Three-way race

Haggart slips by Remax 5-3

Two goals from John Arnold and a four-point performance from Gord Lyons propelled B.W. Haggart Crane to a 5-3 win over Remax Realty in Milton Hockey League action Sunday at Milton Sports Centre.

In other results, Sandstone Transport got four goals from Derek Griffiths en route to a 5-2 win over West End Bulls while Straight Line Fence continued to roll with a well-deserved 4-1 win over struggling Charles-Knight.

Despite winning its game, Haggart, which had held sole possession of second place, was tied for the spot by Sandstone when the league decided to count the first West End-Sandstone match-up in the standings allowing Sandstone to gain four points.

As things stand now, Straight Line is well out in front of the pack with five wins and a tie in six games. Sandstone and Haggart are tied for second with nine points although Haggart remains unbeaten and is the only MHL team to take even one point away from front-running Straight Line.

Remax Realty follows in fourth place

with four points while Charles-Knight, struggling so far this year, holds just one win. West End has lost its first six games but with Andy Saliba guarding the nets shows many signs of turning around.

Haggart jumped in front of Remax with two unanswered first-period goals. Ray Evans and Arnold fired the goals.

Haggart upped its lead to 3-0 midway through the second period when Arnold scored his second goal but two late Remax goals bridged the gap to one heading into the final frame. Bob Baker and Mike Kalapaca scored for Remax against Don Bell who played well throughout the game.

In the final frame, goals by Gord Lyons and Steve Wilson insured the win while Baker, with his second of the game, replied for Remax. Mike Shepherd, from Charles-Knight, tended goal for Remax. Regular goalie Hap Perrott is still off nursing a neck injury.

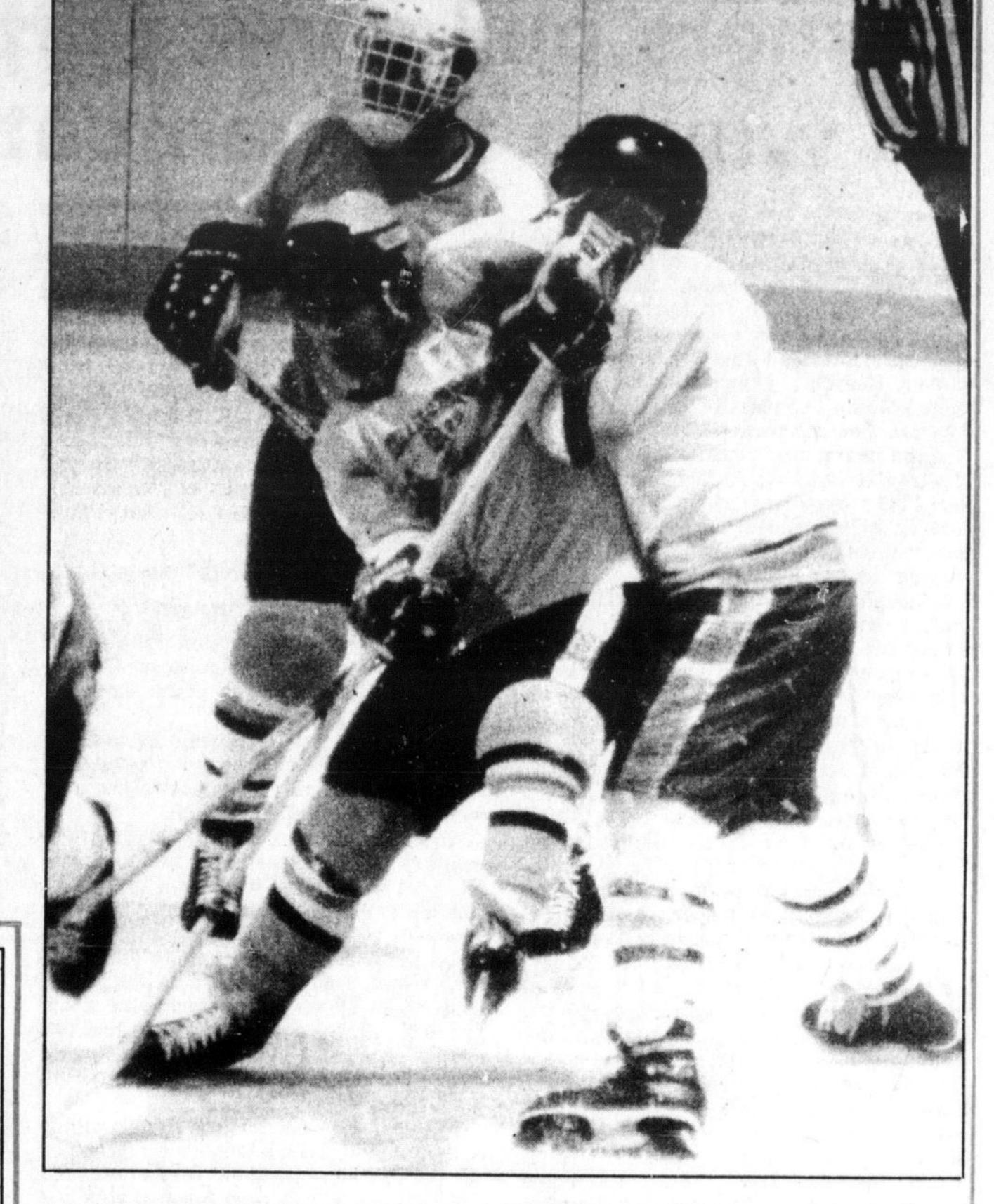
Derek Griffiths held a hot hand taking part in all five Sandstone goals in the win over West End. Griffiths scored four goals and added an assist including three straight markers five minutes apart in the final frame to seal the win. Ed Loeprich added a goal and an assist. Sandstone iced just 10 skaters for the contest.

Despite having one of its strongest lineups in years, Charles-Knight has had all kinds of trouble getting untracked this year and fell 4-1 to Straight Line.

Two goals from Bill Lyons and singles to Ralph Serafini and Ian Wanless carried Straight Line which ied 3-0 at one point and weren't threatened throughout the game. Tom Chuchmach, with a nicely placed shot on a breakaway, spoiled Straight Line goalie Ed House's shutout bid

Slashes — Just a reminder that the MHL hasn't scheduled games for Grey Cup Day Nov. 27. It was felt that with the game starting at 5 p.m. EST, a low turnout of players was probable. Over the last few years, the league has experienced a low turnout with the 2 p.m. starting times anyways.

The Molson-player-of-the-week award went to Haggart's Gord Lyons who had a goal and three assists. Sandstone's Derek Griffiths also rated consideration.



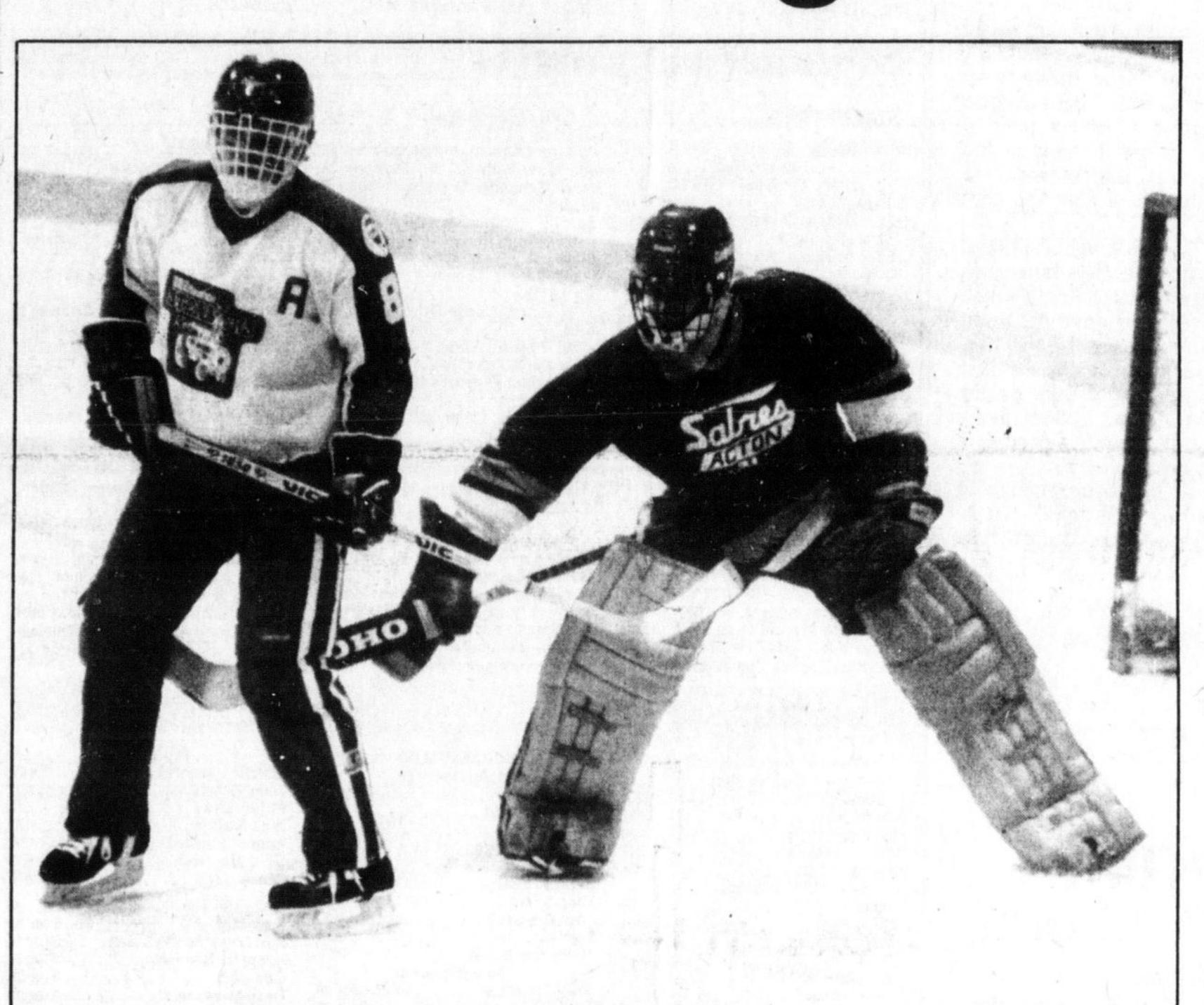
Remax's Duane Stark runs into much trouble in front of the Haggart goal. The top three teams each won Sunday in MHL action.



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Steamers get a real test



Acton goalie Fred Fess takes a swipe at Steamer Bob Mills. Fess was kept busy as Milton pumped 15 goals by him en route to a rout. Steamers face a tough schedule this week with away games to both Streetsville and Oakville.

Figure skaters show well in Keswick competition

In a top-notch figure skating performance, 18 skaters from the Milton club came within one point of winning a team competition at a meet in Keswick Saturday.

The Milton club received strong performances from the entire lot falling just a point short of knocking off the host Keswick club. In all, 202 skaters competed from a variety of area clubs.

Here's a brief rundown of local

In Jr. Ladies Preliminary 'A', Milton qualified three of its skaters into the finals. In the first flite, Jodi McDuffe was fourth, Natalie Clarke was eighth and Nives Zappas was 10th. In the second flite, Kim Bahnman was first, Kelly Tiralongo was third and Sheena Wrigglesworth was seventh.

In the finals of Preliminary 'A',
Jodi McDuffe came through with a
second while Kelly Tiralongo was
sixth and Kim Bahnman was
seventh.

In Preliminary 'B', Milton qualified four skaters to the finals. In the first flite, Laurie McDonnell was second and Amber Wilson was third. In the second flite, Sheriann Heath was first and Nicole Brown was second.

In the finals of the event, Milton placed all four skaters in the top six. McDonnell finished first, Heath was second, Brown was

Heath was second, Brown was fourth and Wilson was sixth.

In the Jr. Bronze competition,

Tracy McDuffe was fifth.

In Sr. Bronze Ladies 'A', two of four Milton skaters advanced out

of their flites and into the finals. In the first flite, Tina Henneberry was fourth while Wendy Brunelle and Anna Zita skated well but didn't advance. In the second flite, Nancy McDonnell topped the flite. In the finals, McDonnell was fourth and Henneberry placed sixth overall. In Sr. Bronze Ladies 'B', Julie McDuffe finished second in her flite and then skated well in the

finals to finish first overall. Letitia Wilson and Laura Mearns also competed in the flites but didn't

In related news, local skater Beth Parker advanced to the Central Ontario Sectional championships at Owen Sound this weekend by finishing second in pre-novice ladies in a regional meet in Scarborough recently.

W.I. Dick

Girls volleyball team triumphant in meet

The W.I. Dick girls' volleyball team travelled to Burlington's Lord Elgin High School Saturday to participate in the Tecumseh Invitational volleyball tournament. Eight girls and boys teams from across Halton competed in the daylong tourney.

At the conclusion of round-robin play, W.I. Dick and E.J. James schools were tied for points behind the leaders from Tecumseh. A best-of-three match followed to decide who would meet Tecumseh in the championship match. W.I. Dick took the match two straight 15-11, 15-13.

The championship games couldn't have been closer. In the first game, W.I. Dick squeaked

ahead of Tecumseh with a 16-14 win. W.I. Dick fought hard to make it two straight but early in the game found themselves down five points. The final score was 15-11 for Tecumseh.

The third and deciding game allowed neither team more than a two-point advantage with W.I. Dick coming out on top after Tecumseh turned down game and match point four times. The final score was 16-14 for W.I. Dick.

Coached by Lucy Dennis, members of the Wildcat team are Kristi Love (M.V.P.), Michelle Hadley, Ilsa Bancroft, Kim McLean, Louis Kirk, Sharon Gherasim, Eve MacNeil, Jenelle Cameron, Tanya Smith and Kari Martin.

The real test to the improvement of Milton Steamers comes this week when the junior club has a pair of away contests to both Streetsville Derbys and Oakville Blades.

While much progress has been made in the past month or so, it's becoming apparent that for the club to entertain thoughts of finishing in the top four it must start to take points from the front-runners.

"We've got to continue to beat the teams below us in the standings," says Steamers' general manager Dave Del Papa, "and chip away at the teams above us.

"Realistically, there's not much difference between fourth and fifth places in the league. I think most of our players have been around long enough to know the arenas in Burlington and Oakville that the extra game in a playoff series is not going to make much difference. But I think we've got a good shot at finishing third and possibly second."

Steamers split their games last week coming through with a soft effort against Barrie Colts in a 6-1 losing effort. Steamers rebounded the next night and embarassed Acton Sabres 15-4 at Memorial Arena.

Significant in the Steamer recovery has been the play of its defensive corps and goalies. After allowing almost six goals a game in its first six games, Steamers have bounced back in the last nine games to post a goals-against average of 4.5. Combined, the record is exactly five goals against which is good enough for fourth place, behind Streetsville, Oakville and Barrie.

The return of Randy Heggie, the play of newcomer Claude Bertrand, the return of Paolo Zulian and the improved play of Ric Serafini and Mike Chudleigh have all played a hand in Steamers' defensive recovery.

It was the offence which took hold of Acton Friday exploding to leads of 5-1 and 9-2 after the first and second period before salting it away with six more goals in the final period. Del Papa said he saw the rout as a good thing.

"In the past when we'd get up by three goals, we always seemed to let the other team come back. But we've got to get through to these guys that the fourth and fifth goals are just as important as the first three. I don't like to call it "killer instinct", but I think that's what we're going to have to do so that the players can have an easy third period and build up their point totals."

The game with Acton was a rout from about the midway point of the opening period. After Acton scored the first goal of the game, Trevor Erb and Brad Warden scored 23 seconds apart to put Milton into a lead they wouldn't relinquish the rest of the way.

The match was a chippy affair throughout with Steamers scoring five power-play goals. In addition, the club scored three short-handed markers, including two by Bob Landry.

Ten different Steamers scored with Landry hitting the mark three times. Mark Haskett, Bertrand and Erb each added a pair while singles went to Ken Schaeffer, Bob Mills (his 13th), Randy Perusello, Serafini, Rick Brown and Warden. Derrick Neelands played well in goal but really didn't have a lot to do.

It was a different story against Barrie as Colts broke open a scoreless game with two unanswered second-period goals before pounding home four third-period goals to seal the win. Zulian was especially sharp over the first two periods in which Barrie held much of the play but couldn't build much of a lead. Warden scored from Jeff Martin. Martin didn't finish the game as he was ejected midway through the final period and took a one-game suspension which caused him to miss the Acton game.

In other related Steamer events:

The club signed import centre Darren Ertl last week and he played in both games. The smallish centre became known to the club through Warden. Ertl, who is on a five-game look-see, played some Tier Two hockey with Newmarket and most recently was playing with Bradford of a Junior 'C' league.

Also, the club announced that nothing has changed with the status of either Rob Kozak or Rick Landry. Kozak may yet remain with the club while Landry, at last word, was shopping through a list of teams. Acton lost the services of Norm Knoflach, of Milton, who quit, and is on the lookout for a back-up to Fred Fess.

Former Steamer Bill Lynch has now officially rejoined Lindsay of a Jr. C League. Lynch, who quit the team just before they started their roll, had sought his release for some time. The matter eventually found its way to an OHA appeal board which ruled in Milton's favour. While there was no doubt that Lynch would return to Lindsay, the two clubs were at odds regarding compensation and the OHA upheld Milton's request. A restriction in the arrangement prevents Lynch from returning to the Central Ont. Jr. B League with any other team except Milton.

Off the Track: Steamers played in Streetsville last night (Tuesday) and also are away in rare Friday night away game to Oakville Blades Friday.

mike boyle



MFL future might be good

Just when it looked like everything was lost, the Milton Fastball League looks again like it may resurface for at least another year.

In a league meeting, a consensus was reached in which most of the teams decided that it was in the league's best interests to keep the league going but to refine it.

That refining will take the form of pitching, for two years now the league's strength. While there's little doubt that some of the best intermediate-calibre pitchers in the province play in the MFL, it's also true that not many MFL hitters can hit them.

As a result, early indications are for the league to allow local pitchers only. Those hurlers who have pitched in intermediate leagues will not be allowed. In effect, say good-bye to Paul Wannamaker, Al Few, Barry Timbers and Mike Leslie.

As a result, the league will once again feature the odd hit or two and 1-0 games won't be the norm. With talk of a more recreational league taking place, teams such as Lowville Cweco, Fifth Wheel, B.W. Haggart Crane and Husky Trailers are entertaining thoughts bout joining the league.

With Remax Realty already admitted to the Inter-County League, the MFL could increase its ranks back to six teams.

It's a good move by the league although we won't know which way the league will turn until an MFL meeting in January. It'll save a strong calibre of ball for this town and might even bring the fans back to Brian Best Park.

Les Wilson, coach of both the Milton rep juvenile girls team and the Fifth Wheel Fun Softball ladies team, will be holding a dance for all team members Nov. 19 at the Legion.

Anyone is welcomed and tickets can be purchased from any team member or Wilson. The dance will run from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Two groups around town are trying to start clubs for cross-country or distant runners interested in running through the winter.

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Bruce Burton, from Athletiques Internationale, said he's forming a club which will run every Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. around the streets of Milton. They'll meet at Milton District High School.

Anyone interested is asked to simply attend the sessions.

Similarly, noted race-organizer Peter Schmidt will hold sessions through the winter to provide a training program as well as exchange information

on upcoming races.

They meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at Milton District as well as Sundays at 10 a.m. Give Schmidt a call at 878-7574.

Atoms on track with 2 key wins

Excellent goaltending by Stuart Williams and a three-goal performance by Rob Bednarski powered Remax Realty atom Jr. Aeros to a 4-3 victory over Georgetown Sunday.

During the first and third periods, fine passing and playmaking were displayed by the entire team. The second period, a period in which Milton played shorthanded for six minutes, saw superb penalty-killing by John Solich and Ryan Valiquette and goals by Brad Burns and Bednarski. Sean Boyle and Valiquette each scored one assist while Pat Henneberry added two assists.

The win came on the heels of a 3-1 victory over Orangeville. Henneberry, Burns, and Bednarski each scored one goal while Solich and Mike Shaye added assists. Strong forechecking was provided by the line of Wade Hicken, Kevin O'Donnell and Scott Dooher. An excellent performance of back checking was turned in by Boyle and Shaun Bain.