

Sabres: cool home reception

Spectators were outnumbered by players as Mississauga sunk a chilly set of molar into its first chunk of senior hard ball.

Sabres, Mississauga's entry into the Halton County Senior Baseball League, made their home debut in near freezing weather Friday night at Huron Park with only the bravest of fans at hand.

Those who decided to stay home missed an entertaining ball game.

The rookie Sabres gave it their best shot and came oh-so-close to pull an upset against the Oakville Corbets, but at the end failed to match the experience of the

visitors and dropped a narrow 2-1 decision.

"At the end I thought we were the better ball club," commented Gary Nickerson, the man who did the groundwork to bring senior ball into Mississauga.

Starting pitcher Ron Sherley, on the mound for six and one-third innings before being relieved by Glen Hewett, was tagged with the loss. He gave up seven hits, including the ones that spelled doom for the gallant Sabres.

Hewett, who came on during the seventh inning with the bases loaded, got out of the jam and pitched

nearly three innings of hitless ball.

Mississauga scored an unearned run in the sixth when Sabres renegade Don McKenzie (the former coach, brought on in relief to hurl against his former mates) walked right fielder Brian Patterson, gave up a base hit to catcher Low Libsinger and watched Patterson go across the home plate following an error.

Sabres touched Oakville pitchers Phil Edwards and McKenzie for five hits. Libsinger had the only double, while centre fielder Dan Cameron, short stop Pete Buttle, first baseman Al

Craig and third baseman Rick Drennen collected singles.

Saturday night, the sky fell in on Sabres when they were bombed 8-1 by Leaside Maple Leafs at Talbot Park for the third setback in as many starts.

Actually, Mississauga had only two bleak innings.

The host Leaside team hammered starting pitcher Wayne Webster (an ex-Leaside player, making his first start in Sabre uniform) for five runs on six hits during the bottom of the

third inning. Right-hander Hewett came on in relief again and gave up the other three hits in the fourth.

Sabres' lone run came also in the fourth when a sacrifice by Patterson brought home Drennen.

Buttle had a double, while Patterson, Drennen, Craig and third baseman Ken Will cracked singles.

Sabres are home at Huron Park again Friday, hosting Waterdown. The game is sandwiched between away starts against Burlington on Thursday and Waterdown next Tuesday.



Safe... Oakville runner slides into third base during a Halton Senior Baseball League game against Mississauga Sabres at Huron Park. Sabres were beaten 1-0 in their bone-chilling home opener. (Times photo by Ron Pozzer).

Provincial ball hockey loop at Dixie Arena

Dixie Arena, the grand old lady of local shinny campaigning, will be converted into a home for the Ontario Provincial Ball Hockey League, which is scheduled to get off the ground next Monday, May 28.

Six teams will participate in the circuit, playing double headers three times a week until the concluding date Aug. 9.

Road Runners, Marotos, Imperials, Rams, Redskins and Packers are members of the Provincial loop.

Mississauga Reeve Lou Parsons drop the first ball prior to the faceoff of next Monday's affair at 8 p.m. Admission is 35 cents.

Mohawk duo dominate Tulip paddling festival



DEAN OLDESHAW... Tulip festival king

OTTAWA — Oldershaw brothers Scott and Dean won two of six events at the first splash of the paddling season, the annual Tulip Festival Regatta held here.

Paddlers from Quebec, Carlton Place, Rideau, West Rouge, Balmy Beach, Mississauga and Burlington Mohawk took part in the one-day regatta. Mississauga was represented by only two competitors — senior K-1 Peter Van Rhijn and junior Peter Ray.

The feature five-mile men's single kayak race saw Olympian Dean Oldershaw, a one-time Mississauga stalwart who still lives in Port Credit but competes out of Burlington, beat his brother Reed to the finish line with a time of 38 minutes 54 seconds. Carlton Place's Frank Bartok came third with Mississauga's

promising Van Rhijn fourth.

The teen-age five-mile single kayak title went to Scott Oldershaw with a 41 minute, 35 second effort. Ray came sixth.

Competition was held under overcast skies.

In absence of Canadian singles champion Marjie Homer-Dixon (who has retired to coach Nova Scotia's Mic-Mac Club) the ladies K-1 crown went to Ottawa's Claudia Hunt.

In last summer's Olympics, the Mississauga girl and Claudia Hunt formed Canada's K-2 entry.

GAF's stretch unbeaten streak

Mississauga GAF's scored seven unanswered goals in the third period for a brilliant come-from-behind victory over Rexdale Warriors Sunday afternoon.

Down 8-3 after two stanzas of play, coach Fred Moore's junior C charges came to life in the final stages and emerged with a 10-8 victory — their fourth in an unbeaten Ontario Lacrosse Association season.

Earlier, they broke loose for a six-goal explosion to pull away from defending OLA junior C champion Lakeshore for another 10-8 conquest.

"A pair of solid team efforts," commented manager Jim Halliday, who expects GAF's to rise to the challenge of their fifth start tonight at Malton Arena, where they host Bolton before taking on Oshawa and Windsor in of back-to-back road encounters Friday and Sunday.

Rookie Rich Wills blanked Rexdale in Sunday's third-period U-turn, while seven players shared the scoring chores. Keith Wilson and Jerry Overboom each hit for doubles while Ricky Halliday, Fred Moore, Bob Walker, Keith Fillmore, Dan Clark and Stu Dickie supplied singletons.

Moore led the parade against Long Branch with a hat trick; Overboom and Wilson added two apiece; Clark, Walker and Glen Rodgers chipped in solos.

It was the first junior C start for netfinder Wills, who frustrated Long Branch shooters time after time.

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