

# A's get good news — finally

*They'll still have to keep pace with Flyers to make playoffs*

The Midland Athletics yesterday received what may prove to be the best news in their two-year history.

OHA Major Intermediate A league convenor and statistician Debbie Brown said yesterday that under existing league rules, ties in final season standings will be broken using the following formula:

Total goals for are added to total goals against and then divided into total goals for, yielding a percentage for each tied club, and the best percentage gets the higher standing.

It's good news for the A's because they're currently tied with the Barrie Flyers for the sixth and final playoff spot in the seven-team league. They both have four games remaining, and they both play once each against the Owen Sound Greys, Orillia Terriers, Port Elgin Sunocos and the dreaded defending champion and league-leading Georgetown Raiders.

As it stands, under the tie-breaking formula, Midland would take the playoff spot with a .433 percentage over Barrie's .406.

All Midland has to do, in other words, is keep pace with the Flyers and try to score a lot of goals.

That may not be as easy as it sounds. It may come down to the very last game of the season for Midland. Barrie will be done by then, and possibly two points ahead, when Midland travels to Owen Sound for their final matchup of the season Feb. 14.

The A's were previously under the impression that ties would be decided on a season series between the two clubs. On that basis, Barrie would have stepped in if the two clubs tied.

Before they found out about the percentage method, the Midlanders had already suffered some damage to their percentage in the form of a 9-1 hammering Friday in Georgetown.

It was a typical

Georgetown performance: they outthrustled, outskated, outshot and outscored their opponents by an embarrassing margin.

Midland goaltenders Paul Goodine and Craig Watson faced 63 shots while their teammates could come up with only 18 at the other end.

Gary Hansford was the only Athletic to find a way in.

Tonight, A's manager Shawn Stewart will travel to Barrie Arena for two reasons. First, he'll be rooting for the Terriers, who have been floundering badly of late and will need all the vocal support they can get.

Second reason is to take a good, close look at the Terriers' weaknesses. He'll need that information for Midland coach Hugh Robertson before the A's make an appearance in Orillia Friday.

The A's will be at home Sunday to face Georgetown for the final time of the regular season.

If things go exactly right for the A's though, if all of Stewart's hopes come through and they can get their feet in the playoff door and work their way up from there, it is conceivable that the A's may, in several weeks' time, be only steps away from another encounter with the Raiders.

## Elmvale Atoms score 8-0 win in finale

The Elmvale Atom A team played their last regularly scheduled game of the season against Owen Sound on the weekend. Their record to date is 12 wins, one loss, a tie, and two cancelled games, due to weather, which remain to be played.

In this past weekend's game, the Elmvale team lived up to its reputation. As in previous games, Elmvale players gave an all out effort from the opening face-off. This second game against Owen Sound was very similar to the first. Once again, Elmvale succeeded in frustrating the Owen Sound team in the first and second period, thereby allowing Elmvale to score repeatedly in the last period.

Michael Rossel played an excellent game in net for Elmvale, and earned the shut-out in the 8-0 win. Shots on goal were 21-10 in favour of Elmvale.

In the first period, Elmvale's two goals were scored by Scott Lambie and Robby Conn. Assists were earned by Robby Conn, Shane Bywater, and Scott Lambie.

In the second period, Elmvale scored one goal on an excellent pass from Scott Kirton to Steve Dove. Special mention to Scott Archer, who in an excellent defensive play, thwarted a breakaway by leaping forward to cause the Owen Sound player to lose control of the puck and spoil their best scoring opportunity of the second period.

Todd Belanger also played very well, leading several offensive rushes on the Owen Sound team. As a result he created several excellent scoring opportunities.

In the third period, Elmvale broke the game open, scoring five goals. Owen Sound's defensive lines faltered frequently under pressure, allowing Elmvale to penetrate deep and often. Goals were scored by Scott Lambie (two), Steve Dove, Scott Kirton, and Robby Conn.

Scott Lambie's two goals in the third period earned him his hat trick of the game. Assists went to Scott Archer (two), Danny Hales (two), Todd Belanger, Jamie Grant, Robby Conn, and Steve Dove.



HE'S AROUND to pick up the pieces

**HOLY CROSS**  
Evangelical  
Lutheran Church

ATHENIAN HALL  
10:30 a.m.  
Rev. Paul A. Schult  
Pastor



### A's playing games

It was all fun and games for the Midland Athletics at their Fun Night Saturday at the Penetanguishene Legion Hall. Here, Wayne King, Ken Knapton, playing-coach Hugh Robertson and manager Shawn Stewart are all smiles as they

pose in front of a wheel of fortune. And they should have been -- the A's earned more than \$2,000 on the evening. Now, if they can make their playoff bid as successful, they'll have even more reason to grin.

## Oldtimers active this month

February will be an active month for the Midland Oldtimers.

Next Sunday the aging locals host the Georgian Bay Indians, the Oldtimers from Elmvale, in an 11 a.m. game at the Midland Arena.

On Saturday, Feb. 13, the Oldtimers travel to the Orillia Community Centre for a 9 p.m.

game against the Orillia Oldtimers.

The following weekend will be a test of endurance. On Friday, Feb. 19 the team will sponsor a 9 p.m. dance at the Rooster Tail featuring the Fig Leaf Jazz Band, a lunch and door prize. Tickets are available from any Midland Oldtimer. The

next day, the team will host a 5:30 p.m. game between the Penetang Oldtimers and the Amherstburg Oldtimers at the Midland Arena. On Sunday, Feb. 21, the Midland team will play the hopefully exhausted Amherstburg oldsters at 11 a.m. at Midland Arena.

some younger, faster legs from the Midland Legion, the Oldtimers will host a Legion Branch 10 team from Toronto at the Midland Arena on Sunday, Feb. 28th. This 11 a.m. game will round out an exhausting month for the Midland Oldtimers.

Admission is free to Strengthened with all games.

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