

# Juniors open season at home

The Hagersville Juniors, which are a new entry in the S.C.B.A., will open the season at home this Sunday with game time at 2 p.m. Paris will provide the opposition for this game. The Juniors will play in Walsingham on the following Wednesday before playing their next home game on Thursday.

**ALEK TRICIAN SAYS**  
AT ELECTRICAL WORK  
WERE SENIOR MEN,  
IT'S OUR PERMANENT  
JOB-NOT JUST NOW  
& THEN"

**HAVE  
ADEQUATE  
WIRING**  
**FOLKS**

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May 29. Denny Wilson, who played and caught ball for many years, has agreed to coach the Juniors with Don

Richardson acting as manager. This should be a power packed club with a lot of experience for many of the

## J.C.S. variety night

A variety night will be held in the Hagersville High School Gymnasium on Friday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The evening will include a play by grade seven and

eight students called "Once upon a playground."

The evening will also feature an operetta. The Three Little Pigs will be performed by grades one to four.

boys have played senior ball or at least completed in the senior league.

Hagersville will not have a team in the Senior division this year as they were not able to come up with a coach.

There seemed to be a lot of players interested in playing but no one wanted to take on the responsibility of coaching. With the young ball players coming up and all the talk getting lights at the ball



Bruce Greenhalgh makes a few hot laps getting the feel and working some of the bugs out of his new Gremlin which he will compete in the Super Compact class.

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park, I feel the Seniors will miss only this season.

The Hagersville Pee-Wees open their season at home next Tuesday, May 20. Coach Harold Taylor would still

like to see more players out trying to make the team. All positions are open and if you call 768-1085 Harold will let you know when the next practice is being held.

## Haldimand teachers visit Backus Mill

A visit to the historic Backus Homestead in the Backus Mill Conservation Area near Port Rowan was the location of the recent Saturday outdoor Education Workshop for Haldimand teachers. This is one of the three points which comprise the Long Point Bird Observatory, the other two being out on Long Point itself.

Long Point Bird Observatory was founded in 1960 as the first station of its type in North America, and it is still the only one of its kind in Canada. Dr. David Hunsell is the executive director, and he and his small staff are assisted by volunteer naturalists. When the Haldimand group visited, volunteer helpers for the week were Mr. Harold Richards, a retired teacher from Toronto, and his wife.

Bird banding has been in progress out on Long Point for 15 years, but at the Backus Mill site it just began last August. The birds are caught in light but strong nylon nets strung along in various locations and carefully inspected on a regular basis. While it is said that the birds will be unharmed if captive for as long as an hour, the various locations are usually checked at 15 to 20 minute intervals.

Untangling them from the nets takes skill - Mr. Richards mentioned that as he has been doing this for only 10 years, he was relatively inexperienced! He also remarked that birds do not as a rule break their necks flying into windows, etc., as their necks are very flexible and bend instantly. Instead, these deaths are more likely caused by skull fractures. Nets are tied up at dusk, so nothing will be trapped until morning.

Once caught, birds are carefully placed in little drawstring bags and carried back to the research office. Here they are identified, measured, weighed and careful records made. The proper size band is selected and placed on the leg, after which the bird is released. Some birds are re-traps; they have been banded here before and remained in the area to be found again.

As well as the mesh nets, several types of ground trap are used near the feeding station. These are constructed of wire mesh and are rectangular in shape. After the food lures the bird in, he finds it is almost impossible to escape and is promptly banded. While the teachers were visiting they observed the banding of an adult male Ruby Crowned Kinglet and a female, a Brown-Headed Cowbird, a Robin, a Phoebe, several Song Sparrows and a male Cardinal.

The group was taken on an interesting tour of the Backus house, which was built in 1854 and has been almost completely rebuilt during renovations. A collection of bird skins and skeletons is used in teaching bird adaptation to the numerous groups of students who visit on school science field trips. A rather large and energetic garter snake proved an unexpected bonus in the study of science for one of the groups inspecting the surrounding area.

The American Avocet is one of the rarer birds banded during the recent years, and Dr. Hunsell observed that only the day before a Grasshopper Sparrow had been caught out on Long Point. Gulls over 20 years old have been recorded here as well.

Dr. Hunsell asked that anyone finding a banded bird check the number, list details of where the bird was found, when, and probably cause of death, then phone or write the Bird Banding station. Information obtained in this way is fed into a computer in Washington and aids in many special projects undertaken by naturalists. Population surveys of some of the scarcer breeding species, such as Piping Plovers, Bald Eagles and Giant Canada Geese, and a study of timing and energetics of migration in songbirds and shorebirds are among the more than 50 reports that have resulted from Long Point Bird Observatory's research studies.

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Cameron Johnson, left, of IGA, Hagersville, presented Billy Mumby with a one week pass to the Billy Harris and Dave Keon Hockey School in Toronto. Mrs. Robert Mumby, of 21 Church St., Hagersville, Billy's mother, patted her son on the back. Billy also won the contest last year. (Photo by Trisha Banks)

## Minor ball news

On May 7, the Hagersville Minor Ball Committee met in the Council Chambers. The meeting was brought to order by Chairman Pete Myke.

### Order of Business

It was moved by George Jackson, seconded by Norm Crawford that we convert the existing diamond at the Grand Kett Memorial Park into a hard and soft ball infield on Saturday morning May 10.

There was much discussion about getting lights for this same diamond. It is hoped that this would be a priority. We submitted Terry Crawford's name to the Recreation Committee to cut all grass at two diamonds, make up the schedules, do lining and any general care until July 1. All coaches are to inform him about game schedules, practise times, and practise places desired, as soon as possible. A good calling time would be around 5 p.m.

### Girls Softball

All players sign in their

proper age groups. Midget, after Jan 1, (under 17); Bantam, after Jan 1, (under 15); Pee-wee, after Jan 1, (under 13); Squirt, after Jan 1, (under 11). For more information call Mrs. Dianne Smith, 768-3207.

### Uniforms

There is a very poor understanding about team uniforms. All Hagersville uniforms are the property of kind-hearted sponsors NOT the players. Therefore all sweaters, pants, stocking and equipment that were loaned to players are to be returned to the coaches at the end of each season. There should be no need for us to keep phoning, begging and asking for our property to be returned for other children to use next season. All equipment to be worn at games only and NOT for school, play or painting.

When you are cleaning and come across any uniforms no matter what condition, please deliver to Mrs. Nat Salvator or Mrs. Lynn Smith.

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BY JUDY DAVIS



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## Pesticides still a problem

Environment Minister William Newman and his deputy Everett Biggs are to be congratulated for taking a second look at new pesticide regulations as they affect the casual farmer-spray-operator Gordon Hill, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture said in Toronto.

(New regulations under the Pesticides Act were introduced this spring. This week the Ministry announced it will temporarily waive Ontario regulation 618-74 pending further study.)

"The OFA recognizes the serious consequences that can result from misuse of modern chemical pesticides and herbicides, Hill said. "For this reason, we support stringent pesticides rules.

"However, it now appears that farmers who have regularly sprayed three or four neighbouring farms will give up this limited custom work. Too much time, effort and cost is required to become licensed."

The net result of this widespread farmer attitude will be more weeds and lower crop yields, Hill pointed out.

Our executive and our Pollution and Pesticide Committee will resume study of the regulations and will help the Environment Ministry develop criteria and define a new category of casual farmer-spray-operator, Hill said.

In the meantime, we applaud the Ministry's decision to temporarily suspend

Ontario regulation 618-74 and return fees to those farmers who have already applied for licensing.

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