Junior Red Sox begin league playoffs tomorrow

Milton heads into double knockout tournament as the clear favourite

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

As of yesterday, Milton's junior boys baseball team was still waiting to find out who they'd be facing in this weekend's tier two league playoff action.

The only certainty at press time was that the Roxul Red Sox would be the heavy favourite at the five-team double knockout showcase — having successfully tackled basically every tier two challenge this year to finish first in the regular season.

"Eventually we've got to beat everyone to win, so I'm not too concerned with who we're facing first," said manager Glenn Turner, whose juniors will enjoy an opening-round bye and begin

competition tomorrow morning in Clarkson. "The guys are oozing confidence right now, but hopefully they're not too overconfident."

With all 10 pitchers available for mound work — and every arm well rested from a two-week layoff — the Red Sox sit in excellent shape for both their league playoffs and next weekend's 10-team Ontario 'C' championships in Listowel.

Plenty of depth

Remarked Turner, "Being so deep in every position, it's (backto-back playoffs) actually to our advantage. I think we can outdistance any opposition that comes our way."

Now back from coaching a summer hockey program in Vermont, Jarrett Konkle joins a Milton team that's already well stacked in every conceivable area.

Perhaps the best indication of this came late last month in

Wallaceburg where the local lads used less than half of their pitchers and still handily defended their tournament title.

This championship win punctuated a regular season in which the Red Sox ran roughshod over their tier two competition with a record of 17-2.

And if that isn't enough to create the necessary confidence for the next two weekends, the local juniors also have the knowledge that just a month ago they held their own against some of the top 'A' level teams in the province at the Whitby Tournament.

They dropped two-run games to the first and third ranked clubs — Guelph and Peterborough respectively — and toppled seventh ranked North York 10-5.

Milton begins its league playoffs tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. and continues in round three at 4:30 p.m. Both games will be played in Clarkson. The tournament continues through until Sunday after-

MacLeod captures the gold medal with Canadian 23-and-under team

The Junior Red Sox will look to shine on the provincial stage later this month but one of their players has already secured international bragging rights.

Jeff MacLeod was part of Canada's 23and-under squad that took top honours at the recent eight-team International Cup in Ottawa. The team won four of five round-robin games to capture gold.

While not in the lineup for a 5-1 upset victory against the heavily-favoured United States, Milton's 20-year-old pitcher/outfielder was instrumental in the other three wins.

On the mound, his best efforts were

reserved for round one against Italy. In four innings, he held the opposition both hitless and scoreless while striking out nine batters to power the team to an 8-2 triumph.

Versus Canada's Under-18 squad in round three, he was nearly as effective - factoring into an 8-1 victory by holding the younger hosts to a single run on one hit through four frames.

MacLeod contributed offensively as well with a couple of designated hitter stints, including one in the final round robin game against Italy — which if won by three or more runs would give Canada

the championship.

The Junior Red Sox veteran walked three times and scored twice to fuel Canada's 6-3 title-clinching win.

His only hit of the tournament came against Australia in round two, when he doubled to drive in a run during a 5-4

The International Cup triumph was the second highly-regarded title in three years for MacLeod, who's now a thirdyear student at West Virginia's Salem International University. In 2000, he won the Connie Mach national championship with the Ontario Blue Jays.

Deaf hockey team hosts golf tourney

Milton's deaf hockey players are hoping to defend their world championship next spring in Sweden.

But first they'll need a financial assist from the community, which can support their upcoming excursion by signing up for the Canadian National Deaf Ice Hockey Team's charity golf tournament and silent auction at Granite Ridge Golf Club September 26.

This inaugural event is in memory of John Guirestante — a prominent member of the 1999 Canadian deaf hockey team, and former New Jersey Devil hopeful, who died of pneumonia last fall. Walter Gretzky will be the guest speaker at the tournament, while also on hand will be ex-NHL great Johnny Bower.

Proceeds from the event will go toward the travel expenses for the national team, which will include at least two Miltonians — Chad Broussard and Marc Couture. The duo were part of Canada's 1999 gold-medal victory in Switzerland. Other local players will have one last shot at making the team at a tryout in the fall.

Anyone wishing to sign up for the tournament or become a sponsor is asked to call Norm Brownell at (905) 878-0752.

AMILTON MINOR HOCKEY

All Try-outs are at Thompsom Arema

For the Hockey Season Beginning in 2002/2003				
Division	Birth Year	Age		
Overage Juvenile	1982	20 (max 5 players per team)		
Juvenile	1983 or subsequent years	19 & under		
Midget Minor Midget	1985 or subsequent years	17 & under		
(BB and Below) (AAA-AA-A)	1986 or subsequent years 1987 or subsequent years	16 a under 15 a under		
Bantam Minor Bantam	1988 or subsequent years 1989 or subsequent years	14 & under 13 & under		
Peewee Minor Peewee	1990 or subsequent years 1991 or subsequent years	12 a under 11 a under		
Atom Minor Atom	1992 or subsequent years 1993 or subsequent years			
Novice	1994 or subsequent years	8 a under		
Tyke (Initiation Program)	1995 or subsequent years	7 & under		

Age Change Reference Chart

Notes: The players age is determined for the current playing season by the players age at December 31 of the current ¥ For information please refer to the OMHA Manual of Operations or visit the OMHA web site at www.omha.net.

Time - Aug 18th	Team T	ry Out #
9:00am - 10:15am	Peewee AA	1
10:15am - 11:30am	Min Atom AA	1
11:30am - 12:45pm	Atom AA	1
12:45pm - 2:00pm	Min Peewee AA	1
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Min Bantam AA	1
3:15pm - 4:45pm	Bantam AA	1
4:45pm - 6:00pm	Nov AA	1
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Min Midget AA	1
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Midget AA	1

9:00pm - 11:00pm	Juvenile	1
	lug 24th	
9:00am - 10:15am	Min Peewee AA	2
10:15am - 11:30am	Peewee AA	2
11:30am - 12:45pm	Min Aton AA	2
12:45pm - 2:00pm	Atom AA	2
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Min Bantam AA	2
3:00 pm - 4:45 pm	COACHES CLINIC	
4:45pm - 6:00pm	Tyke	1

Time - <i>Aug 24th</i>	Team T	ry Out :
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Bantam AA	2
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Midget AA	2
	Aug 25th	
A:00am - 10:15am	Peewee AA	3
10:15am - 11:30am	Min Atom AA	3
11:30am - 1:00pm	Midget AA	3
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Tyke	2
2:00pm - 4:00pm	COACHES CLINIC	
4:00pm - 5:30pm	Nov. AA	2
5:30pm - 7:00pm	Atom AA	3
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Min Midget AA	2
	Aug 26th	
7:30pm - 9:15pm	Bantam A	1
9:15pm - 11:00pm	Juvenile	2
	Aug 27th	
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Min Atom A	1
	Aug 28th	
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Peewee A	1
9:00pm - 11:00pm	Midget A	1_1_
	Aug 29th	
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Atom A	1
	Aug 30th	
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Min PeeWee A	1
9:00pm - 11:00pm	Juvenile	3
	Aug 31st	
9:00am - 10:15am	Nov AA	3
10:15am - 11:30am	Min Atom A	2
11:30am - 12:45am	Nov A	1
12:45pm - 2:00pm	Tyke	3
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Min Peewce A	2
3:15pm - 4:45pm	Bantam A	2
4:45pm - 6:00pm	Atom A	2
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Min Peewee AA	3
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Peewee A	2

Registration - August 18 8:00am - 2:00pm Memorial Arena

Time - Sept 1st	Team T	ry Out #
9:00am - 10:15am	Min Atom A	3
10:15am - 11:30am	Peewee A	3
11:30am - 1:00pm	Bantam A	3
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Nov A	2
2:00pm - 3:30pm	Atom A	3
3:30pm - 5:00pm	Midget A	2
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Min Atom AA	4
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Peewee AA	4
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Bantam AA	3
Sept 3rd		
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Min Bantam AA	3
	Sept 4th	
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Min Peewee A	3
	Sept 5th	
9:00pm - 11:00pm	Min Midget AA	3
	Sept 7th	
9:00am - 10:15am	Min Atom A	4
10:15am - 11:30am	Bantam A	4
11:30am - 12:45pm	Tyke	4
12:45pm - 2:00pm	Peewee A	4
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Nov A	3
3:15pm - 4:30pm	Min Peewee AA	4
4:30pm - 6:00pm	Atom AA	4
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Novice AA	4
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Midget A	3
	Sept 8th	
1:00pm - 2:15pm	Atom A	4
2:15pm - 3:30pm	Novice A	4
3:30pm - 5:00pm	Min Midget AA	4
5:00pm - 6:30pm	Min Bantam AA	4
6:30pm - 8:00pm	Bantam AA	4
8:00pm - 9:30pm	Midget A	4
9:30pm - 11:00pm	Juvenile	4
	Sept 9th	
8:30pm - 9:30am	Min Peewee A	4
9:30pm - 11:15pm	Midget AA	4

All players must be registered before going on ice. First time players must bring their birth certificates.