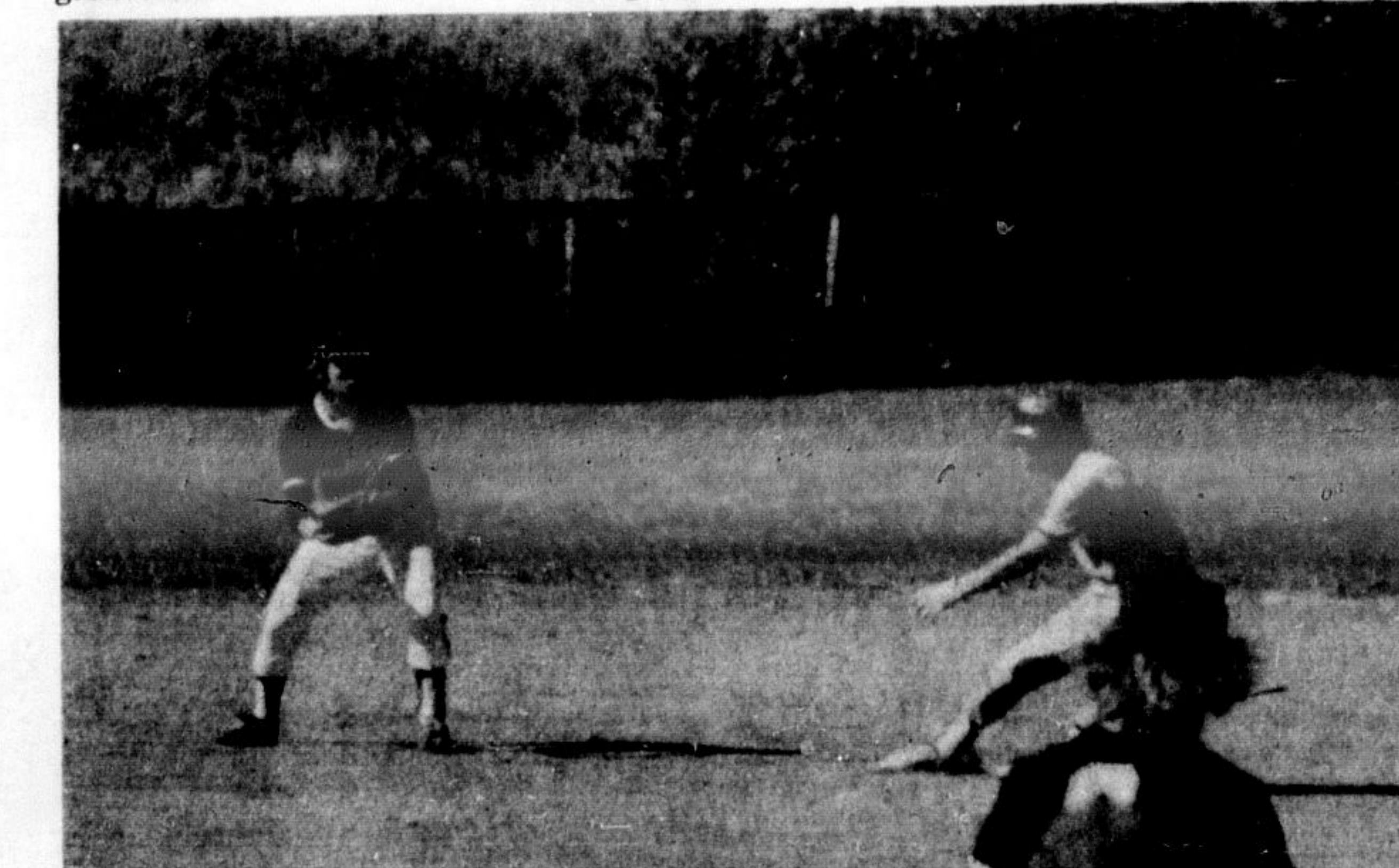
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THE OLD SQUEEZE PLAY worked well for Campbellville Mohawks Sunday afternoon when Brampton paid a visit. **LEFT:** Mohawks' playing coach, third baseman Bill Dennis snags the fly ball and halts a Brampton

runner midway between second and third sacks. **CENTRE:** Shortstop Rick Mitchell (17) catches Dennis' pass and heads the man off, before he can return to second. Meanwhile another Brampton runner (at right)

pauses, trying to decide whether to advance to second or head back to first. **RIGHT:** The runner trips as the ball goes back to Dennis, who easily makes the tag to put out the frustrated runner.