

## ROUND UP

### Baseball

Streetsville Legion came back from two games down to tie the Mississauga Sportsmens Softball League best-of-five final Huron Park Chrysler at two games apiece.

### Hockey

The National Hockey League's Hartford Whalers have sent second round draft pick Stuart Smith of Mississauga back to Peterborough Petes of the Ontario Major Junior Hockey League.



Marc Sinclair

Marc Sinclair, a member of the 1978 Ontario Hockey Association Junior B Champion Streetsville Derbys, is attending Boston University on a hockey scholarship. Sinclair, a forward, played for two years with the Derbys.

Port Credit Titans dropped two Metro junior B hockey games last week, 3-1 to Belleville and 9-4 to Pickering.

### Football

The Sheridan Bruins defeated Seneca Braves 29-7 last weekend on touchdowns by Chuck Williams, Bill Paul, Darrel Wilson and Dave Rigg. Linebacker Dan Crespi completed the Bruins scoring with three converts while Rigg had one two-point convert. Dave Tocet scored for the Braves.

Former Lorne Park student Paul Ford is fifth in passing yardage in Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union football with 783 yards for the University of Western Ontario. Ford has completed 53 of 79 passes with six going for touchdowns. He has thrown four interceptions.

Erindale College Warriors dropped a 21-11 decision to Royal Military College Redmen Saturday in Ontario Colleges Football League action.

### Rugby

Mississauga Crusaders Senators defeated Toronto XL's 20-15 in over-35 rugby action Sunday at Erindale College. Tom Logan, Colin Gardner, Frank Lake and Jonathan Lewis each scored tries for Senators and Jack Ferguson added two converts.

Crusaders dropped a 16-7 decision to Wanderers in Ontario Rugby Union division II play. Crusaders finished their league season at 4-4-1. David Speers scored a try and Stu Cox a penalty. At the Niagara tourney, Crusaders II lost 4-0 to Burlington and 9-4 to Stony Creek. Andre Cote scored a try.

### Salmon hunt

Mississauga's Paul Peterson's 19.58-pound coho salmon weighed less than one ounce lighter than the 19.94-pound winning catch in the Toronto Star Great Salmon Hunt. George Salter of Etobicoke landed the winning fish and the grand prize worth \$28,000. The top chinook weighed 39.56-pounds, brown trout 12.56-pounds, lake trout 9.16-pounds (caught six weeks ago eight miles off the St. Lawrence Cement Co.) and rainbow trout 19.61-pounds (two miles off the cement company).

### Tennis

Karen Barbiero and Harry Brittain won the Ontario Racquet Club's open titles last weekend. Other winners were Pat James (ladies A singles), Joan Norris (ladies B singles), Lyn Bazo (ladies C singles), Doug Green (men's A singles), Carl Dondorf (men's B singles), Peter Armstrong (men's C singles) and W. Snaajder (men's 35 singles).

### Sailing

J. Beverley and Mad Dog (international offshore rule, first division), J. Flewelling and Rhyll (Lake Ontario rule, first division), D. Holder and Tyke (modified offshore racing conference, C and C27) and L. Hircocok and Oddsocks (sharks), all of the Port Credit Yacht Club topped their respective divisions of the Canadian Yacht Racing Association for the season. Second place finishes went to Bob Herron and Amazing Grace (international offshore rule, first division), D. Heron and Sunburn (first division), I. J. McAllister and Mary Poppins II (Lake Ontario rule, first division), P. K. Thomas and Hot Dog were third (international offshore rule, second division).

# Merle and Russ Show

## It's scheduling over 4500 MHL games

By TIM DOYLE  
Times staff writer  
Merle and Russ Biggart hardly ever go to a minor hockey game now that their two kids have grown up. But they probably know more about the Mississauga Hockey League than anyone else in town.

In fact, the MHL, which starts rolling this week, is really the Merle and Russ Show.

Merle looks after scheduling the 287 teams and Russ helps out. Russ keeps all the statistics with Merle's help. And they've

been doing it for a while. "Merle has been doing the schedule since Noah landed the ark," said MHL publicity director Al Howard. "And she does a great job." Actually by Merle's count it has only been eight years, with one year off, but it feels like forever.

"Why do I do it? I think I'm crazy," said Merle. "We get paid an honorarium but it's not much unless you like working for 50 cents an hour."

But she wouldn't do it if it wasn't fun. "I enjoy it. The people you meet are good friends and they stay with you. That's what makes it worthwhile."

Being a diehard sports fan makes it easy for Russ to handle his job. "It's interesting watching it all come through, watching one team move up in the standings when another starts to lose," he said. "I remember last year when one team didn't win a game or lose one for nine

weeks. They tied them all."

The Biggarts got involved with Mississauga minor sports back in 1958 when their son was six years old and they've been involved ever since.

Russ was general manager of the Mississauga Arrowheads of the Ontario Lacrosse Association junior B league this year and Merle was the president of junior lacrosse in the city, league treasurer, scheduler, and a member of the Cawthra association. She took over the job of secretary when the real one stopped showing up.

But there's no time to worry about that now. It takes six to seven hours each week to schedule 210 games. The statistics take up another three to four hours. Russ works them in around his shifts as a fireman.

Merle's also been known to schedule the same team for two games in one night at different rinks. But not often, she said.

If there are problems this year they'll come in February. The playoffs fall during income tax time and Merle works for a chartered accountant.



GORM LARSEN, THE TIMES

Merle and Russ Biggart burning the midnight oil over MHL hockey schedules

# Hockey rule book says kids are border bashers

They would have you believe that territorial rights agreements between the Metropolitan Toronto Hockey League and the Ontario Minor Hockey Association should be bound and placed in the bible perhaps in front of the Book of Genesis.

They are Phil Vitale, MTHL president and Tony Bloomfield, OMHA president. They are the spokesmen for their respective organizations and both agree there wouldn't be any problem in Streetsville if people and organizations would only follow agreements laid down by the two organizations.

Two organizations dedicated to the perpetuation of minor hockey in Ontario. And two organizations that are keeping 14-year-old Billy Skinner and countless other Mississauga boys from playing hockey where they want to in the city where they live.

Skinner, a member of the MTHL's Metro Black Hawk organization last season, was told last week he couldn't play hockey for the Black Hawk bantam A entry despite making the team and practising with it since last May. He missed the Black Hawk's first regular season game last Monday.

He's not alone. There are 14, 15 or 20 kids — depending on who you talk to — whose only crime is that they live in old Streetsville and play or attempted to play with a MTHL team this season.

It seems there is a territorial agreement — written or unwritten it depends on who you talk to — between the MTHL and the OMHA dating from 1966, 1967 or 1971 — again it depends on who you talk to — stating that boys living in the old town of Streetsville must play for OMHA teams. Boys living in old Streetsville cannot play for MTHL rep teams. They cannot even play for Mississauga Hockey League house league teams.

If a boy doesn't make an OMHA rep

team he can't try out with a MTHL rep team. He must play house league in Streetsville.

The agreement also works the other way. Boys living outside the Streetsville OMHA boundaries cannot play OMHA hockey. This ruling could affect as many as 60 or 70 boys playing Streetsville hockey living outside the boundaries, according to Streetsville Reps convener Keith Wilcox.



Paul Williams

Minor hockey residency rules which require a boy to play in the community in which he resides work well most of the time.

"The rule allows small towns to have hockey teams," says Bloomfield. "It is just as important that small villages have hockey teams as well as large urban areas."

OMHA teams, since they consist entirely of local boys, attract a large following and become a focus of the community.

But what works well in small town Ontario or in big city Ontario doesn't work well when the twain meet. When the territorial agreements were decided on there was no Meadowvale and there was no Erin Mills. Streetsville was an independent municipality.

Today Streetsville is a part of the city of Mississauga and the old village is surrounded on all sides by new developments. More

importantly the Vic Johnston arena is no longer the only rink in town since Meadowvale Four Rinks opened its door two seasons ago.

With Meadowvale Four Rinks came MTHL organizations such as the Metro Black Hawks, Port Credit Schooners and Mississauga Terriers. There is also the Meadowvale Hockey Association which is an affiliate of the Mississauga Hockey League.

Suddenly the Streetsville Minor Hockey Association had competition and boys started going up the street to Meadowvale.

In the case of Billy Skinner it was simply the desire to play rep hockey which led him to Meadowvale Four Rinks. Billy had tried out for OMHA rep teams for several years but each year ended up playing house league hockey.

Skinner was ineligible for MTHL hockey, according to the territorial edicts that were passed before the Skinners moved to Streetsville seven years ago, but his player's card was accepted by the MTHL because he had a Mississauga address, according to Vitale.

Gets confusing doesn't it?

The confusion might end this week. Not because the OMHA and the MTHL are actively working together to solve the problem but because the parents of 14 boys including the Skinners have retained the services of a Bay Street lawyer to represent them.

Allan Craig of Cassels, Mitchell, Somers, Dutton and Winkler wasn't available for comment but it's likely he will go before the Ontario Hockey Association if he doesn't get satisfaction from the minor hockey moguls.

Who knows, the dispute could end up in the courts before Billy can skate for the Black Hawks again.

Bloomfield says the problem will be resolved by Friday. Let's hope he's right.