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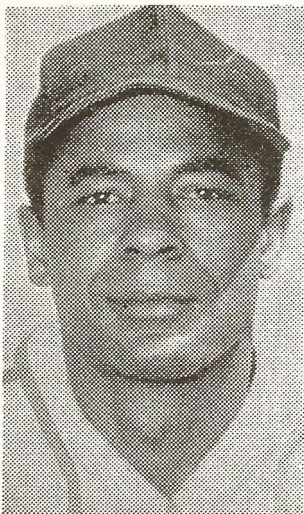


TOM BURGESS — Returning to the local baseball scene after 14 years in pro ranks, Tom brings with him a wealth of knowledge of baseball. As field general of the Pontiacs, Tom is expected to give the club a much needed lift, not only as a manager but as a player since he'll see regular action at first base where his excellent glove work and big bat will prove of great value to the club. The 35-year-old Lambeth resident played briefly in the big leagues with St. Louis Cardinals, Pittsburgh Pirates and a full season with Los Angeles Angels. The balance of his career was spent in Triple A ball, mostly in the International League. He's a southpaw all the way.

1964 PONTIACS' SCHEDULE

All games start at 8:00 p.m.
unless otherwise shown.

AT HOME	AWAY
Wed, May 22 — Kitchener	Wed, June 2 — Stratford
Fri., May 29 — Guelph	Sat., June 6 — Kitchener
Fri., June 5 — Galt	Sat., June 13 — Brantford
Fri., June 12 — Stratford	Wed., June 17 — Kitchener
Fri., June 19 — Brantford	Sat., June 20 — Guelph
Wed., June 24 — Stratford	Sat., June 27 — Galt
Fri., June 26 — Kitchener	Tues., June 30 — Guelph
Fri., July 3 — Brantford	Thurs., July 2 — Stratford
Wed., July 8 — Stratford	Sat., July 4 — Galt
Fri., July 10 — Galt	Sat., July 11 — Brantford
Fri., July 17 — Kitchener	Sat., July 18 — Guelph
Tues., July 21 — Stratford	Sat., July 25 — Galt
Fri., July 24 — Guelph	Sat., Aug. 1 — Brantford
Wed., July 29 — Guelph	Sat., Aug. 8 — Kitchener
Fri., July 31 — Brantford	
Fri., Aug. 7 — Galt	



STAN ANDERSON — Relieved of the managerial duties he was burdened with last season, Gabby is again expected to play the role of "leader" as he has done so often during his 10 years in the local senior ranks. During this time he's won batting crowns in 1957 and 1960 and won Most Valuable Player honors in 1957 and 1959 while amassing a lifetime .343 batting average. He'll serve as head coach of the Pontiacs this season as well as right field guardian. He bats left and throws right. He was named to first string all-star teams from 1957-1961.

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This club asks only for your support, and in turn pledge their effort to live up to those ideals that you expect.

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TOM MCKENZIE — Improving with age, this 22-year-old all-round athlete enjoyed his first .300 season in senior ranks last year while displaying fine glove work at shortstop. He batted an even .300 and his four-year senior average now stands at .241. Tom is single and a student at University of Western Ontario.



DAVE LAPHORNE — Whitey blossomed into the club's batting leader last year while turning in a stellar job at third base. He posted a .346 average, third highest in the league. In three senior seasons, the 22-year-old London native has recorded a .286 lifetime average. He's a right-righthander all the way.

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1963 LONDON PONTIACS STATISTICS

BATTING

Player	G	AB	R	H	RBI	BA
Based on 95 or more plate appearances:						
Lapthorne, Lon	32	127	14	44	11	.346
Czerwieniec, Lon	21	94	13	29	10	.309
Young, Lon	30	122	16	37	14	.303
McKenzie, Lon	23	100	16	30	10	.300
Anderson, Lon	32	117	25	29	13	.248
Zubyk, Lon	28	121	9	28	11	.231
Allen, Lon	24	103	6	17	10	.165
Burgess, Lon	27	98	13	16	6	.163

The following had more than 10 plate appearances but less than 95:

Player	G	AB	R	H	RBI	BA
Leitch, Lon	26	79	5	22	14	.278
Perkins, Lon	15	19	2	5	0	.263
Pearen, Lon	13	37	6	8	4	.216
Bogal, Lon	9	28	5	5	4	.179
McKay, Lon	9	25	1	4	2	.160
Fletcher, Lon	10	20	1	3	1	.150
Haas, Lon	5	20	1	3	2	.150
Winch, Lon	7	15	0	2	1	.133
McGuire, Lon	14	23	3	3	1	.131

Less than 10 plate appearances: (Player, games, at bats, runs, hits, runs batted in, batting average).

LONDON — Baron (5 6 1 4 0 .667), Bartja (8 5 0 3 0 .600), McCallum (1 6 1 2 1 .333), Black (1 4 1 1 0 .250), Parker (6 7 0 1 0 .143), Oldridge (4 3 0 0 0 .00), Hayton (1 3 0 0 0 .000), Aldridge (1 1 0 0 0 .000), Poole (1 1 0 0 0 .000), Rooks (1 1 0 0 0 .000), Taylor (1 0 0 0 0 .000).

(Plate appearances include official times at bat, walks, sacrifices, hit by pitched ball and safe on interference).

PITCHING

Pitcher	G	IP	BB	SO	W	L	Pct.	ERA
Based on 32 or more innings pitched:								
Winch, Lon	7	41	25	23	0	1	.000	1.98
Perkins, Lon	12	36 2/3	13	21	2	2	.500	3.60
McKay, Lon	9	62	17	46	3	4	.429	3.69
McGuire, Lon	14	63	26	51	4	5	.444	3.78
Fletcher, Lon	10	51 1/3	26	32	2	5	.286	3.96
Less than 32 but more than 10 innings pitched:								
Parker, Lon	6	22 2/3	8	16	0	1	.000	2.70
Bartja, Lon	7	18 1/3	16	10	0	3	.000	7.29
Less than 10 innings:								
Rooks, Lon	1	2	0	2	0	0	.000	0.00

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HANK CZERWIENIEC

Back for his third season with the club this hard-hitting outfielder hails from Windsor but has been a resident of London for over a year now working at Kelvinator. He won the league batting crown in 1962 with a .424 average and last year, after a brief fling at pro ball with Waterloo, Iowa, in Class "A" returned to London to post a .309 record.

DAVE POOK

This St. Thomas resident makes his debut in London livery this season and should fill a glaring weakness in the club's defence. He caught for Guelph last season on loan from London. He appeared in St. Thomas uniform for a couple of seasons before taking a crack at pro ball.



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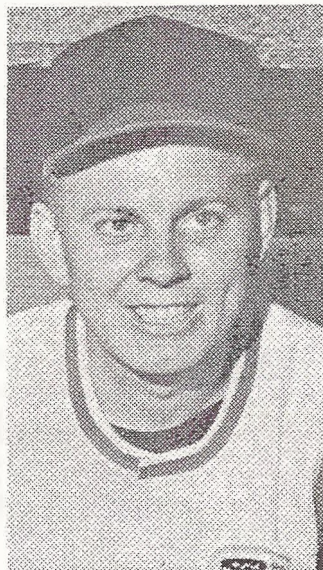
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BILL ZUBYK — Entering his eighth senior campaign, Billy is expected to hold the regular second base job. He's an excellent defensive player and a spasmodic hitter. His lifetime average with London and St. Thomas during the past seven seasons is .220. He's been quite impressive both with the glove and at the plate this spring and could blossom into a real sparkplug in the club's drive this season. A righthander all the way, Billy is employed by Nopco Chemical.



JERRY ANDERSON — If shift work at London and Petrolia Barrel doesn't keep him out of too many games, this fleet-footed outfielder should give the Pontiacs a big defensive and offensive boost. In five senior seasons, Jerry has recorded a .282 lifetime average. Reminiscent of Willie Mays in the field, Jerry is an exciting player to watch. He's expected to patrol centre field for the Pontiacs. He's Gabby Anderson's younger brother.

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A MATTER OF RECORD IN SENIOR INTERCOUNTY BASEBALL — 1946-1963

SEASON BATTING

League Records

Most Hits—Billy Flick, Waterloo, 1953 — 88.
Most Runs — Pete Karpuk, Galt, 1955, and Roy LeFevre, Oshawa, 1955 — 62 each.
Most Doubles—Wilmer Fields, Brantford, 1954—24.
Most Triples—Russ Evon, London, 1950, and Don McLennan, London, 1955 — 12 each.
Most Home Runs — Ed Steele, Galt, 1953; Harry Fisher, Brantford, 1954, and Wilmer Fields, Brantford, 1954 — 14 each.
Most Total Bases — Harry Fisher, Brantford, 1954 — 157.
Most Runs Batted In — Harry Fisher, Brantford, 1954 — 62.
Most Stolen Bases — Dick Welker, Kitchener, 1953, — 38.
Most Walks Received — Butch Lawing, Oshawa, 1953, and Jim Jones, Oshawa, 1953 — 66 each.
Most Times Struck Out — Don Gallinger, Kitchener, 1954 — 51.
Highest Batting Average — Jim Reeves, Brantford, 1963 — .444.
Consecutive Game Hitting — Billy Flick, Waterloo, 1953, and Hank Czerwieniec, London, 1962 — 23.

PITCHING

Most Strikeouts—Gentry "Jeep" Jessup, Galt, 1953, — 140.
Most Walks — Bob Penny, London, 1953 — 100.
Lowest Earned Run Average — Ron Stead, Brantford, 1963 — 0.63.
Most Wins—Spud Bush, Brantford, 1961 — 16.
Most Losses — Joe Grasso, St. Thomas, 1953 — 15.
Best Won-Lost Percentage (10 or more decisions) Ron Stead, Brantford, 1963 — 14-1, .933.
Most Shutouts—Ron Stead, Brantford, 1963 — 7.

GAME BATTING (Since 1958)

Plate Appearances—Nine shared by 6 K-W players.

At Bats—8—Walt Bradley, Dave George (K-W), Paul Allen, London, July 5th, 1963.

Runs—5—Dan Jackson (K-W) 1958; Bob Salvisbury (Hamilton); Dave Smallwood (K-W) and Al Erickson (Listowel) — all tied.

Hits—5—shared by many players.

Doubles—3—Dan Jackson (K-W) May 19, 1958; Galt, June 27, 1958; Jim Wilson (Hamilton) June 5, 1958; Frank Kinder (Guelph) July 9, 1960; Jim Reeves (Brantford) June 4, 1963.

Triples—2—Wray Upper (Galt) June 11, 1958; Bruce Dubrick (Listowel) July 19, 1958; Bill Roman (Listowel) June 28, 1958; Bob Brain (Galt) June 29, 1960; Wray Upper, July 6, 1960; Ernie Myers (Listowel) July 5, 1960; Dave Laphorne (London) June 28, 1963.

Home Runs—2—several players tied.

Sacrifices—2—several tied with two bunts and/or two flies.

Stolen Bases—4—Don McLennan (London) Aug. 4, 1958; Clare Maltby (Listowel) July, 19, 1958.

Caught Stealing—2—several tied.

Walks Received—5—Wray Upper (Galt) May 23, 1960.

Times Struck Out—5—Frank Radlo (Brantford) Aug. 14, 1958; Dave Smallwood (K-W) July 21, 1958.

Most Runs Batted In—6—Dan Jackson (Guelph) July 14, 1960; Bruce Dubrick (Listowel) July 19, 1958; Hank Czerwieniec (London) June 12, 1962; Marv Larsen (Brantford) July 28, 1962; Jim Reeves (Brantford) Aug. 20, 1963.

Hit By Pitch—3—Bill Burgess (London) June 27, 1962; Dave Racer, 1, Gary Thomas, 2 (Listowel), Wayne Edwards (Galt) Aug. 14, 1961; John Poholsky, Listowel.

Hit Into Double Play—2—several tied.

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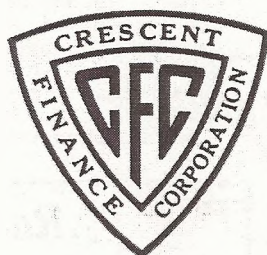
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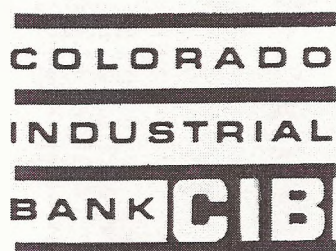
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THE BRANTFORD RED SOX



BY TED BEARE
Brantford Expositor

Brantford Red Sox have won the Intercounty Senior Baseball League championship so often lately that many of their fans thought the title came with the franchise.

To keep the record straight, the Red Sox have won an unprecedented five-consecutive Intercounty titles.

Going into this season, however, their crown was tilted at a precarious angle. Not since they went on their pennant-winning kick in 1959 have the Sox faced such a rebuilding job.

Three of the key men from the 1963 squad are no longer with the club. Centre fielder Jimmy Wilkes has retired after 10 years with the Brantford team. Second baseman Bob Frazier and pitcher Al McQueen both turned pro at the end of last season, Frazier with the Philadelphia Phillies organization and McQueen in the Boston Red Sox chain. Frazier batted .375 for the Sox and was generally recognized as the best second baseman in the Intercounty.

Finding replacements for these men was not an easy task for a club that does not pay salaries. The Red Sox have operated on a share-the-wealth basis since 1961, when the players took over the team after a group of local businessmen withdrew its sponsorship.

The Sox were fortunate in one respect — they had the Intercounty's best battery around which to rebuild a contending squad. This consists of southpaw pitcher Ron Stead and catcher-manager Ted Baker, both former pros in the Toronto Maple Leaf organization.

Stead burned up the league last year when he won 14 games and lost only one, while posting a sensational 0.63 earned run average. Both his won-lost percentage and his ERA were Intercounty records.

Baker batted .313 last year and led the league in home runs with six.

Other regulars returning from last year included infielders Robbie Vipond and Ken Hubbard, outfielder Jim Torti and pitcher Spud Bush.

A firm believer in giving young players a chance to prove themselves, Baker plans to use several juniors this season. But he also hopes to find one or two experienced players to help plug the gaps left by the departure of Wilkes, Frazier and McQueen. His success in this department undoubtedly will determine whether or not the Sox make it six straight championships.

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THE GALT TERRIERS

BY CARL FLETCHER
Galt Evening Reporter



WRAY UPPER

Galt Terriers open the 1964 Senior Intercounty baseball season with a solid veteran nucleus and some promising junior-aged players but need big contributions in key positions from imports to realize their championship hopes.

Playing manager Wray Upper, who guided the club to the Ontario Baseball Association senior championship last fall, can count as many as a dozen returnees from the club which finished second in 1963. He has aimed his import search at three positions — a shortstop, a catcher and a righthanded pitcher.

The only question mark among the '63 returnees is second baseman Murray Oliver, a centre ice star with Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League. Terriers would welcome him back for a third season but aren't counting on it.

Junior-aged Ron Smith, a shortstop regular last summer, is being groomed as Oliver's replacement at second. There are no problems at the infield corners either where first baseman Ron Boomer and third baseman Upper, the latter a perennial all-star, are back again.

If Smith remains at second base, Upper will break in a new shortstop.

Three of last year's outfielders—Fred Thompson, Larry Cunningham and Ron Brain — figure to keep their jobs. Bill Burgess, a junior Cub who appeared briefly in senior play two years ago, also figures in the outfield picture this year.

Roger Dewaele, a power-hitting junior Cub who played most of the senior schedule last year, also looms high in Terriers plans. He plays the outfield and also catches. Last year's regular receiver, Pat Lutz of Syracuse University, won't be back so Dewaele will start the season behind the plate until import help arrives.

Upper, in his third year as Terrier manager, has four holdovers from last year's pitching staff, lefthanders Ross Paton, Eric Lomax and Ken Lavis. Righthander John Clark, an ageless 49-year-old, will work out of the bullpen again.

Terriers are seeking an import pitcher, preferably a righthander. They don't anticipate any righthanded mound help from the junior Cub farm but will call on a number of other juniors for infield and outfield chores. Upper hopes that Dick Krol, son of football great Joe Krol, can fill the mound bill. The young righthander player minor pro in the New York Yankee chain in 1962.

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Pitcher	1	Shortstop	6
Catcher	2	Left Fielder	7
First Baseman	3	Centre Fielder	8
Second Baseman	4	Right Fielder	9
Third Baseman	5		

SOME SYMBOLS USED BY SCORERS FOLLOWS

Base Hit	—	Sacrifice Hit	H
Two-Base Hit	==	Passed Ball	B
Three-Base Hit	===	Balk	BK
Home Run	====	Struck Out	K
Fumbled Grounder	A	Base on Balls	BB
Fielder's Choice	FC	Muffed Fly	O
Hit by Pitcher	HP	Wild Throw	W
Wild Pitch	WP	Forced Out	XX
Stolen Base	S	Error	E
Left on Bases	L	Foul Fly	F

An illustration will show the method of recording a play. In the upper left-hand corner opposite batter's name A—4 means batter reached first on fumble by second baseman. In the upper right-hand corner S means he stole second. In the lower right-hand corner B means he reached third on passed ball. In the lower left-hand corner 6 2 means he was thrown out to catcher at plate by shortstop.

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THE GALT TERRIERS

BY CARL FLETCHER
Galt Evening Reporter



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Junior-aged Ron Smith, a shortstop regular last summer, is being groomed as Oliver's replacement at second. There are no problems at the infield corners either where first baseman Ron Boomer and third baseman Upper, the latter a perennial all-star, are back again.

If Smith remains at second base, Upper will break in a new shortstop.

Three of last year's outfielders—Fred Thompson, Larry Cunningham and Ron Brain — figure to keep their jobs. Bill Burgess, a junior Cub who appeared briefly in senior play two years ago, also figures in the outfield picture this year.

Roger Dewaele, a power-hitting junior Cub who played most of the senior schedule last year, also looms high in Terriers plans. He plays the outfield and also catches. Last year's regular receiver, Pat Lutz of Syracuse University, won't be back so Dewaele will start the season behind the plate until import help arrives.

Upper, in his third year as Terrier manager, has four holdovers from last year's pitching staff, lefthanders Ross Paton, Eric Lomax and Ken Lavis. Righthander John Clark, an ageless 49-year-old, will work out of the bullpen again.

Terriers are seeking an import pitcher, preferably a righthander. They don't anticipate any righthanded mound help from the junior Cub farm but will call on a number of other juniors for infield and outfield chores. Upper hopes that Dick Krol, son of football great Joe Krol, can fill the mound bill. The young righthander player minor pro in the New York Yankee chain in 1962.

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NUMBER OF PLAYERS AS FOLLOWS

Pitcher	1	Shortstop	6
Catcher	2	Left Fielder	7
First Baseman	3	Centre Fielder	8
Second Baseman	4	Right Fielder	9
Third Baseman	5		

SOME SYMBOLS USED BY SCORERS FOLLOWS

Base Hit	—	Sacrifice Hit	H
Two-Base Hit	==	Passed Ball	B
Three-Base Hit	===	Balk	BK
Home Run	====	Struck Out	K
Fumbled Grounder	A	Base on Balls	BB
Fielder's Choice	FC	Muffed Fly	O
Hit by Pitcher	HP	Wild Throw	W
Wild Pitch	WP	Forced Out	XX
Stolen Base	S	Error	E
Left on Bases	L	Foul Fly	F

An illustration will show the method of recording a play. In the upper left-hand corner opposite batter's name A-4 means batter reached first on fumble by second baseman. In the upper right-hand corner S means he stole second. In the lower right-hand corner B means he reached third on passed ball. In the lower left-hand corner 6 2 means he was thrown out to catcher at plate by shortstop.

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CHAMPIONS

Year	Regular Season	Playoffs
1950	Brantford Red Sox	Waterloo Tigers
1951	Brantford Red Sox	London Majors
1952	Kitchener Panthers	Kitchener Panthers
1953	Waterloo Tigers	Kitchener Panthers
1954	Galt Terriers	St. Thomas Elgins
1955	Oshawa Merchants	St. Thomas Elgins
1956	London Majors	London Majors
1957	St. Thomas Elgins	K-W Dutchmen
1958	Oakville Oaks	St. Thomas Elgins
1959	Galt Terriers	Brantford Red Sox
1960	Brantford Red Sox	Brantford Red Sox
1961	Brantford Red Sox	Brantford Red Sox
1962	Guelph Royals	Brantford Red Sox
1963	Brantford Red Sox	Brantford Red Sox

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER SELECTIONS

Year	Player	Team
1950	Alex Kvasnak	Waterloo
1951	Wilmer Fields	Brantford
1952-57	No selection	
1958	Johnny Ambrose	St. Thomas
1959	Stan "Gabby" Anderson	London
1960	Ron Stead	Brantford
1961	Spud Bush	Brantford
1962	John Poholsky	Guelph
1963	Ron Stead	Brantford

BATTING CHAMPIONS

Year	Player	Team	Ave.
1950	Alex Kvasnak	Waterloo	.379
1951	Fred Thomas	Kitchener	.383
1952	Russ Evon	London	.361
1953	Billy Flick	Waterloo	.349
1954	Wilmer Fields	Brantford	.379
1955	Wilmer Fields	Oshawa	.425
1956	Luther Clifford	Brantford	.397
1957	Jim Dickey	Listowel	.377
1958	Wray Upper	Galt	.413
1959	Ernie Myers	Listowel	.423
1960	Stan Anderson	London	.391
1961	Don Mayes	London	.400
1962	Hank Czerwieniec	London	.424
1963	Jim Reeves	Brantford	.444

PITCHING CHAMPIONS, 1946-1963 — Earned Run Leaders

Year	Pitcher	Team	Ave.
1950	Bobby Schnurr	Kitchener	1.67
1951	Bill Slack	London	1.38
1952	Bob Brake	London	1.51
1953	Ray Ripplemeyer	Oshawa	1.47
1954	John Maldovan	Kitchener	2.54
1955	Harry Schaffer	Oshawa	.245
1956	Bob Simpson	London	.252
1957	Not Recorded		
1958	Mike Wallace	Guelph	1.89
1959	Richard Jack	Hamilton	0.90
1960	Ross Paton	Hamilton	1.53
1961	Ron Stead	Brantford	1.33
1962	Gary Field	Guelph	1.35
1963	Ron Stead	Brantford	0.63

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BILL BURGESS — Back for a sixth season with the senior club, Bill is expected to serve as understudy for Jerry Anderson in centrefield or brother Tom at first base. An erratic hitter as his five-year average of .201 would attest, Bill is a good defensive player and possibly under his brother's tutelage may blossom as a hitter. He's 24 and single.

RAY HEBERT — A newcomer to the Senior Intercounty, Ray is a Windsor native but has been a London resident for several months. A righthander, Ray is being counted on to bolster the club's hill corps this year. He's 24 and married.



GOOD LUCK, PONTIACS

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JERRY BURGESS — A Brantford native and not related to Tom or Bill, Jerry appeared briefly with the Red Sox back in 1958. He spent three years in the Milwaukee Braves organization before a back injury shelved him. A righthander with a lot of confidence and desire, Jerry is employed by Canadian Acceptance Corp. here and is being counted on to further strengthen the Pontiacs' mound corps.



ROY McKAY — A 10-year veteran in Senior Intercounty ranks, Roy is the Pontiacs' lone southpaw hurler and is expected to see considerable hill duty this season. He's looked particularly keen this spring and if he shows no after effects of a recent automobile accident could emerge as a key man in the London plans. He's won 32 and lost 34 in 10 seasons with London and St. Thomas, working with mediocre teams on most occasions.

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BY HUGH BOWMAN
The Guelph Mercury

THE GUELPH CJOY'S

Former operators of Intercounty ball clubs must be shaking their heads in amazement at the way most of the clubs are being operated today.

Back in the early fifties, the basepaths were paved with gold and the operators had to have an elastic on their bank roll that stretched from the centrefield flag pole to home plate, to meet the demands of the players.

Today, the players are not only playing with little hope of financial reward but they're operating their own club and, indeed, may even have to pay to play. The wheel has turned full circle.

Guelph is the latest club to join the trend toward player-operation and they'll open the 1964 campaign with a new name, new uniforms, a new manager, at least a few new players and, it's hoped, a lot of new fans.

Guelph found itself in much the same situation as London did last year, when the former club executive elected not to carry on.

A player's executive was formed and, with the help of program advertisers,

merchants, Radio Station CJOY who donated new uniforms and, as a result, the new name of the team, Guelph CJOY's) and the untiring efforts of business manager George Anderson, an organization was formed and an entry filed.

From what seemed like a near-hopeless beginning, the player-operation has progressed to the stage where the Guelph CJOY's are entering the 1964 campaign with a high degree of optimism.

The bulk of the credit for this has to go to the players' executive of Nick DiCarlo, Ron Gumbley, Bob Brattain and Walt Jeffries who have steered a shaky ship over some rough shoals before launching it into league competition.

At the time of writing, playing-manager Walt Jeffries was still non-committal about his playing personnel simply because he wanted to give every candidate a full opportunity to earn a berth on the club.

Suffice to say, there will be some new blood in the lineup, along with some of the familiar names that have given much in the way of baseball talent to Guelph teams.

Not the least of these, will be Jeffries himself, who came out of retirement last season to lead the club in hitting, while proving that he has lost none of his defensive magic at first base.

Holdovers who will be vying to hold their positions against the competition of several eager and capable youngsters are Nick DiCarlo, Ron Gumbley, George Ashley, Mike Mahoney, Bob Brattain, Ted Hastings, Mike Kovac, Harry Barber and Gary Field.

Impressive, among the fledglings in spring training, have been youthful veteran Gary Jeffries, Robbie Sleeman, Terry Valeriote, Ron Nicols and John Skinner.

Jim Baker is the lone returning import and it's expected that there will be two others to fall into that category.

If enthusiasm, hustle and spirit alone would win pennants, Guelph CJOY's would be a shoo-in for the flag. It takes more than that, of course, but this mixture of youth and experience promises to provide Intercounty ball fans with some entertaining evenings in this 1964 season. Certainly there won't be anybody that isn't trying; after all it's their own ball club.



DAVE SMALLWOOD

THE KITCHENER-WATERLOO PANTHERS

BY JIM CRERAR
K-W Record Sports Editor

Satchel Paige, the modern-day iron man of pitching, once advised never to look back because somebody might be gaining on you.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Panthers apparently took this word of advice to heart when preparing for the current senior Intercounty Baseball League season.

Panthers had every right to reflect on their accomplishments of 1963. Hopelessly mired in last place all season long, the team staged a finish in the finest traditions of Frank Merriwell to sneak into the playoffs, then completely befuddled the experts by knocking off the Galt Terriers in the semi-finals and pushing the Brantford Red Sox to the limit before bowing in the finals.

You could hardly have blamed the Twin City horsehide hopefuls for resting on laurels like those, but they didn't.

Instead, they took a squint into the immediate future of the present season and decided that the best course of action was to inject some new blood into the operation.

New faces started popping up faster than the corn kernels on a hot griddle. Pat Boehmer, no stranger to Twin City baseball and hockey fans, became the president and several young directors began taking their places around the conference table with the older Panther administrators.

A new manager, former Waterloo Tiger outfielder Brian Kerr, took over just before the season started. Howie Hupp, who relinquished the post after doing a good job in 1963, and Shorty Miller became assistant field bosses.

Clare Hatt

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THE STRATFORD CHIEFS

BY RALPH WATKINS
Stratford Beacon-Herald

How will Stratford do in Senior Intercounty Baseball League this year?

As yet no one can tell that. What we do know is that Stratford has a strong "team behind the team".

On April 29, the Stratford Baseball Association announced the signing of former "manager of the year" in the Senior Intercounty Baseball League, Mike Wallace, 31. Mike has a background in professional baseball with the Philadelphia Phillies organization, and manager of the Guelph Royals, who finished in first place in the Intercounty League in 1962, seven full places ahead of the second-place team. And he has already directed a number of field practices at the National Stadium in Stratford.

Members of the Stratford Baseball Association, meanwhile, report season ticket sales are going well.

President John Bell said more than half of the 1,000 tickets already have been sold, mostly to city industries.

The tickets, which sell at \$5.00 each, entitle holders to attend 15 home games of Stratford's first entry in the Intercounty loop since 1950.

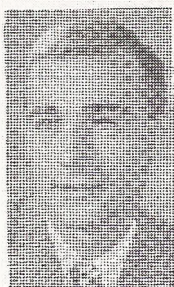
Manager Wallace's task is to whip the club into shape and get it rolling by the middle of June, when he will return to the U.S. The Stratford group hopes to secure the IC's strikeout king, John Poholsky, from Guelph, to take over field operations.

"If we can win half our home games and one-third of our away games, we'll be doing well," comments Johnny Bell.

Members of the baseball association include Ald. Basil Schooley and Vic Polley, vice-presidents; Doug Fountain, secretary; Gary Thomas, treasurer; Ald. A. C. McKenzie, Ald. Gar Landers, Ned Burnett, Don Hughes, William Gordon, Bud Dixon, Bernie Hurley, Bill Bolton and Harold Thomas.



MIKE WALLACE



THE PONTIACS STORY

BY PETE CUNNINGHAM

London Free Press Sportswriter

After finishing last and out of the playoffs for the past six years, London Pontiacs have no place to go but up this season.

And with a more experienced infield, stronger hitting and the experience of a former major leaguer the Pontiacs should do just that.

Much of the success of the Pontiacs depends on Tom Burgess, a veteran of 14 years in pro baseball who took over as manager this season from Stan "Gabby" Anderson. Anderson managed the club last year when it first became player-operational.

Burgess, a native of London, spent partial seasons with St. Louis and Pittsburgh in the National League and a full season with the AL Los Angeles Angels in 1962 before being sidelined by a knee injury that eventually ended his pro career.

The 35-year-old Burgess has basically the same infield this season with Bill Zubyk at second, Tommy McKenzie at shortstop and Whitey Lapthorne at third. Gerry Young, who hit .303 while playing first last season, is not out with Pontiacs this season.

McKenzie and Lapthorne with another year's experience behind them will be starting their third year in senior competition. McKenzie has recovered from a shoulder injury incurred during the football season and is looking for another .300 or better season.

Lapthorne, a good fielding third base-

man but a weak hitter as a junior, came into his own last season when he led the club with a .346 batting average.

Zubyk, the best defensive second baseman in the league, will be starting his seventh season in London. He also spent one season with St. Thomas Elgins.

With Gabby Anderson, Hank Czwierieniec, Jerry Anderson and Bill Burgess in the outfield, the Pontiacs should have one of the strongest outfields in the loop.

Gabby, who at 34 years, has played 10 years in London, winning the batting title twice, 1957 (.403) and 1960 (.391). He also batted over .400 in 1959 with a .420 average. He holds a .343 lifetime average in Senior Intercounty competition.

For the past several seasons Gabby has hinted that each may be his last. But when spring training opens at Labatt Park he's always there, anxious for the first intra-squad game.

Last year, burdened by the duties of a playing manager, his batting average fell to an all-time low of .248. Relieved of his managerial obligations and now coach of the Pontiacs, Gabby is more relaxed at the plate and in a better position to live up to the "leader" title he has acquired through the years.

Czwierieniec won the batting title with a .424 average in 1962, his first season with the Pontiacs, but fell to a still respectable .309 last season. He spent part of the 1963 season with the Class "A" Waterloo Iowa club.

Jerry Anderson, who may be forced to miss several games due to shift work, played his last full season in 1961. He was in the lineup for two games in 1962 before dropping out because of conflicts with the management.

Bill Burgess, brother of Tom, appears to have overcome some of his hitting problems and could have his best season in six years in a London uniform.

Pontiacs have versatility in utility men Paul Allen, Al Baron and Dan Mendham.

Allen can play at shortstop or second as well as in the outfield. Mendham played at third in 1959 and can also play the outfield. Baron, still of junior age, can play first base or in the outfield.

The pitching staff will be aided by a strong defensive catcher in Dave Pook of

No. 748

LUCKY NUMBER

St. Thomas. Pook who has never been a threat as a hitter, will give the Pontiacs strength where they hurt last season. Ineffective catching was to blame for several losses last year.

As veteran pitcher Roy McKay put it, "the other clubs found we were weak in catching and stole us blind. If we gave up a single it was an automatic double. Pook will help us a lot," he added.

McKay, the club's only southpaw and only pitcher back from last year's mound staff, will be starting his tenth season with London. He hurled for the Elgins in 1961.

Known in the past as a "junk" pitcher, he is in the best early season shape in years and as a result has added a fast ball to an assortment of curve ball, changeups and knuckle balls.

New faces on the pitching staff are Jerry Burgess, Ray Hebert and Ron Oldridge.

Tom Burgess also hopes to use two juniors, Jim Winch and Steve Kyle, as spot starters.

Jerry Burgess, a native of Brantford, played pro ball in the Milwaukee organization before being sidelined by a back injury.

Hebert got his start on Windsor sandlots.

Oldridge has always wanted to pitch. Last season he tried to get a berth on the juniors pitching staff but coach Marv Butler had an abundance of good pitchers and Oldridge ended up in the outfield.

But this season Rolf Scheel, a right-hander who played triple "A" ball in the Baltimore organization, and, if he obtains a job could be the clubs spark plug, has developed Oldridge to the point where Burgess is considering him as a possible starter.



NORM ALDRIDGE — When it comes to administering to the aches and pains of athletes, Norm has few peers. He's been a trainer of baseball hockey and football clubs for many years. He's also played all these games and in one season served as manager of the London Diamonds. He served as trainer of London Nationals the past season and will be the man in the white suit with Pontiacs this year. He could also fill in on the coaching lines.



PAUL ALLEN—Like Scheel, Paul is a law student at Western. A former high school track star, Paul is counted on as a utility man able to play either infield or outfield. Last year with the club, he batted a rather weak .165 but with better coaching could prove more of a batting threat this year.

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RON OLDRIDGE — This graduate of London Diamonds, OBA champions last year, could be the big surprise for the Pontiacs. He can play the outfield or pitch and it's in the latter capacity he might cause a few raised eyebrows. A Courtland native, Ron is 22 and single and a righthander all the way. He works for J. T. Wing & Co., Industrial Supplies.

AL BARON — "The Moose" as he's been nicknamed is still a junior but likely to see considerable duty with the Pontiacs as a pinch-hitter. He can also fill in defensively in the outfield, at first base or behind the plate. In a few pinch-hitting appearances with last year's senior club, Al proved his merit with the bat. He's also a Junior "B" hockey player. He's 20 and single.



DAN MENDHAM — Coming out of a two-year retirement, Danny is expected to see service as a utility man this season, being able to play infield, outfield, catcher and even pitch. In five senior seasons Dan posted a .234 average. He's 28 years old and married. He bats left and throws right.

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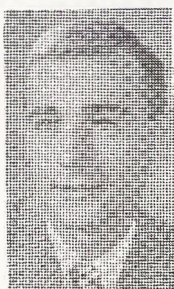
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BY PETE CUNNINGHAM

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LUCKY NUMBER

St. Thomas. Pook who has never been a threat as a hitter, will give the Pontiacs strength where they hurt last season. Ineffective catching was to blame for several losses last year.

As veteran pitcher Roy McKay put it, "the other clubs found we were weak in catching and stole us blind. If we gave up a single it was an automatic double. Pook will help us a lot," he added.

McKay, the club's only southpaw and only pitcher back from last year's mound staff, will be starting his tenth season with London. He hurled for the Elgins in 1961.

Known in the past as a "junk" pitcher, he is in the best early season shape in years and as a result has added a fast ball to an assortment of curve ball, changeups and knuckle balls.

New faces on the pitching staff are Jerry Burgess, Ray Hebert and Ron Oldridge.

Tom Burgess also hopes to use two juniors, Jim Winch and Steve Kyle, as spot starters.

Jerry Burgess, a native of Brantford, played pro ball in the Milwaukee organization before being sidelined by a back injury.

Hebert got his start on Windsor sandlots.

Oldridge has always wanted to pitch. Last season he tried to get a berth on the juniors pitching staff but coach Marv Butler had an abundance of good pitchers and Oldridge ended up in the outfield.

But this season Rolf Scheel, a right-hander who played triple "A" ball in the Baltimore organization, and, if he obtains a job could be the clubs spark plug, has developed Oldridge to the point where Burgess is considering him as a possible starter.



NORM ALDRIDGE — When it comes to administering to the aches and pains of athletes, Norm has few peers. He's been a trainer of baseball hockey and football clubs for many years. He's also played all these games and in one season served as manager of the London Diamonds. He served as trainer of London Nationals the past season and will be the man in the white suit with Pontiacs this year. He could also fill in on the coaching lines.



PAUL ALLEN—Like Scheel, Paul is a law student at Western. A former high school track star, Paul is counted on as a utility man able to play either infield or outfield. Last year with the club, he batted a rather weak .165 but with better coaching could prove more of a batting threat this year.

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RON OLDRIDGE — This graduate of London Diamonds, OBA champions last year, could be the big surprise for the Pontiacs. He can play the outfield or pitch and it's in the latter capacity he might cause a few raised eyebrows. A Courtland native, Ron is 22 and single and a righthander all the way. He works for J. T. Wing & Co., Industrial Supplies.

AL BARON — "The Moose" as he's been nicknamed is still a junior but likely to see considerable duty with the Pontiacs as a pinch-hitter. He can also fill in defensively in the outfield, at first base or behind the plate. In a few pinch-hitting appearances with last year's senior club, Al proved his merit with the bat. He's also a Junior "B" hockey player. He's 20 and single.



DAN MENDHAM — Coming out of a two-year retirement, Danny is expected to see service as a utility man this season, being able to play infield, outfield, catcher and even pitch. In five senior seasons Dan posted a .234 average. He's 28 years old and married. He bats left and throws right.

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KEN ROOKS — A graduate of the London Diamonds, Ontario Baseball Association Junior champions last year, this 21-year-old righthander could prove a big asset to the Pontiacs this year. He proved a most capable pitcher with the Diamonds the past couple of years and with enough work could blossom into a senior winner.

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JIM WINCH — Another junior with a wealth of talent, this tall Ingersoll righthander proved his ability to work in senior ranks last season with an 18-inning stint against Kitchener-Waterloo Panthers. A strong hurler, Jim is still growing and displays considerable promise. He'll probably see considerable senior action.



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THE SENIOR INTERCOUNTY

BY BOB FERGUSON

London Free Press Sportswriter



Bob Ferguson

Senior Intercounty baseball in its 45 years of operation has greatly resembled a roller-coaster — plenty of ups and downs.

Its existence is due largely to the sports boom which followed the cessation of hostilities of World War I. Attention diverted from warfare, interest in sports began to revive and with it formation of countless

numbers of leagues. Such a group was the Intercounty Association. Through the years the tireless efforts of an ever-changing group of men has kept the association alive and flourishing.

In 1919 the IC launched its inaugural season. The league consisted of four clubs — Guelph, Galt, Stratford and Kitchener—the latter operating as a rival for the professional team in the Michigan-Ontario League.

The season was a rocky one with hassle after hassle disrupting on and off field activities. But the group survived, Guelph claimed the pennant and went into the Ontario Amateur Baseball Association finals before bowing to Hamilton.

As the years rolled on several other teams appeared briefly under the Intercounty banner but in the early years a New York Yankee-type domination of the circuit existed — first by Guelph which took the first three titles, then by Galt which won the next three. In 1922, Galt won the Ontario senior crown. But the Guelph-Galt domination was shattered in 1925 with London claiming the title and Preston running second. The next year, St. Thomas was the winner. But the Guelph-Galt combination came back to again rule the scene until St. Thomas took all the marbles in 1933. In 1934, Stratford, one of the charter members, took its first crown.

Meanwhile the original association had continued to grow with an intermediate and junior series being added in 1922.

By the mid-30's the Intercounty had grown into a power to be reckoned with in Ontario baseball circles. When Stratford won the 1934 OBA title it was the fifth straight for Senior Intercounty teams.

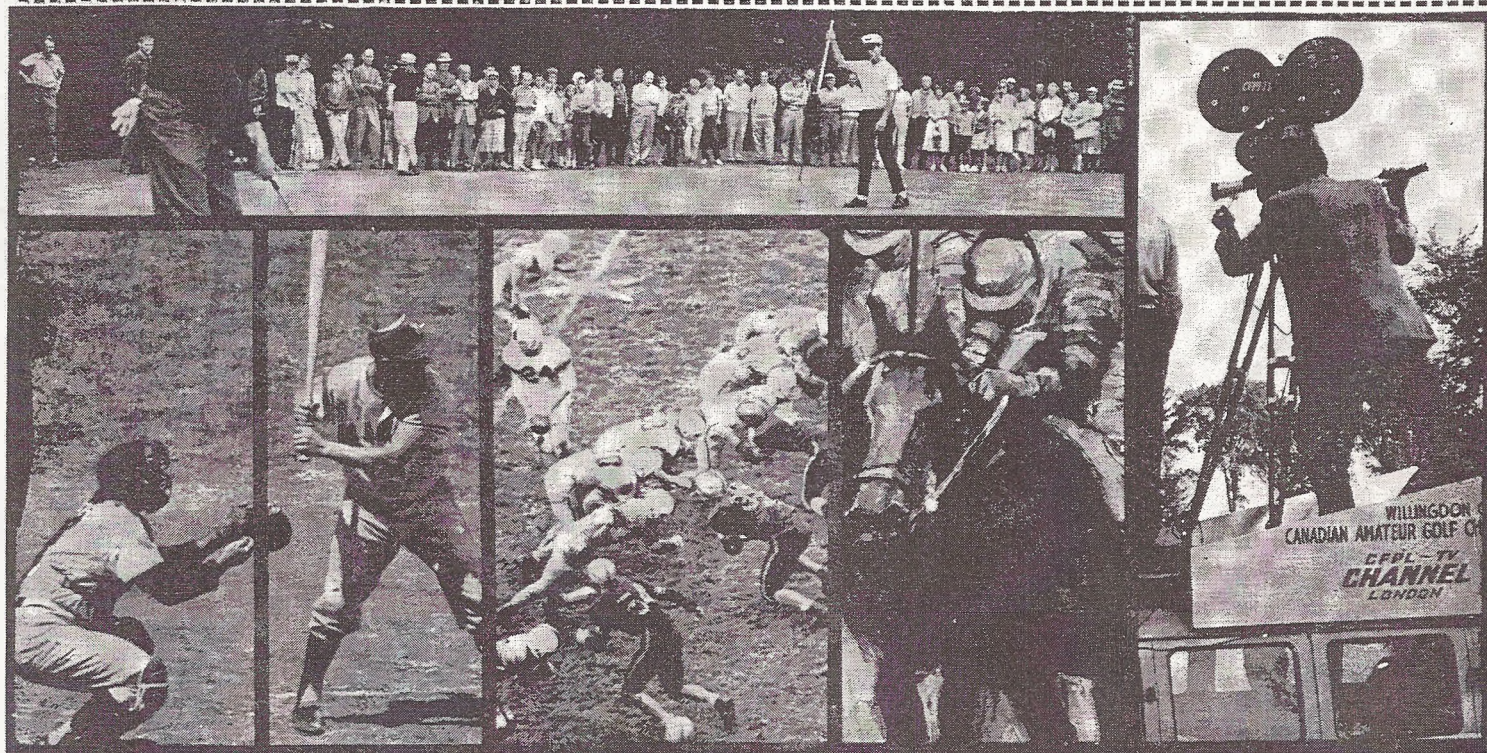
The depression and World War II followed and while activity became somewhat curtailed, the Intercounty survived and rapidly rose to the heights in the league's golden era following the second global conflict.

This was truly the league's hey-day with the Intercounty, listed in professional ranks as an outlaw group, competing in the money market with the minor professional squads for talent. Operators

poured in cash in an effort to build better teams, the player calibre improved — several major leaguers roamed the IC gardens during the "gold in them thar hill" days. The league was undoubtedly superior in class of play to many minor pro groups. So much emphasis had been placed on the senior series that the IC no longer operated one as an association — the senior operators did so as the Senior Intercounty Baseball League, an affiliate of the association. They even went to the extent of having a league commissioner, John Gillies, a London lawyer, and himself a former pitcher with London Majors. The Majors by this time had become the loop's dominant factor.

But like all roller-coasters, the downhill grade had to come and the "golden egg" grew smaller and smaller until a more sane policy of operations was adopted. Dissolution of the Senior Intercounty Baseball League came in 1957 when London, the 1956 pennant and playoff champs, and Brantford joined Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Welland and Tonawanda, N.Y., in the Great Lakes-Niagara District League. The remainder of the IC clubs continued as a senior series under the association banner.

War and depressions, golden eras and glory days have failed to subdue the drive of the IC players and executives and, as the 45th season is recorded in the history books a spirit of optimism exists. The uphill ride is a slow one but history shows the IC has made it before. We think they'll do it again.



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