

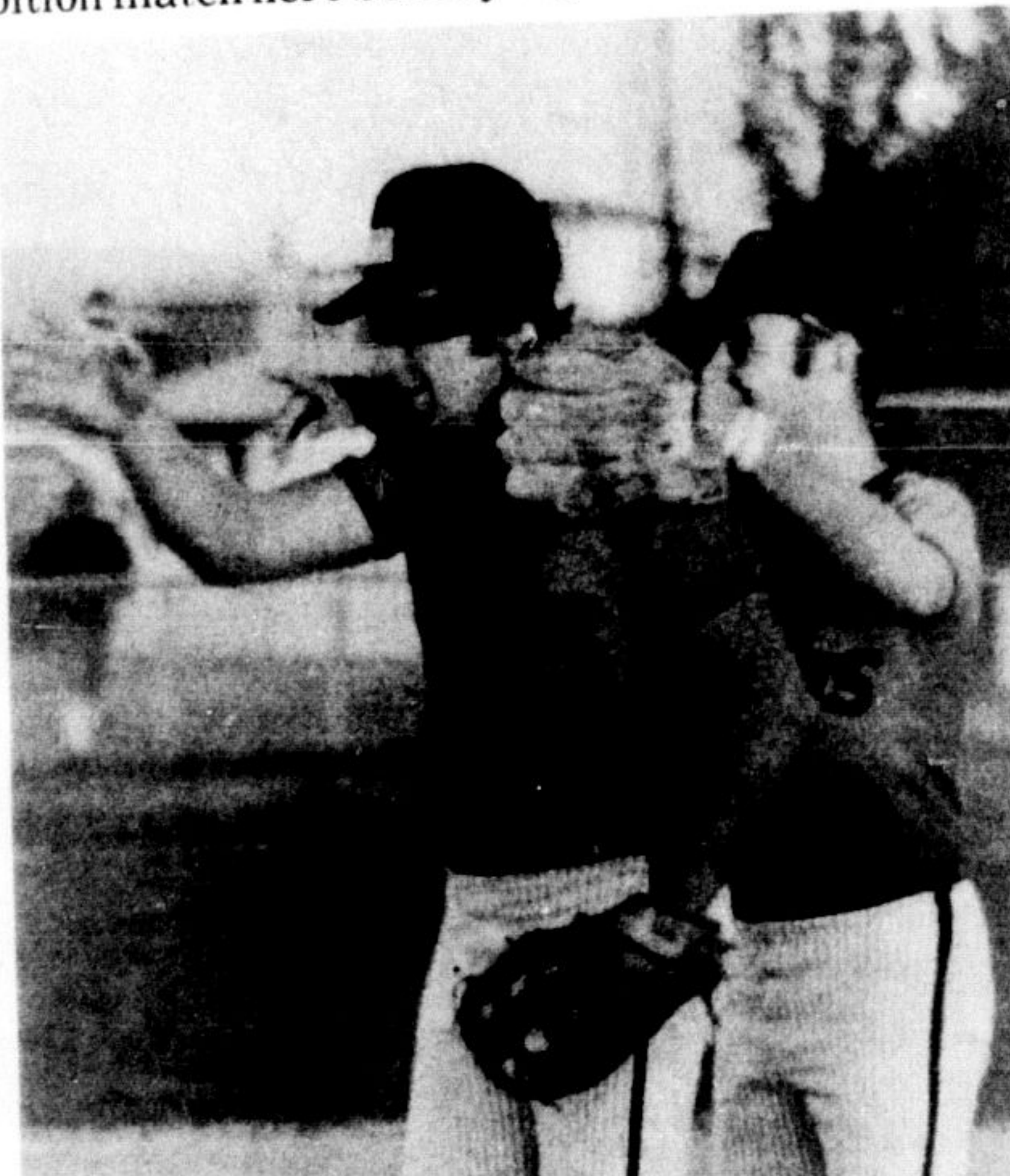
NHL--Stags performance a laff-a-minute riot



HE'S SAFE ON FIRST: Stags' runner Steve Gervais makes it safely to the sack as NHL first baseman Bruce Hood (in shorts) bobbles the ball. There was some serious softball but a lot of silly shenanigans when the two teams met in an exhibition match here Sunday night.



STAGS' pitching ace Ed Dunn cleans off his glasses after the NHL hurler tossed a ripe grapefruit his way. Unfortunately, Dunn hit it with his bat. Splat!



WHERE ARE YOU?. Stags pitcher Ken Curtis calls out to NHL batter Leon Stickle, as he lines up to throw to "The Big Stick" blindfolded during Sunday's exhibition. Stickle fooled Curtis — he caught the ball and threw it out into the field for a questionable triple.

Anyone who thought Sunday's exhibition softball game between Newman Shoes Stags and the NHL Officials team was going to be straight and serious softball, learned about the end of the first inning it was not to be. After one inning of fairly serious play, the NHLers turned into clowns and the rest of the "game" was a laff-a-minute riot. Ripe grapefruit mysteriously replaced the ball, umpire Dave Smith ended up wearing foot-wide, non-see-throughable glasses, runners toured the bases backwards, a "stop" sign halted Stags runners, and the world's biggest softball bat came into play before the seven-inning funfest was over.

The NHL squad, featuring such local "talent" as ref Bruce Hood and linesman Leon Stickle, plus an assortment of NHL whistle tooters from near and far, is now in its eighth year of playing exhibition softball matches. All the proceeds go to charity, in this case Milton Lions Club's community service work.

Over 200 attended Sunday's riotous event at Best Park. The softball may have been a little sloppy (especially after some of the batters got conned into smashing grapefruit all over the place) but it was hilarious.

Soon the Stags were caught up in the atmosphere and Stag hurler Ken Curtis pitched a few to Stickle while wearing a blindfold. Stags also worked a few grapefruit into the game. Final score was 11-7 for the NHL whistle boys, but the score was not really indicative of the play. It just means the NHLers cheated more than the Stags. A last-inning attempt to score six NHLrunners off one hit was disallowed by the ump, or the score might have been different.

Clown prince of the officiating squad was Georgetown's Bryan Lewis, who wore his referee's shirt to the game, so he wouldn't forget which side he was on. At one

point Frank Robinson got a hit for Stags, but Lewis flagged him down with a whistle and a stop sign before he reached first. Robinson had to remove his cleats and put on a giant size pair of clod-hoppers, which made it rather difficult for him to reach second.

NHL pitcher Ray Scapinello of Guelph did a fine job

on the mound, and also had a few good hits behind the plate. But he kept rounding the bases by starting at third, then second, then first, which confused the bewildered Stags (and his own teammates too). It was the NHL squad's third game this year. They started the season in Brampton and Sunday afternoon played a match against

Maplehurst inmates at the local correctional centre. On Thursday, Aug. 30 they'll play Metro Police at the CNE in a match to raise funds for muscular dystrophy.

The game at Maplehurst was also a riotous performance, according to informed sources. It ended in a 14-13 win for the prisoners, in

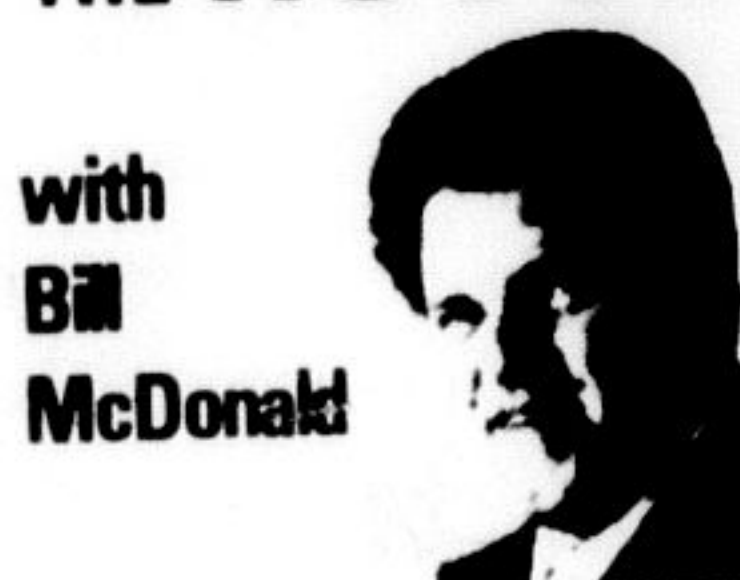
stolen bases. "We let them win, because we wanted to get out of there," grinned John McCauley of Georgetown, an NHLer. "Yeah, they won the game but we won too — we got to go home when it ended," chimed in Bruce Hood. Hood said it was an unusual game, as it was played before a "captive audience" and there were absolutely no

Others on the officials team included Andy Van Hellemond of Guelph, Brian Glenie, Bob Hodges of Hespeler, Bob Myers of Copetown, Ron Haggarth of Barrie, Swede Knox of Burlington, Randy Mitton of Kitchener, John McCutcheon of Owen Sound, Don Koharski of Mississauga, and manager Will Norris of Guelph.

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Brookville Selects win two games in final week

The Brookville Selects defeated Hamilton 5-3 under the lights at Brookville.

The game started off slowly for both teams, with Hamilton only managing to put one runner on base and Brookville none, but by the second both teams had advanced three players past first base. Sue Thomson was hit home for Brookville to start the scoring.

In the fourth the Selects came on strong to score Sue Thomson and Robyn Snow, as well as leaving one runner on, widening their lead to 3-0.

Both Brookville and Hamilton failed to hit successfully in either the fifth or sixth innings, however played well defensively with each team coming up with a double play in the sixth.

The seventh proved a better inning with Hamilton advancing around to third base, and Sue McCallum of the Selects touching the plate to tally.

Hamilton got tough in the eighth, scoring all their runs in that one inning as well as leaving one runner on base. However, with Margo Butler touching all four bases to add to Brookville's previous runs, and Hamilton being allowed only four batters at the plate in the top of the ninth, Brookville took the game 5-3.

The Selects registered their second win of the week against Brantford. Only one

player from the visiting Brantford squad showed up for the game, so after 30 minutes grace, Brookville was handed the game.

In their last season game of the year the Brookville Selects went down to defeat 14-11 in a hard fought game. The high scoring game was played in Grimsby. The Grimsby Peach Queens started the scoring in the first inning, bringing around one runner and leaving two runners on base, while Brookville stood hitless at the plate. Through the second and third innings both teams were unsuccessful in scoring although the Selects did manage to advance one runner to second base.

The Selects tied up the game 1-1 in the fourth by hitting home Margo Butler. Grimsby was unable to do anything at the plate.

The fifth inning proved big for the Peach Queens, who brought in five runners, many of them on Brookville errors. The Selects answered in the top of the sixth by rallying to bring home Margo Butler. Sue McCallum, Sue Lehn, Cathy McLeod and Beth Godfrey to once again even up the game at 6-6.

Grimsby then went on to score three additional runs in the sixth and three in the seventh to once again pull ahead of the Selects 11-6. Beth

Godfrey booted it around the bases to chalk up another run for the Selects in the eighth inning, while the Peach Queens scored three more players to widen their margin to 14-7.

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