

Double trouble: Good weekend weather brought out many tennis enthusiasts to the Rotary Park courts. Getting in a little spring practice are Jack McLean (left) and Don Hunt (right).

Racquets ready to hit court

The recent fine weather has allowed many tennis enthusiasts to jump the gun and get a head start on the opening of tennis season.

Officially, the Milton Tennis Club gets underway next Thursday at the Rotary Park courts. On Saturday, May 3, the club will hold its final registration for the year at the complex in Rotary Park.

The registration will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be supplemented by tennis instructional films which are open to all members.

At the same time, the club will have instruction available for juniors.

It may be one of the last times the club opens at the Rotary Park courts. The club has been actively pursuing another complex at an undisclosed location in town. Details have not yet been finalized, although they should be known in about three weeks.

Initial estimates place the registration this year in the 450 range, although final figures won't be known until after the final registration.

The club will hold a senior round-robin fun-type tournament on Sunday May 4 which is open to all seniors in the club.



All set: All poised and ready for a shot is Joanne Smith. The good weather brought out many tennis players Saturday to the Rotary Park courts.

Champion Sports

CANADIAN CHAMPION

MILTON, ONTARIO

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SECOND SECTION — SPORTS & CLASSIFIEDS

Strong competition in Rhode Island tourney

Throughout the past year, Milton Optimists minor peewees hockey team had trouble finding appropriate opposition. Well, the hunt ended last weekend.

Entering a major peewee tournament in Rhode Island, Optimists found more than they could handle in two games before bouncing back to take the last game in the three-match tourney.

Optimists fell 8-1 to hometown Woonsocket before North Bay pounded out an 11-0 whitewash. Optimists bounced back against more suitable opposition in the final game against Providence with a 6-2 victory. "We had fun," remarked Optimists' coach Bob Davidson. "The kids did exceptionally well considering the opposition. I think we won the hearts of everyone. We were outzined in almost every game."

Optimists were the only minor team of the six in the major peewee tourney and were unfortunate in that they were placed into a three-team draw with the two top teams, North Bay and Woonsocket.

The tourney was played on an Olympic-size rink which was a first for Optimists and although the team is noted for its skating, they were no match for the larger and faster skating squads.

Optimists started against Woonsocket in the opener and immediately fell behind 5-0 after the first five minutes of play.

The Milton team resorted to a kitty-bar-the-door system whereby the wingers placed themselves at the blue line and two defencemen were stationed at the goal posts.

"We had to keep them from bearing down on us," added Davidson. "The kids just excelled at their jobs."

Doug Beamish scored Milton's lone goal. North Bay was the class of the tournament and eventually won the championship. The team played about even with Milton T-Birds major peewees in an exhibition series early in the season but Davidson said he felt North Bay was much improved.

"We just had no business playing a team of that calibre. They are exceptionally good."

"We ran at them all game. We set it up so that wherever the puck went, two of our guys followed. It was the only thing we could do. We hardly had the puck—even when we were a man short."

"The team played really well. It was a

very enjoyable 11-0 pasting. The players were going as hard in the end as they were in the first period."

In the final game against Providence, Milton returned to their skating and passing game, putting together four goals in a 2½-minute stretch midway through the second period to take the win.

"They weren't as big as the other peewee teams," Davidson added. "They didn't seem as big."

Two teams added to fastball league

When the regular season gets underway, the Milton Fastball League will have a new look.

Two new teams have brought the number to eight which allows each of the squads two games a week providing rain doesn't postpone any games. Matches are Monday to Thursday with Sunday as the rainout date.

The two new teams are Milton Combines which last year called itself Huron Park Chrysler and played in the Mississauga Sportsman's League and a completely new team, Fifth Wheel.

Banvil dropped out of the league, at least for one year, while Rockwell which was expelled from the league midway through last year has been re-admitted.

Up until the start of the regular season, The Champion will be running previews of each of the teams. This week we'll start with one of the new teams, Milton Combines.

This squad comes to the MFL basically intact from the line-up which called itself Huron Park Chrysler for four years.

Huron Park distinguished itself in each of the four years. In the first year, the team finished first in the regular season but lost in the league championship. This was followed by being finalists the next year before the team finished off its stay in the Mississauga league by taking the overall championship last year.

The majority of the players live in the Milton-Halton Hills area and team organizers, tired of the amount of travelling decided to apply to the MFL.

Eric Chudleigh and Tim Rayner led the squad offensively with a pair of goals apiece while Sean Davidson and Todd Horne added singles.

The 1-2 record in the tourney gave Milton a 3-3 record overall against major peewee teams. In the final tally for the year, Optimists won 59 games, lost 12 and tied four—topping off the year with the OMHA Double-A championship.

"I guess our assets are speed and pitching," explained coach John Todd. "We have fairly solid pitching but we don't have a whole lot of power."

Combines' pitching corps consists of one from each side. Lefthander Glen Gordon and righty Bob McKenzie are expected to get some help from 18-year-old Jeff Gimbel on the mound.

Acton's Bob McKay will be the team's chief hitting threat. Last year he was named Sportsman of the Year and two years ago was the league's most valuable player.

A catcher, McKay underwent a knee operation over the winter and will probably play at first base or in the outfield.

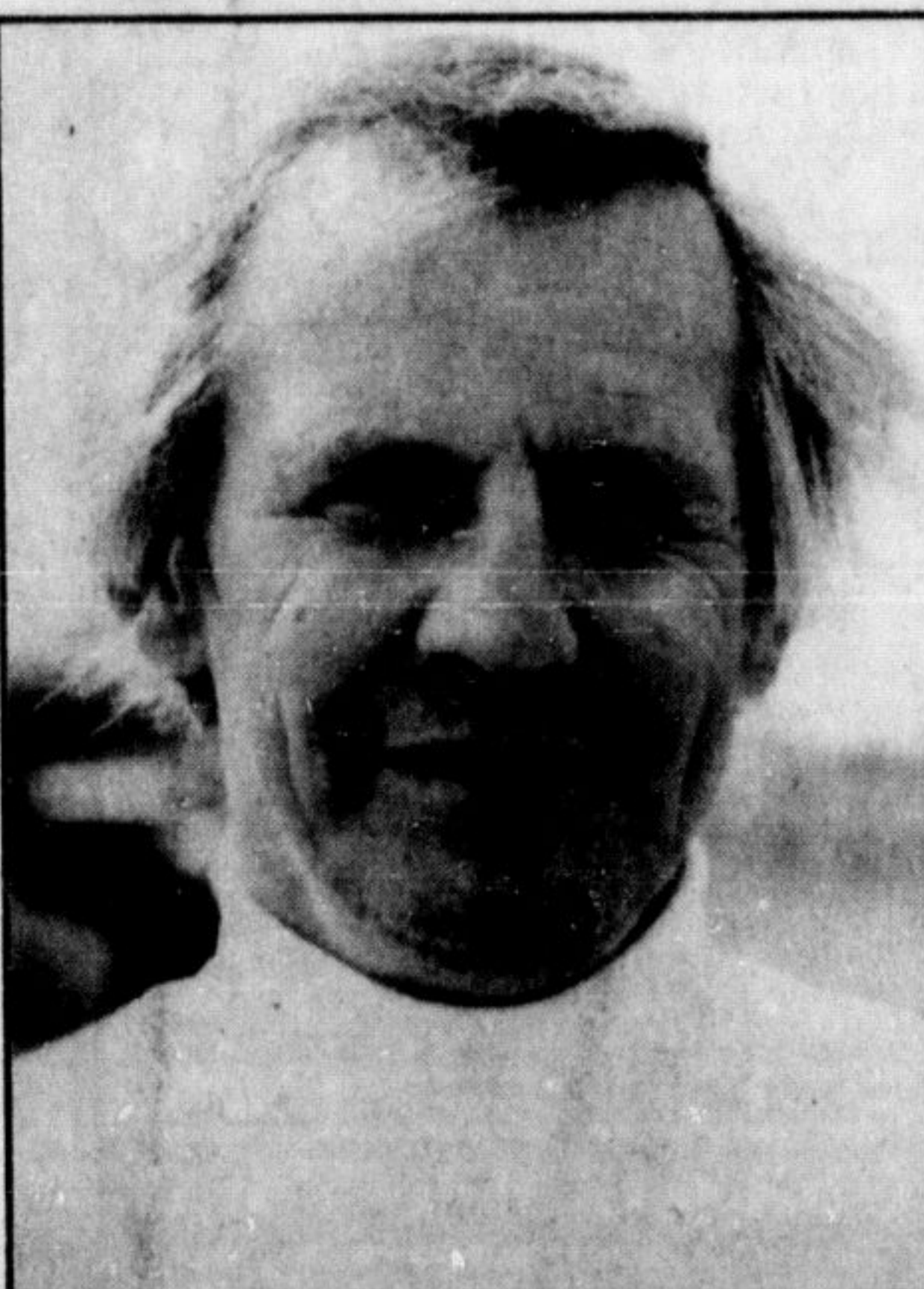
Other top hitters are Jim Hall, of Milton, Rick Bouthby, of Moffat, Ed Thatcher, Grant Clatworthy, Tommy Adams, Rick McArthur and Steve Bince.

The team has a hole at shortstop caused by the absence of Moe Leeking who chose to play in Georgetown. His job may fall on one of three high-school players, John Karoidis. The other teenage players were both members of Georgetown Gemini Jr. B hockey team last year, Marty Power and John Burns.

Combines have been practising indoors at Georgetown District High School for a month now and hope to get in some outdoor practise sometime later this week.

Early Line Comment around the league suggests Combines will battle it out in the top half of the league.

Sponsors needed for Merchants



Dieter Claer: Milton Merchants need more sponsors.

Unless the financial situation of Milton Merchants senior baseball team changes soon, the squad might as well drop the 'S' from Merchants.

A campaign to draw 15 sponsors at \$100 apiece has enticed just one sponsor so far (Halton Community Credit Union), a situation which has team owner Dieter Claer a mite worried.

"Normally, I've got \$1,000 by now," explained Claer. "It really looks gloomy."

Claer originally entertained ideas of obtaining one sponsor for \$1,500 but plans fizzled out when no one could be found. Last year, Claer managed to get the support of 15 sponsors but only 10 paid the \$100 sponsorship and five still owe money which Claer won't pursue.

The team is not in trouble of folding yet. It costs roughly \$3,000 to operate Merchants for a year and money is raised through a variety of means.

The squad is not charged for the use of the baseball diamond at Brian Best Park. It also has free use of the concession booth, which Claer admits is definitely a boost.

"We're grateful to the town for the use of the booth," said Claer. "Otherwise we

couldn't make ends meet."

The team also holds a stag at the end of the year which usually is the indicator whether or not the team finishes in the black or the red.

This year the squad will buy new uniforms. Sweaters purchased three years ago when the team was started have taken about as much abuse as they can handle.

In addition, umpiring fees and balls cost \$40 a game each. The team also will participate in a tournament in Tillsonburg in early June.

The squad begins the new year at the break-even point with no debts. Merchants had a small surplus of \$32 left over from last year, which is somewhat of a drop from the \$200 surplus the previous year.

Milton didn't have senior baseball for 15 years until Claer started the Merchants three years ago.

"I ran the junior club for about four years," explained Claer. "I got tired of seeing the kids run out of town to play senior, so I started the Merchants."

Unless the response for sponsors is answered, Milton may in the future see the end of the team.

North Halton

Guide to golf

Over the summer months many local golfers like the challenge of different golf courses to test their abilities.

In Southern Ontario alone there are more than 200 courses with 26 of those within a short driving distance.

Here is North Halton's Guide to Golf:

1. Acton Meadows is a 2,936 yard par 35 nine hole course located on the first line west of Acton. A semi-private course green fees are \$6 during the week and \$7 on weekends. 853-0631.

2. Erin Heights is a nine hole semi-private course located off Highway 24 in Erin. The Heights is a 3,050 yard par 36. 877-2286.

3. Halton Heights located North of Highway 401 on the Milton sixth line, is a nine hole, 2,375 par 35.

4. Richview is a long 6,907 yard 18 hole course with a par 72. Located in Oakville at Highway 25 between the Dundas Highway and the Queen Elizabeth. The semi-private course has green fees of \$9 Monday to Friday and \$10 on weekends. 827-1211.

5. Victoria Park on Victoria Road in Guelph, is a 36 hole course with 18 East and 18 West. A semi-private course, East has a par of 71 and measures 6,397 while West is a par 61 at 3,610. 824-9639.

6. Cutten Club is one of the areas private clubs located at 190 College Street in Guelph. Cutten is an 18 hole 6,243 yard par 71. 824-2650.

7. Guelph Golf is a nine hole private course located on Waverly Road 1. Guelph. The par for the nine is 35 with a 3,027 yardage. 824-2741.

8. Indian Wells located on Walkers Line in Milton is an 18 hole par 71 course. The private establishment is 6,465 yards. 335-2955.

9. Bolton Golf is semi-private course located three miles North of Bolton on Highway 50. The 18 hole par 72, 5,800 yards course has green fees of \$7 on weekdays and \$10 on the weekend. 857-2050.

10. Derrydale is a public course located at the North East corner of Highway 10 and Derry Road. It is an 18 hole course with a 4,800 yardage.

11. Georgetown Golf is a tough 6,073 course located on Sideroad 17 and the Tenth Line. The 18 hole par 71 is semi-private with green fees of \$7 during the week and \$10 on weekends. 877-6011.

12. Glen Abbey the permanent home of the Canadian Open after this year's trip to Montreal Abbey is a semi-private course with a \$30 price tag every day. The 18 hole 6,549 par 72 is located on the North Service Road in Oakville. 884-1800.

13. Glen Eagle is another course in the Bolton area, located on Highway 50 North of town. The semi-private establishment is an 18 hole, par 72 with 6,890 yards of fairways, greens and tees. Green fees during the week run at \$9. 925-0511.

14. Hornby Tower is a public course located North of the 401 at Hornby. A long 18 holes measures 7,600 yards with a par of 72. Green fees at the Tower are \$7 during the week and \$9 on weekends. 878-3421.

15. Lido Golf Centre is located at 2410 on the South Service Road in Oakville is semi-private with green fees set at \$7 from Monday to Friday. The 18 hole course measures 4,606 yards and carries a par 64.

16. Orangeville Golf is a semi-private course located two miles south of Orangeville. The nine hole course has a green fee tag of \$6 during the week and \$8 on weekends. Orangeville is a 3,000 yard par 35. 941-4727.

17. Peel Village is a public nine hole

course located on the east side of Highway 10, two miles south of Highway 7. The course is a par 35 and is 3,065 yards in length.

18. Streetsville Glen is a semi-private course located on the east side of Mississauga Road. The 18 hole 6,520 yard par 72 has a green tag of \$8 on Monday to Friday and \$11 on weekends. 451-9324.

19. Brampton Golf is a private club located on the First Line East of Highway 10. The 18 hole course is a par 72 and ranges to 6,791 in yards. 457-5700.

20. Credit Valley is a privately run golf club located south of Highway 5 one mile west of Highway 10. Credit Valley is an 18 hole, par 72, 6,314 yard course. 275-2505.

21. Mississauga Golf is a private, 18 hole, 6,436 yard, par 72 located on the east side of Mississauga Road, north of the Queen Elizabeth Way. 278-5281.

22. North Halton Golf and Country Club is a private club located at the corner of Trafalgar Road and Maple Avenue in Halton Hills. The 18 hole course measures 6,374 yards and has a par of 72. 877-9901.

23. Oakville Golf is a nine hole private course located on the Sixth Line of Trafalgar. The course measures 3,105 yards and is a par 35. 845-8321.

24. Trafalgar Golf is a private club located at the Sixth Concession and Derry Road in Milton. The 18 hole, 6,505 yard course has a par of 71. 878-2303.

25. Wyldeewood located on Trafalgar Road in Hornby is another private club with 18 holes. Wyldeewood is a 6,214 yard par 70 course. 826-0240.

26. Hawthorne Valley is an all par three course, located on Highway 10 south of the 401 in Mississauga. The par 54 course is 2,500 yards in length.

