

CELEBRATE WITH US THIS YEAR  
A CENTURY  
OF PROGRESS

# PENETANGUISHENE

1875 — 1975

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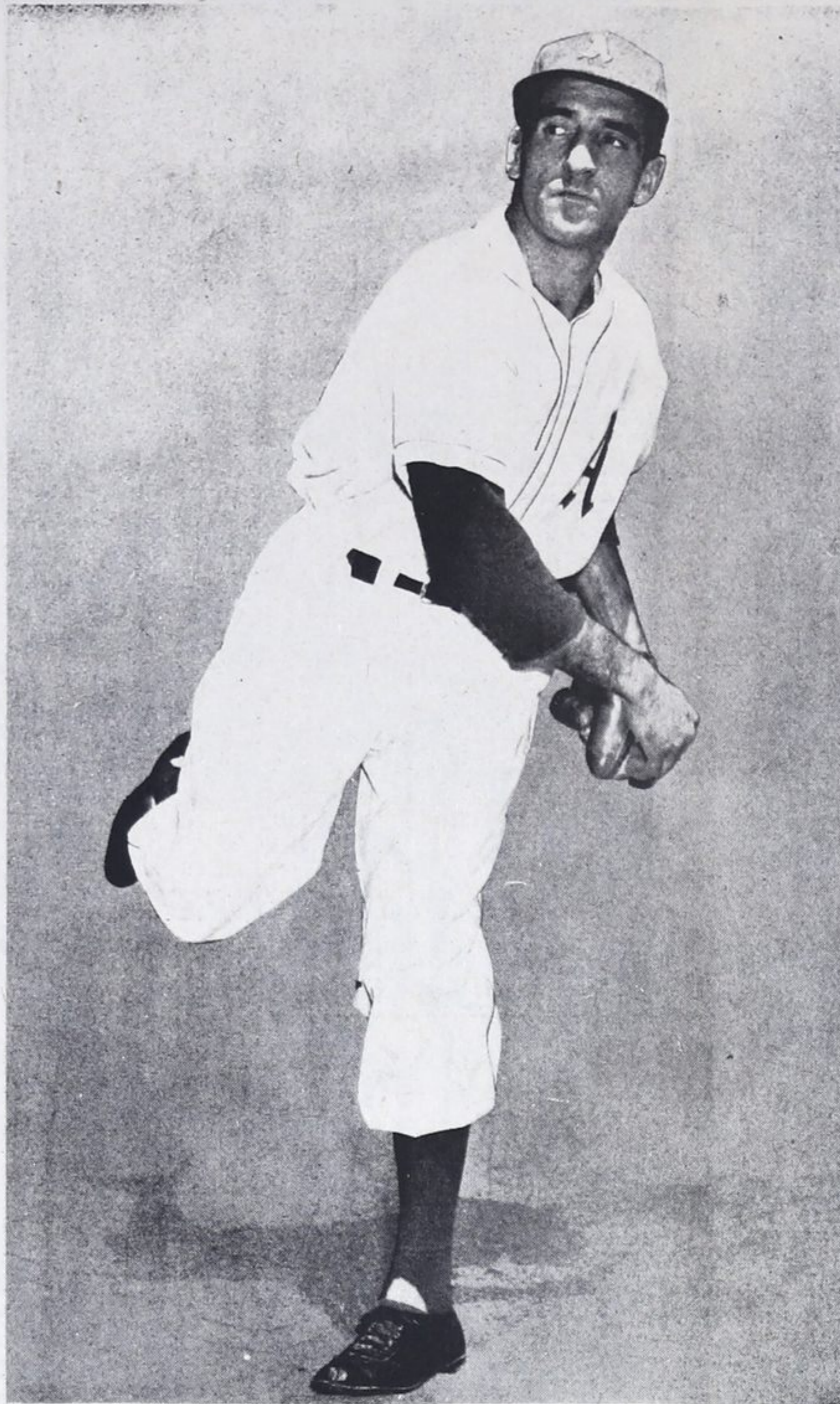
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PHIL MARCHILDON

The Babe Marchildon story

## Peerless pitcher from Penetanguishene

Phil Marchildon's fame was at its peak in 1948 when McLean's Magazine featured him on a three page spread in their April issue. They called him the "Peerless pitcher from Penetanguishene" in recognition of the fact that in the 1940's he was the best Canadian born pitcher playing in big league professional baseball in the United States.

In 1947 Phil piled up an amazing 19 wins to go against nine losses and was considered the best pitcher for the American League. Philadelphia Athletics who had finished in fifth place that season.

And in Penetanguishene there was no doubt that Marchildon, who could command a salary of \$15,000 for throwing a baseball, was the best athlete the town had ever produced.

Phil "Babe" Marchildon first became a Canadian sports sensation in 1942, after his strong right arm had rocketed him from the bush leagues in 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 not the time to be playing baseball. Marchildon joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and was shot down over Germany on his 27 mission as a gunner.

Five years after the war, Marchildon was back in Philadelphia to be greeted by 35,000 fans — 10 times the number who usually turned out for the hapless team. In the next two years Marchildon won 13 and 19 games but his 19 game winning season was to be his last winning year in the big leagues.

What doctors referred to as a delayed reaction from his war experiences finally caught up with the "Babe" in 1948. His major league career ended in a case of chronic bad nerves, loss of pitching control and consignment to a series of ever-lower minor league clubs.

Today, "Babe" Marchildon is a 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 the past 15 years.

— 10th in a series of 13 —

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**Centre d'Activités Françaises**

Le Centenaire de Penetanguishene est l'occasion de nous rappeler de nos devoirs de Canadiens-français.

du 28 juin au 5 juillet

This notice furnished courtesy of  
**IRETON'S IDA Pharmacy**  
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