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Sports

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Catcher Glenn Turner (left) and pitcher George Moore confer about an upcoming batter during Saturday's baseball game against Glanbrook at Brian Best Park.

Milton won the game 8-3 to momentarily climb to the .500 mark.

Photo by JOHN WARREN

Streak continues for amazin' Roxul

Winning may become monotonous for some people, but it doesn't seem to be that way for the Milton Roxul senior T-ball team.

The squad of nine-year-olds travelled to the Burlington T-Ball Tournament over the weekend and came away with their fourth straight tournament championship this season.

In a rematch of the championship game of the first tourney of the season, Milton's own Early-Bird Tournament, Roxul faced Burlington in the finals, only this time Burlington had the home-field advantage.

The game came down to the final inning with Milton trailing 16-15. Ryan Johnson and Blair McTrach both hit singles and Trevor Gillies brought the tying run around with a double. Mini Haydar then hit a single to score McTrach with the winning run to give Milton the 17-16 win.

To get to the finals, Milton knocked off Oakville 20-16 and Brantford 18-9 to win their division.

They then faced their arch-rivals from Clarkson in the semi-finals of the event. Just two weeks ago, Milton and Clarkson played an eight-inning classic which Milton won.

Once again the game had to be taken to extra-innings before Milton prevailed 23-21 in a cliff-hanging fashion.

Clarkson started the game strongly, taking a 7-2 lead after just one in-

ning. Roxul clawed its way back, and led 13-12 after four innings but Clarkson fought back to tie the game at 16-16 after the regulation five innings.

In the top of the sixth inning, Clarkson scored five runs and many thought Milton's luck had finally run out. In the bottom of the sixth, Milton needed three of its last four batters to score to win the game.

Joey McDonald and Mike Roy both hit singles to set up Ryan Ricci to be the hero of the game, Ricci came through with a triple which tied the score.

Denis Bell then came to the plate as the last-batter, needing only a single to give his squad victory. Instead, he left no doubt as to the outcome when he boomed a home run to make the final 23-21. On the defensive side, Chris Chlisczyk, Chris Scherer and Kevin May all had strong games.

The Milton coaching staff had to shuffle the defensive makeup of the team due to the absence of third baseman Jeff Seeds. Joey McDonald and Adam Bertoli both did admirable jobs filling in, while Bell was shifted from his pitcher position to first base to fill in for Bertoli.

Roxul's record on the season is now 24-2-1 in tournament and league play. In last week's league game against Hamilton they prevailed 31-5 with McDonald, May, Ricci and Chlisczyk contributing to the victory.

Home field is worthless to locals

The homefield advantage isn't always everything it's cracked up to be. Just ask Milton's George Seehayer Welding minor tyke rep baseball team about that.

The played Bloor in a pair of games last week, with each of the teams winning on the other's home field.

The first of the two games, played last Monday night at Bloor, saw Milton combine outstanding pitching and hitting to humble the homeside Bloor squad 12-2. Offensively, Robert Haringa and Jeff Langille both hit triples while Steven Roy connected for a pair of doubles and

Jim Stelter hit three singles. The sharp offence was matched by sterling pitching by Haringa and Stelter and spectacular defence by Trevor Kerwin in the outfield and catcher Adam Grigor who twice picked runners off third base with quick throws to Roy.

The second game, this time at Milton and one the Welders expected to win, came out totally differently with Bloor coming out on top 13-10.

The top batters for Milton were Haringa with a triple, Neal with a double and Stelter with a pair of singles.

Baseball

Royals go round and round but get nowhere

By JEFF PASQUALE
 The Milton HJM Insurance Royals are a lot like a man trying to walk up the down escalator. They both work hard, but neither gets anywhere fast.

The Royals played four games in the last week. They went into the week with an 8-9 record. Twice they climbed to the .500 mark on the season, only to drop back with a loss in the following game.

In their first game of the stretch, played last Tuesday in Glanbrook, Milton led 8-4 at the end of the seventh inning when Glanbrook was forced to forfeit.

Marvin Smith, the Glanbrook relief pitcher, was on second base with two out in the seventh inning of the game when he was picked off by Milton pitcher Rick McTrach. When Smith went back to the dugout he was chastised by Ray Pomfret, the Glanbrook manager, for his baserunning blunder.

Smith decided he didn't want to

hear about the mistake so he quit and went home. Unfortunately for Glanbrook, they didn't have anybody left on the bench and had to forfeit the game.

"We had the game well in hand anyway," commented Royals manager Glenn Turner. "It was the kind of game that everybody wants to get over with."

McTrach started on the mound for Milton and pitched the complete seven innings to pick up the win. He allowed only one earned run while giving up six hits and a pair of walks.

The next night, Milton hosted their arch-rivals, the Campbellville Mohawks, in a game scheduled for an abbreviated seven innings.

It's the second time the two teams have faced each other. They first met in the Campbellville tournament. This time the Mohawks prevailed by a 6-4 score.

Scott Gadd was the star of the game for Campbellville, hitting a

three-run home run in the first inning and getting the final two outs of the seventh inning to get the save. The win went to Ray Evans, who pitched 6 1/3 innings and contributed to his own cause with a solo home run in the third inning.

Gerry Milne went all seven innings for Milton, allowing seven hits and only three earned runs.

A baserunning error may have kept the Royals from a big first inning.

Doug Timbers led off the game with a single and Doug Dum, the following batter, reached first base when he was hit by a pitch. Both baserunners were moved along when Evans committed a balk (just like the big leagues). Mario Galvao then came to the plate and ripped a line drive which Evans was able to spear. He then fired the ball to third base where Timbers became the victim of a double play when he was unable to get back to the base in time.

Milton climbed back to 9-9 on the season when they beat Glanbrook in the second leg of a home-and-home series, 8-3. Once again Milton got out to an early lead and cruised home. The Royals scored six runs in the first inning and two more in the third while George Moore was holding Glanbrook to nothing more than six hits. None of the Glanbrook runs were earned.

Sunday's game against Dundas turned into a heart breaker for the visiting Milton squad as they dropped a 10-9 decision.

The game was tied 9-9 entering the bottom half of the ninth inning. Doug Anderson was on the mound for Milton, relieving Roy Skinner, who had relieved the sore-armed Dave Turner. Anderson, who was pitching despite a broken bone in his foot which prevents him from batting or playing a defensive position, was entering his third inning of relief.

Anderson struck out Joe Torre to

lead off the ninth, but gave up a single and stolen base to Steve Cheeseman with one out. Anderson then walked Tim Lee, who earlier had hit a grand slam home run, intentionally, to get to Ray Pozzal. The strategy almost worked when Pozzal flew out to Timbers in leftfield. Mike Hoar spoiled the move by hitting a two-out single down the leftfield line which landed just fair.

Milton's best chance to blow the game open came in the eighth inning. With three runs already in and the score tied at nine, Milton had the bases loaded with none out. Dundas pitcher Greg Brandt pitched out of the trouble though when he induced Glenn Turner to pop up to the short-stop, struck out John Turner and popped up Carlos Paizao.

Milton's record now stands at 9-10. Saturday they host St. Catharines at Brian Best Park at 1:30 p.m. and Monday they travel to Oakville, to face the red-hot A's.