

Senior Red Sox still suffering from a lack of timely hitting

High stranded runner count proving costly

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

The Champion

The hits are coming, just not in timely fashion.

The Senior Red Sox continued to wrestle with that troubling trend last week. And while splitting their two road games was hardly cause for alarm, a lack of finish at the plate was certainly worrisome for manager George Moore.

Afterall, his charges find themselves in a bonafide dog fight with Oakville and Glanbrook for an OBA berth and any kind of slump could prove disastrous.

"We're not getting guys in, and right now it's the heart of the order that's not coming through with guys on base. That's a concern," said Milton's longtime skipper.

In Erindale June 27, Moore's seniors out-hit their hosts but left nine runners on base en route to being nipped 3-2.

Milton's inability to mount momentum

spoiled a rock-solid performance by complete-game pitcher Adam Ahearn — who gave up just a handful of hits and three walks while striking out eight — and near-perfect fielding.

The Red Sox struck out several times themselves with players in scoring position and short-circuited offensively after tying things up in the second inning.

Kurt Mitchell and Ryan Davison drove in the runs, while scoring them were rookie Liam Tennant and Steve MacDonald — who delivered the only multi-hit effort of the night.

Thursday evening Milton was victorious in spite of stranding a dozen runners on base — toppling lowly Dundas 11-4.

Offering a reassuring presence on the mound, Tennant scattered five hits and

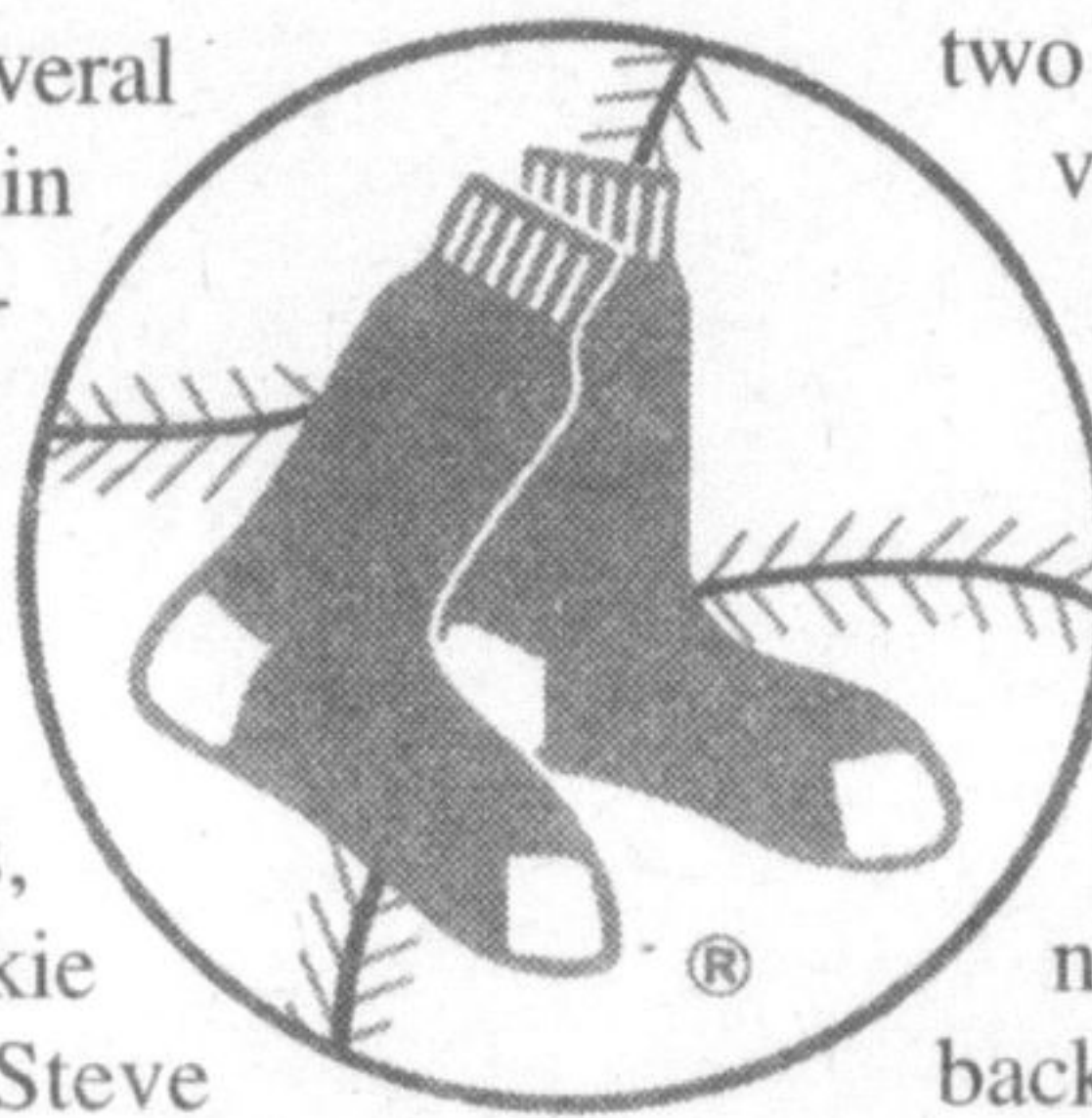
three walks over seven innings to complement a balanced offensive attack that produced early and often.

Newcomer Brent Teoboeckhorst led the way with four hits, including a solo homer in the ninth to add insult to injury. Nick Aalbers and Taylor Lawton cashed in two runs apiece, while also providing key contributions with the bat were first-year catcher Evan Jeans and fellow newcomer Mark Sgrignoli.

Last week's split gave the Red Sox a 9-6 record in league play heading into last night's game in Oakville. Now back from an ankle injury and getting married, reliable veteran hurler Ian Zettle was expected to get the start.

Fellow seasoned pitcher Brent Kostal is out for the season with a shoulder injury.

Milton heads to Burlington tomorrow evening and will then compete at this coming weekend's London Tournament.



Freshman filly trotters set for Gold Eliminations tonight at Mohawk

July marks the start of the two-year-old Ontario Sires Stakes season, and Mohawk fans will get their first glimpse of the freshman trotting fillies in Gold Elimination action tonight.

Four divisions of young trotters will vie for a total of \$109,324, and trainer Scott McEneny hopes Blueridge Yankee can mind her manners and earn a share of the OSS riches.

"You never know what two-year-old trotting fillies are going to do," said the Waterdown resident. "But if you can keep a two-year-old filly trotting, you can usually get some money."

Until recently, McEneny never imagined Blueridge Yankee would even see a Gold Elimination, never mind a chance at earning a paycheck. The high-strung youngster tried his patience endlessly, right up until the point in her training regiment where she had to starting producing some speed.

"I never really liked her; she was hard to like," admitted McEneny, who shares ownership of the Striking Sahbra daughter with



Hoof Beat

with **JEFF RENTON**

Whitesand Valley Stables Inc. of Orillia. "She's been better lately, about the last six weeks, since we started going a little faster."

Among the keys to the filly's recent development was the addition of Roger Mayotte to her team. The veteran reinsman — noted for his quiet presence in the race bike — has been instrumental in keeping the temperamental youngster focused on her game.

"I hooked her up with Roger and he's been pretty careful with her," said McEneny. "He hasn't got too excited with her yet. We just want to keep her doing it right. I think down the road she'll get to be a nice filly."

Mayotte will send the filly after a share

of the Gold Elimination purse from post five in the first race, and McEneny hopes the experience is a positive one for Blueridge Yankee.

"I think she'll be okay behind the car. She schooled behind the car before," he said. "But it will be night-time, with all the people in the grandstand, so it's probably going to be different for her."

A \$13,000 US purchase at last fall's Kentucky Standardbred Yearling Sale, Blueridge Yankee is one of five fillies by first year sire Striking Sahbra in her elimination, and one of a remarkable dozen among the 38 fillies competing tonight.

Blueridge Yankee and her first elimination peers will kick things off at 7:20 p.m.

The other three Gold Eliminations are slated for races two, four and six. The top two finishers in each elimination, plus two third-place finishers selected by random draw, will return to Mohawk Monday night for this season's first of five \$130,000 Gold Finals.

Midget Sox humbled by Georgetown

While not exactly setting the league on fire, the Midget Red Sox have at least been in most games this season.

However, that was hardly the case at Brian Best Park Sunday afternoon, when Milton imploded in the third inning and were mercied 12-0 by the fundamentally-sound Georgetown Eagles.

Anthony Gilbert bore the brunt of the damage on the hill, giving up nine runs in five innings. Reliever Kelly Belisle didn't have things much easier with a three-runs-against-sixth. A three-up, three-down seventh by workhorse pitcher Scott McTrach finally curbed the onslaught.

Four walks and a couple of ill-timed

errors factored into the blowout.

The Red Sox had just five hits in the loss, which dropped them to 4-9 in league play.

Milton fared much better four days earlier in Brampton, but again errors and some lacklustre pitching would prove costly — resulting in an 11-6 defeat.

McTrach started things off on the mound and kept things interesting until the midway mark of the night. Unfortunately, the same couldn't be said for reliever Jordan Fagin, who struggled down the stretch and wasn't aided at the plate or in the field.

The only bright spot offensively was Chris Hickey, who drove in five of the six runs on four hits — three of which were doubles.

The Red Sox will look to make things a lot more competitive with the Eagles when they head to Georgetown Thursday evening. They close out the week at Brian Best Sunday against Brampton. Game time is 1 p.m.

Skating club honours its best

The Milton Skating Club recently honoured top 2004/05 performers at its year-end banquet.

The following members took home hardware.

Gold Achievement awards

Skills — Kaitlyn Tsuruda, Sarah Williams
Dance — Melanie Koso, Laura Ross, Laura Stratton, Kaitlyn Tsuruda, Sarah Williams
Interpretive — Jenn Roskam

Competitive Test awards

Juvenile — Kendra Paguaga
Pre-Novice — Danielle Clarke
Novice — Ally Sereda

Junior club awards

Most Improved — Madelyn Dunley
Most Sportsmanlike — Kaitlyn Bell
Skater of the Year — Sophie MacLellan

Intermediate club awards

Most Improved — Athena Zorzi
Most Sportsmanlike — Jennifer Collins
Skater of the Year — Erin Rodenburg

Senior club awards

Most Improved — Kaitlyn Tsuruda
Most Sportsmanlike — Samantha Nikolich
Skater of the Year — Danielle Clarke

Preliminary Dance

Jasmine Beaulieu, Kaitlyn Bell, Sara Bocchinfusc, Storm Burgoyne, Serena Gill, Dana Hamilton, Sophie MacLellan, Kendra Wilcox, Athena Zorzi

Junior Bronze Dance

Cadence Baker, Melissa Cherry, Jennifer Collins, Valerie Graham, Lindsay Mindenhall, Erin Rodenburg, Jenna Wilson

Senior Bronze Dance

Julia Cenedese, Alexandra Collis, Carolyn Fritzley, Cassandra Patterson, Katie Preisner, Hugh Ritchie

Junior Silver Dance

Amanda Austin, Alexandra Collis, Samantha Nikolich, Victoria Smith

Senior Silver Dance

Danielle Clarke, Sarah Goncz, Sarah Kerwin, Kaitlyn Tsuruda

Preliminary Skills

Cadence Baker, Jennifer Collins, Lindsay Mindenhall, Jenna Wilson

Junior Bronze Skills

Julia Cenedese, Melissa Cherry, Beverly Hodge, Molly Parris, Erin Rodenburg, Emily Williams

Senior Bronze Skills

Julia Cenedese, Alexandra Collis, Carolyn Fritzley, Samantha Nikolich, Katie Preisner, Hugh Ritchie, Leanna Ritchie, Victoria Smith

Junior Silver Skills

Amanda Austin, Sarah Kerwin, Kendra Paguaga, Rosslyn Schultz

Senior Silver Skills

Danielle Clarke, Ally Sereda, Kaitlyn Tsuruda

Preliminary Freeskate

Lindsay Mindenhall, Molly Parris, Cassandra Patterson, Hugh Ritchie, Erin Rodenburg, Emily Williams, Jenna Wilson

Junior Bronze Freeskate

Carolyn Fritzley, Katie Preisner, Rosslyn Schultz, Victoria Smith

Senior Bronze Freeskate

Sarah Goncz, Sarah Williams

Senior Silver Freeskate

Melanie Koso, Laura Stratton

Introductory Interpretive

Danielle Clarke, Alexandra Collis

Bronze Interpretive

Danielle Clarke

Tough breaks for triathletes

Confusion of distances proved costly for a couple of local triathletes late last month.

Looking for his second straight victory in the 10 and 11-year-old boys division in the East End Toronto Triathlon, Scott Davis instead had to settle for second as the winner only completed three of four laps on the bike course but wasn't faulted for the inadvertent shortcut.

As a result, Davis finished nearly a full minute back over the 100m swim, 6km

bike, 2km run course.

A similar fate was suffered by fellow Miltonian Tam Kilbourn in Lindsay, where through a series of errors he was forced to bike an extra lap — or nearly three kilometres — and wound up ninth in the 12 and 13-year-old boys loop.

Enjoying an identical placing among 10 and 11-year-old girls was sister Bronwyn Kilbourn.