

"Babe" Marchildon

They're still asking for autographs

Penetanguishene's most famous baseball player hit the pages of the Toronto Star last Monday.

Star reporter George Gamester referred to Penetanguishene's Phil Marchildon in his column, Names in the News, last Monday. The following is the Star article.

"Phil 'Babe' Marchildon of Penetanguishene became a Canadian sports sensation back in 1942, after his strong right arm had rocketed him from the bush leagues of Northern Ontario to Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics, where he won 17 games as a 29-year-old rookie.

However, the early 1940's was no time for a husky Canadian to be playing baseball, so Phil joined the RCAF as a tail gunner, was shot down over the North Sea by an ME 110, and spent a year of hardship in German prison camps before the war's end.

Five weeks after his return to Canada, he was back on the mound for the A's to be greeted by 35,000 fans — 10 times the number that usually turned out for the hapless team. In the next two years he went on to win 13 and 19 games and narrowly miss a no-hitter, truly

extraordinary feats with a cellar-dwelling club.

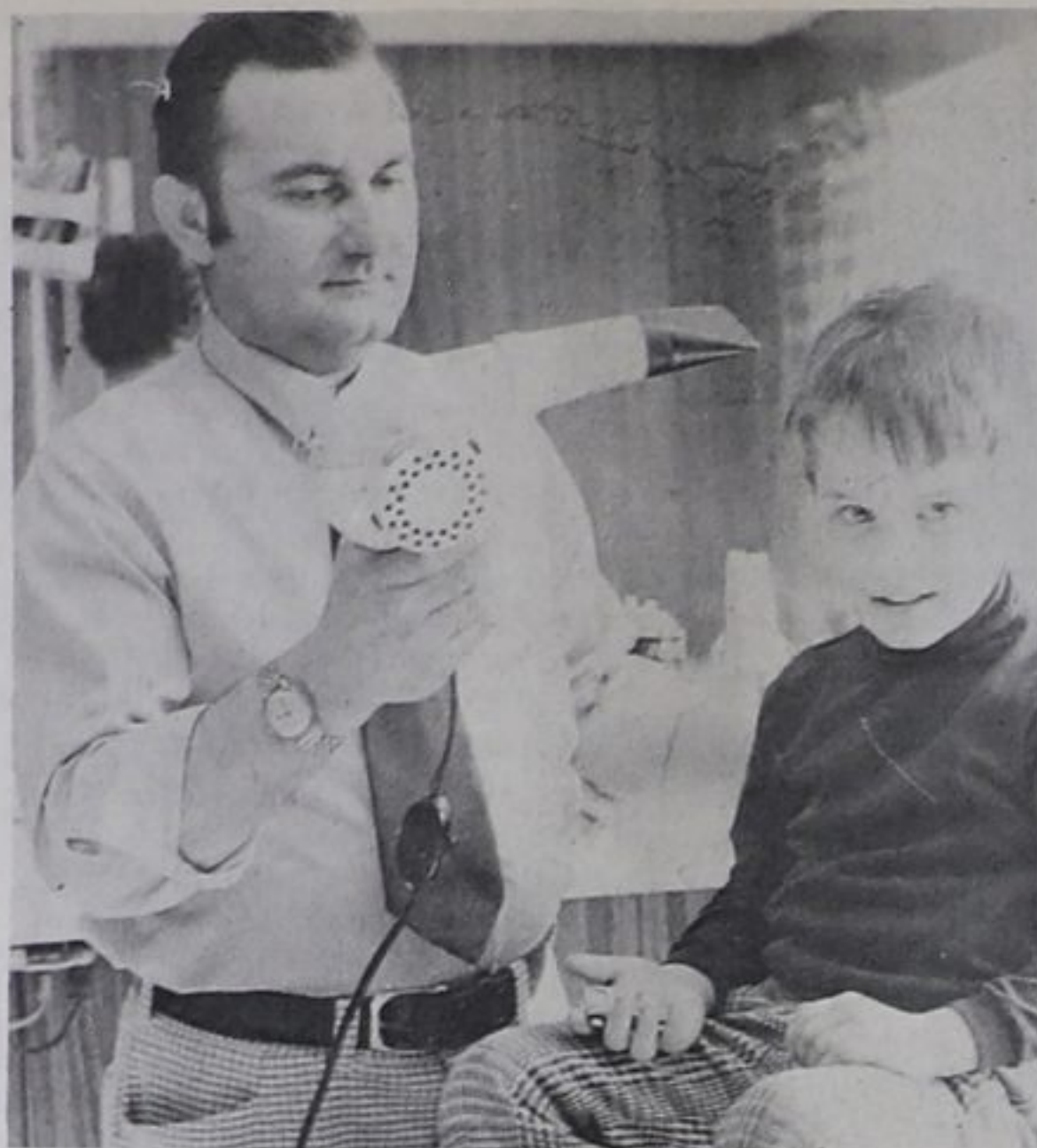
But unfortunately, in 1948, the delayed reaction that doctors had predicted from his war experiences caught up with Phil, and his major league career ended in chronic bad nerves, loss of pitching control and consignment to a string of ever-lower minor league clubs.

Today, Babe Marchildon is a gray-haired 60-year-old father of two who owns a house in Etobicoke and still works in the Toronto hospital bed factory where he's been happily employed for 15 years."

In a later edition of the Citizen's 13 part series on the history of Penetanguishene, we'll take a look at the career of Babe Marchildon and other sports notables from Penetanguishene's past.

Babe Marchildon still has not been forgotten, 27 years after he last pitched in the big leagues. In the Star article Babe is quoted as saying "I get cards and letters every week. They're still asking me for autographs."

Marchildon will be asked to return to Penetanguishene for our 'Old Home Week' celebrations.



Trying out pop's new shop

Four-year-old Keith Rankin didn't need a haircut but he wanted his father to use the blower on his hair at Eric Rankin's new barber shop on Main Street across from Fiesta Hair Styling. Eric Rankin completed the move from his old barber shop across from M and E Discount to the new location on Monday. Tom Shields also opened his Entertainment Centre on the same day. The centre, featuring records and tapes is located in the same building as Eric Rankin's new barber shop. Shields will also handle orders for record players and tape decks at the Entertainment Centre. In addition he is preparing to open a travel agency in the same store.

Staff photo

Area cancer campaign starts

"The war against cancer has reached a new stage and we hope to see some new victories in the not-too-distant future," declared Don Warnke, 1975 campaign chairman of the Midland and District Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society.

The "victories" will be won with the help of all contributors to the society's April campaign for funds which started April 14 and will continue to the end of the month. All areas in Midland-Penetanguishene and surrounding districts will be canvassed by hundreds of volunteer workers. Campaign chairman for Penetanguishene is J. W. Reimer, manager of the Toronto-Dominion bank.

The goal is \$12,000, an amount which the campaign exceeded in 1974.

Since its inception, the Canadian Cancer Society from its campaign funds, has supported research through the National Cancer Institute in excess of \$51,000,000.

"As research forges ahead, some cancers considered incurable only a few

years ago are becoming manageable - even curable," Mr. Warnke pointed out.

Among new approaches to control is the use of drugs as the treatment of choice in leukemia. Ever since 1947 when drugs were first used, new developments in chemotherapy in treatment have made rapid strides.

In other areas, investigators are seeking answers to how viruses may be involved with human tumours, Mr. Warnke said.

"Our ultimate objective is, of course, to wipe out cancer, and if those battling to control the disease continue

to receive generous support from all Canadians, we may see that come about," he concluded.

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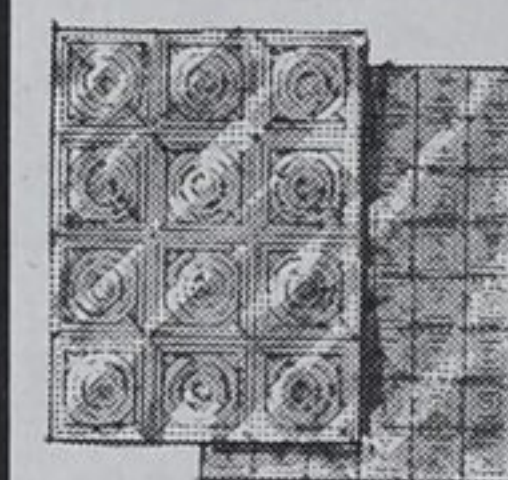
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Metric means more money

The provincial government will be granting county and regional school boards grants of 75 cents per board pupil to aid the boards in the conversion of textbooks, technical equipment, and general materials to the metric system.

At a recent meeting of the Simcoe County Board of Education, director of education Jack Ramsay noted that the changeover from the Imperial system of measurement

involves some serious changes. The grants would certainly ease the burden of the conversion, he noted.

The grants will apply to all public elementary, secondary, and separate schools in Ontario.

He noted the large part which the young people will play in teaching parents the new system.



Elise DeVillers

She's no ordinary woman

Elise DeVillers is an extraordinary woman. She's a lawyer and in a profession dominated by men if that doesn't make you a bit out of the ordinary she has other extraordinary qualifications. To begin with she's a late comer to the legal profession, one of those few people who take on a new career after being deeply involved in another profession. Prior to studying for law she taught high school in Orillia and Ottawa for a period of six years. Her teaching subjects were French and Latin, subjects which she acquired her honours degree in at University of Ottawa. The final thing about her which is slightly out of the extraordinary is that she works in the same firm with her brother Ted DeVillers who has practised with the firm of McKinnon, DeVillers and Horton for the past three years.

Like the rest of the DeVillers family Elise was born and raised in Penetanguishene receiving her high school education at the Midland-Penetanguishene and District High School. She is fluently bilingual and considers it an asset to the law practice.

After four years at the University of Ottawa it was on to the Ontario College of Education in Toronto and then six years in the teaching profession.

But why the switch to law? "I wanted to do something more definite, where you could see the results as you go along," she explained. "I enjoyed teaching but it wasn't concrete enough. Law changes but it is still more definite than teaching."

When Elise DeVillers was attending law school women were a distinct minority, but now she says this is changing.

"Eight per cent of my graduating class were women" but for the whole province this year women make up one third of the first year law students she said.

On the whole Elise DeVillers finds that people are ready to accept a woman lawyer. There are still some moments of surprise though when she answers the phone. "They expect a lawyer to be a man, so when you talk on the phone they expect the secretary until you identify

yourself" she said. Large businesses still prefer a male lawyer to handle their work she claimed but in today's world being a woman and a lawyer "doesn't present insurmountable problems. As for working with her brother she likes it. "I articulated with him and I'm used to it."

There is one other slightly extraordinary thing about being in the same law office with her brother. Although Elise is the younger lawyer in terms of years practised, she's older than her brother. Elise DeVillers, altogether — an extraordinary woman who is the latest member of the Penetanguishene-Midland legal circles.

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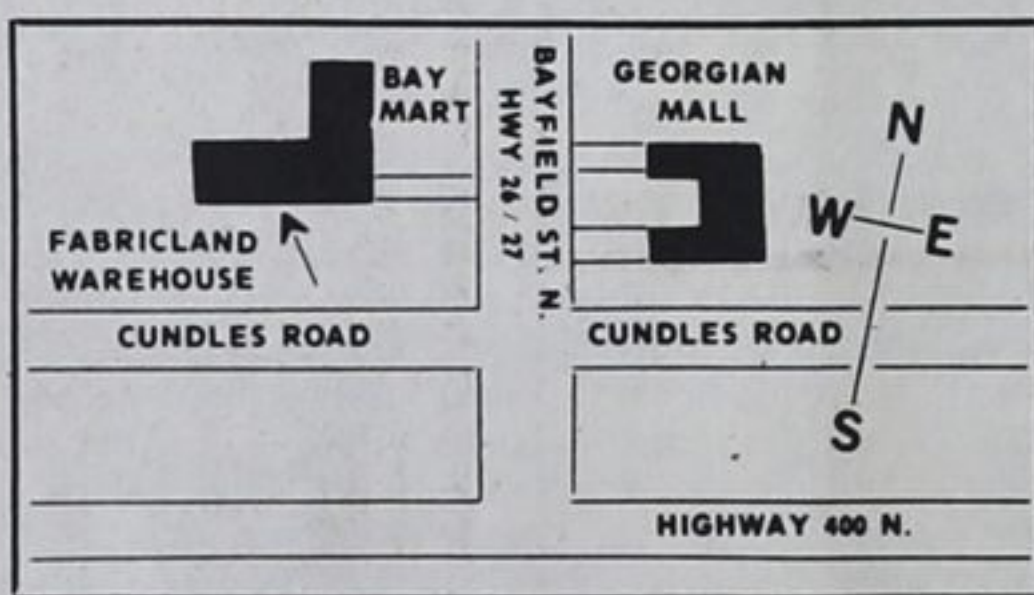
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