Commodore Hotel cagers-rebuilding

by Andy Wicksted

In a little over one week's time the Simcoe County Men's Intermediate Basketball League will begin yet another year. The league which began some twenty years ago in and around Barrie will feature nine teams. The two local entries, Midland Commodore Hotel and Penetang Dock Lunch, will once again be challenging for a place in the league standings that will enable them to gain a berth in the playoffs.

Since Georgian College only participates for half of the schedule, Jim Martin's Grizzlies are ineligible for the playoffs. This leaves the top four teams in an 'A' division playoff while the bottom four view for the 'B' division title.

The past several seasons has seen the Commodore crew as one of the league powers. Consistently one of the top three teams, this year's squad will have to work exceptionally hard to maintain the standard of previous squads.

Led by guard Jeff Altwood (no coaching because of several retirements) the team will have to rely on speed and not size. Returning guards Ray Brien and Bill Hartman

will help anchor that part of the team. Moving up from the Dock Lunch is perennial hustler Dave Mink who will also play at gurad or small forward.



Dave Mink

Dennis Hern and Dave Shalof are returning for another vear at forward although Shalof will have to avoid injuries to his already damaged knee which kept him out a large part of last season.

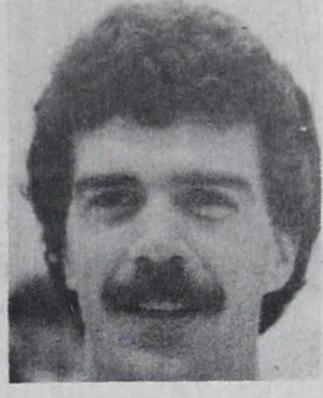
Newcomers Mike and Frank Berdan will need some seasoning since neither has played compeitively for several years. The potential to help at the pivot position, espcially from Mike who played for the Hotelmen several years ago, will have to be recognized for the Commodores to stay in the top four.

Finally there is Frank Godfrey and Rick

Presse, who also have the potential to help in the forward position.

Attwood has his work cut out for him. If he can concentrate on playing as well as coaching, his skills might keep the Commodores in or near the top four until the team melds together, which it surely will before the end of the season in February.

Although its too early to predict a winner,



Jeff Attwood

Stayner Dyconia Hotel Mistics and Barrie Queen's Hotel should be 1-2 in the league. After that the "blue collar" teams such as the Hotelmen will be vying for those extra spots in the 'A' pool.

Let's hope the team lives up to its reputation as a though opponent. Remember Thursdays at Midland Secondary School and there's no admission charge. Great entertainment for free its hard to beat.

Hillsdale getting closer, beat Vasey 6-5

Vasey leads 3-2

Hillsdale Hustlers are putting a scare into Vasey Seniors as the Simcoe Rural Fastball League stretches on.

On Sunday afternoon in Hillsdale, Hustlers won 6-5 to bring the series count to three wins for Vasey and two for Hillsdale.

Game number six was scheduled for last night in Vasey, but no score was available at press time.

The game see-sawed back-and-forth with Vasey opening a 2-0 lead, only to see Hillsdale tie it up, and then take 3-2 and 5-2 leads.

In the top of the seventh Vasey scored three times to tie it up. In the bottom of the inning, Joe Mathieson once again proved his

extreme value to the Hustlers as he tripled and scored the winning run on a sacrifice fly.

Mathieson also got credit for his second win of the series. Mark Ronald started on the mound, but the little righthander just didn't have it. He walked three of the first four batters he faced in the first

inning, before retiring a batter. When he gave up a couple of runs on a single, he was replaced

Joe Melnyk also had a

big triple for Hillsdale,

but he will be sitting out

by Smokin' Joe.

one for arguing with an Hillsdale. umpire over a close play

at second base where he

Dan Breeden con-

tinued his hot hitting

was called out.

the sixth game, after with three hits in four being ejected from this trips to the plate for

Bob Widdes once

again took the loss for Vasey.

If needed, the seventh game of the set would go tomorrow night in Elmvale at 7 p.m.



Kings open camp

thirty skaters turned out to last Terry Spiker.

Penetanguishene Junior Kings have Thursday's initial practice. Shooting opened training camp for another drill (above), skating, and scrimyear, as they get set to defend their mages highligted the tough workout Georgian Bay League title. About orchestrated by Waxy Geogoire and

Junior news

Kings look strong in early workouts

by RON JOHNSON

Penetang Junior C Kings have begun defence of their Georgian Bay Junior C League Championship in recent days, as they started training camp last Thursday night at Penetang Arena.

Under the watchful eyes of manager Peter Dubeau, coach Terry Spiker, and trainerassistant coach Larry "Waxy" Gregoire, the Kings are being put through some hectic training sessions in preparation for Friday's exhibition opener against Gravenhurst.

Local fans can get their first glimpse of the 1983-84 Kings on Sunday, when Gravenhurst returns to Penetang for a rematch.

The first player signings took place earlier this week, as five returning players, all locals, inked pacts for the upcoming season. Defenceman and captain Peter Roi, for-

wards Dave "Rocket" Robillard, the McReynolds twins, Brian and Blair, and hardworking Bobby Weatherill, are all under contract and ready to commence with the action.

It looks at this early stage that Kings will have plenty of fire power on the forward lines, but might be short a defenceman or two.

With Roi, they have one excellent blueliner, and will probably add returning vets like Al Melnyk and Gary Beausoleil to the list of signees in the near future. They should go with six or seven regular defencemen however.

At the forward spots,, Kings should be deep and talented. The two McReynolds, Weatherill and Robillard will soon be joined by returning players Brian Forget, Calvin Sine, Glen Lesperance, and perhaps Brian Abbott, who is out west until the end of September.

Other possible returning players include Brian Norwood, who is enrolled at the University of Western Ontario, Carl Cowan at Seneca College in Toronto, and local winger Mike Cinq-Mars.

In goal, the competition for the two, or three spots is very keen in training camps. Brian Lethbridge looks assured of one spot, but Ray Hook, Phil Cinq-Mars, and Tom Rankin, are pushing Kevin Steele for his roster spot.

Along with any or all of these players, Kings are rumoured to be about to announce a major signing or two which could be surprises.

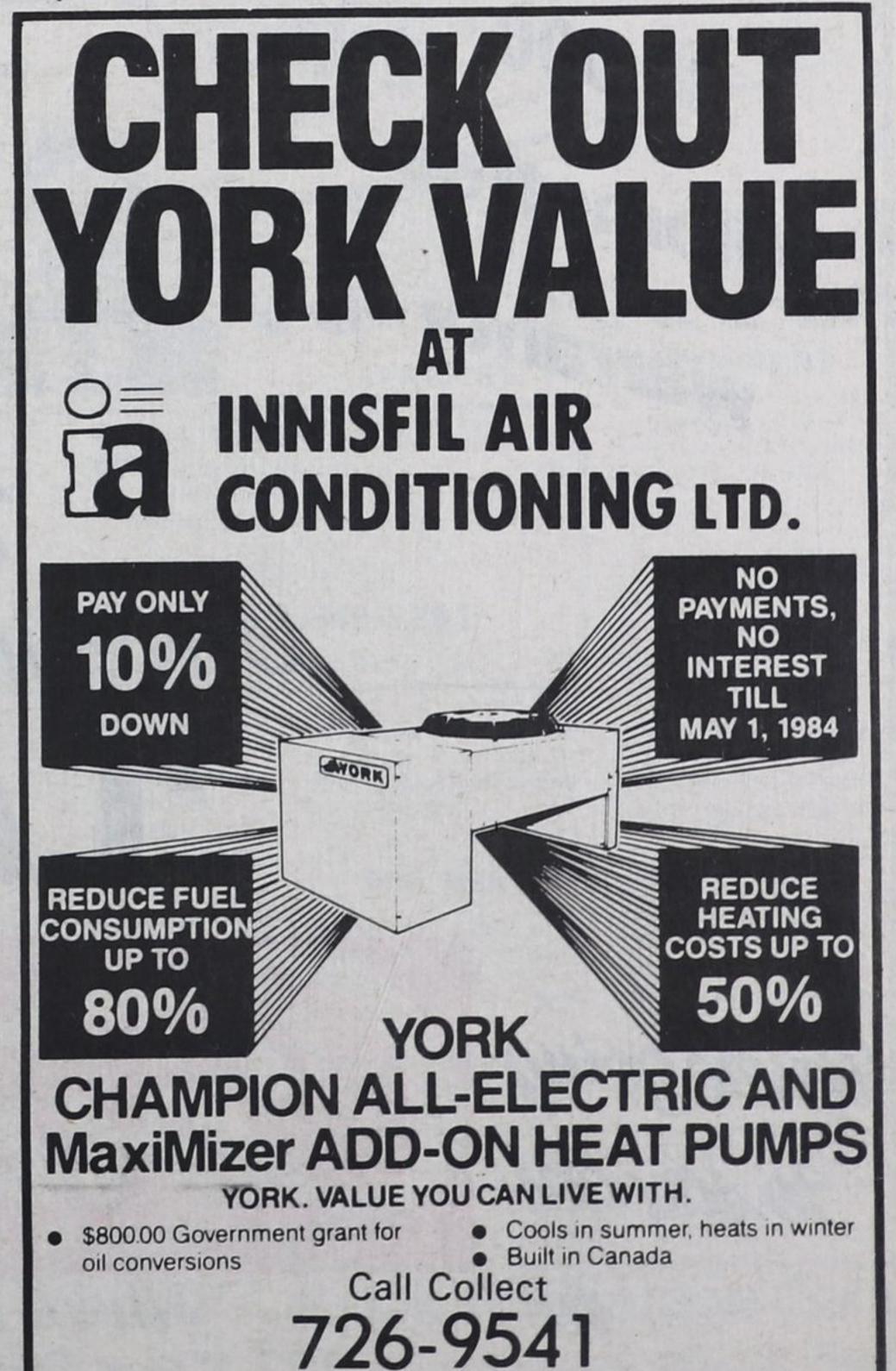
If they are defencemen with expereience, it could just spell Championship once more for the Kings.

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