



JACK CALDER

Documentarian of the 1934 Chatham Coloured
All-Stars

Heidi LM Jacobs
University of Windsor



(By Jack Calder)



By JACK CALDER
Former Canadian Press Staff Writer
of Goderich, Ont.

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British Internment Camp, the Curragh, Eire, June 14 (CP).—One impression I couldn't get out of my mind, as I sat in the press gallery and watched the Dail Eireann in action, was the resemblance to the Ontario Legislature.

The benches of Southern Ire-



JACK CALDER FEB 1913- JULY 1944



BREAKING THE COLOUR BARRIER

Chat. Stars	A.B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Scott, lf.	2	2	2	1	0	0
Terrell, 3b.-p.	3	1	1	1	1	1
Harding, lb.	2	1	1	6	2	0
Chase, ss-3b-2b.	3	2	2	2	1	0
Washington, c.	1	1	1	7	5	3

The Stars staged their mass attack again yesterday just as did

SIX RU

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THE CHATHAM DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1934.

CHATHAM "STARS" TROUNCE PENETANG IN FINAL GAME TO WIN PROVINCIAL INTERMEDIATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

SPEED NOT BEEF WINS FOR THE LANSING TEAM

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"Your backs are fat and could do it," he said.

TUESDAY'S GAME AT GUELPH RESULTS IN SCORE OF 13-7

Chatham Lads on Hitting Rampage in Fourth Game of the Final Series—Flat Chase Performs "Iron Man" Act—Comes Back After 11-Inning Game Monday to Hurl Stars to Victory.

GUELPH, Oct. 24.—The long 1934 season ended and after the season of the O.B.A.A. was brought to a close here yesterday when the Chatham Stars defeated the Penetang Shipbuilders 13 to 7 in the deciding game of the Inter-

SPORT IN SHORT

A Middlesex County Hockey League composed of London and Huron teams will be organized during the next couple of weeks. Last spring several tournaments were staged at the London Arena and the plan proved to be so popular that many of the teams are seeking entry in an organized league.

It has been announced at Windsor that Son Watkins has been named coach of the Woodstock

C. C. I. GLENCOE SOCCER TEAMS PLAY TIE GAME

GLENCOE, Oct. 24.—In the second game of the Junior W. O. S. S. A. inter-city playoffs between Glencoe and Chatham Coleraine yesterday the teams again played to a tie 2 to 2. In the first game in Chatham, the score was 0 to 0 and now a third game will have to be played in Glencoe to decide which team will meet the Windsor entry.

Chatham had scored both of their goals before the local team failed to score.

Uniforms Denied Queens' Players

KINGSTON, Oct. 24.—Coach, The Stars looked out 15 players on the gridiron at Richardson Stadium yesterday when Queen's University rugby squad staged a practice, and some didn't know whether he would have any more than the same 15 when he clashes with University of Toronto in the Ontario capital Saturday.

It was the same squad that played against Varsity last Saturday, with the exception of Mario Jones, whose injured shoulder is rapidly responding to treatment but it is unknown whether he will be

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Wilfred "Boomer" Harding & the Chatham Coloured All-Stars (1932-1939)

Breaking the Colour Barrier: Wilfred "Boomer" Harding & the Chatham Coloured All-Stars is one of several projects related to the Boomer Harding (1915-1991) scrapbooks donated to the University of Windsor. This website tells the story of the Chatham, Ontario baseball team who became the first black team to win a provincial Ontario Baseball Amateur Association championship in 1934. In collecting oral histories from family and friends of these players, newspaper documentation of the 1934 season, artifacts about the team, and developing curricular resources for K-12 teachers and a traveling storyboard exhibit, this project conveys a rich and vital story about race, courage, and community in Southwestern Ontario in the early 20th century.

"Breaking the Colour Barrier" is a partnership between the Harding family, the University of Windsor's Department of History, the Leddy Library's Centre for Digital Scholarship, and the Chatham Sports Hall of Fame. It was generously funded by an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant in 2016-2017.

[Read more...](#)

1934 INAUGURAL INDICATES
REAL BATTLE FOR HONORS

It Shows in the Street Ball of the Stars Last Night
ing -- Knees From County to the League--
The Opening Game

The first game of the season was played last night at the home of the Stars, and it was a real battle for honors. The Stars won the game by a score of 10 to 4. The game was played in front of a large crowd of fans. The Stars' pitcher, [Name], was the star of the game, throwing a complete game and allowing only four runs. The Stars' batsmen did their share, with [Name] hitting a home run in the third inning. The game was a real contest, and it was well worth the wait. The Stars are now the leaders of the league, and they will be looking to defend their title this season. The game was a real battle, and it was well worth the wait. The Stars are now the leaders of the league, and they will be looking to defend their title this season.

May 18 1934 p. 11

MAY 18, 1934

STARS WIN OPENING GAME OF CITY BASEBALL LEAGUE

cdigs.uwindsor.ca/BreakingColo...

View Clip

Boosting Ba...

Stars Win T...

Double Hea...

Stars Win O...

In the Cold ...

MAY 7

MAY 9

MAY 11

MAY 13

MAY 15

MAY 17

MAY 19

MAY 21

MAY 23

MAY 25

MAY 27

MAY 29

BASEBALL LEAGUE PLAYOFFS TO START

ND BRAGGS HOOK UP AT ATHLETIC PARK

ected for Most Important Tilt of City
p Season—Stars Led League, but
Braggs Strong.

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By Jack Calder.

Let's Give Them a Rousing Sendoff.

To-morrow afternoon the first of the City Baseball League playoffs will be held at Athletic Park. Braggs and the Stars will clash in the most interesting game to be played between City League teams this season and a good crowd is expected.

Your presence added to that of many others will encourage the boys who are Chatham's hopes in the O. B. A. A. play-downs and who have brought about a revival of baseball in a once widely known baseball centre.

It shouldn't be necessary to have to appeal to the people of Chatham to attend a baseball game. In days gone by the mere mention of a not-so-hot exhibition would have brought out the fans in droves. Even many of the practices drew larger crowds than some games have been attracting this year.

It seems that some former followers of the game are convinced that baseball as to-day's youngsters play it isn't just the same as in the "good old days." I promise you not that to-morrow's affair will be as good as that game in which St. Thomas' Danny McPhee shut out the Briscos 1-0 when Blake McCoig was holding sway on the mound for Chatham's famous nine. But the boys are playing good ball. There can't be many places in the entire dominion where a city league is providing such good ball.

Interest in to-morrow's game is growing and the players have been looking forward

LOOP LEADERS WIN

TIGERS GAIN SLIGHTLY ON IDLE YANKS

Manager Mike Holds
Whip Hand as Ninth
Straight Is Re-
corded.

DETROIT, Aug. 10.—Manager Mickey Cochrane personally conducted the Tigers to their ninth consecutive victory and their third over St. Louis Browns yesterday, as the Detroit club banged out a 13-2 victory with one of its characteristic late-inning rallies.

It was second time in two days that Cochrane's bat figured import-

Facts of the Case

The Tigers' nine-game streak surpasses the best previous marks of the season, eight straight by the Yankees and the Cubs. Chicago's streak was interrupted by a tie game.

Rain was costly to the Yankees as it was to the Cubs, putting them a half game further behind Detroit when their game with Washington was postponed. Chicago and Cleveland had no game scheduled.

antly in a Tiger triumph and it put his club three full games ahead of the second-place Yankees as rain prevented the New York Washing-

See
PAGE 2

More
Sport

Signals Mixed; Rugbyists Call Huddle Tonight

Someone somewhere along the line got his signals mixed yesterday and the first of- fensive thrust of Chatham's 1934 intermediate rugby team went wrong. As a result the News published a story saying that the organization meeting of the team would be held in the William Pitt Hotel last evening. The management of the hotel had to tell all aspirants to positions on the team a few interested business men and a couple of potential water boys that the meeting was skedded for tonight.

All interested in seeing an intermediate rugby team function here this year should be at the William Pitt Hotel this evening at 8.15.

The Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	Won	Lost	Pct.
Detroit	68	37	.648
New York	64	39	.621
Cleveland	57	46	.553
Boston	56	51	.523

GIANTS NOW THREE UP ON WINDY CITY

Schumacher Again Aided
by Heavy Hitting of
Gotham Sluggers.

NEW YORK, Aug. 10.—The Giants, who appear to reserve their best hitting performances for Hal Schumacher's mound appearances, served up the young right-hand-er's 18th victory yesterday, garnished with 15 timely base hits off Brooklyn pitching. This swatting and Hal's six-hit hurling gave the league leaders a 16-5 triumph over Brooklyn Dodgers and increased their margin over the Cubs to three games.

In the first two innings the Giants batted around twice against Ray Benge and Owen Carroll to score seven runs. After that there was nothing much to do but finish the game.

Len Koenecke was the only Dodger who could do much with Hal's delivery, but he did plenty, clouting two home runs and a single.

Phil Wentraub shared the day's batting honors with Travis Jackson. He hit safely four times in five visits to the plate to increase his average to .474 for the 11 games he has played since his recall from Nashville. Jackson batted in five of the New York tallies, hitting a pair of singles in addition to a three-bagger.

The box score:

BROOKLYN

	A	B	R	H	O	A	E
Boyle, rf	3	0	0	4	0	1	

SP SH

It is regrettable that tire sport pre- evenings should ed off in this are promising encounters fo Drizzling rain threatened to straight night. The rugby mee lam Pitt Hotel the interest o if games cann night.

Glen Hardin, distance ace, yes Sweden, again crd for the 400 51.3 seconds. He faster than at St The council of pire Games Fede terday to circula ions as to their the next games,

Alma Reid, er, has the community in grandmother. suffered by th of the same tes further decided staging last ni

The main body ish Empire Gam don today for Liv they will sail for Canadian Pacific The boxers, who work until lon athletes taking Games were left

An attempt v day to match Braggs in a Softball Leagu proposition fel fans were enter ly practice wh the league-le

CALDER:

- ◆ Evokes the beauty and magic of the sport
- ◆ Celebrates the team with a critical eye
- ◆ Captures and preserves marginalized baseball history
- ◆ Connects Canadian and US Black baseball history
- ◆ Adds detail and complexity

CLUB TO HONOR BASEBALL TEAM

Rotarians to Make Presentations to Colored Stars.

Chatham's Colored Stars, who have defeated intermediate O.B.A.A. teams in various eliminations and now have the provincial championship almost within their grasp, are to be honored by the Chatham Rotary Club.

Plans were discussed at a Rotary assembly held Monday night with President W. D. Colby in the chair. It was decided to invite the team to a Rotary luncheon, and at which each of the members of the club will be presented with windbreaker.

TEAM ARRIVES

The Penetang baseball team arrived in the city about two o'clock this morning and is ready for the championship game with the Chatham All-Stars this afternoon.

CHATHAM "STARS" TROUNCE PENÉTANG IN FINAL GAME TO WIN PROVINCIAL INTERMEDIATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

SPEED NOT BEEF WINS FOR THE LANSING TEAM

DETROIT, Oct. 24.—During those early days of uncertainty when football players were going through their first practices and before any games had been played, a man came to Charley Bachman and almost wept on the Michigan State coach's shoulders because the Spartans were to be without a single 200-pounder in their regular line.

"Your backs are fast and could do a lot of running," this man said, "if they had some big 200-pounders in front of them to open holes. Your 180-pound linemen will not do. They're not big enough."

Bachman met this man, who was a Spartan well-wisher, cry at great length before interrupting him. When he finally got a chance to do some talking himself, Bachman expounded some theories of his own about linemen and line play. Among other things he said:

"Line-men in the 180-pound class are big enough for me, if they are fast and have plenty of driving power in their legs. If they can get that half-step jump on their opponents they will open plenty holes for the backs and more than hold their own on defense."

Although he didn't say so in that many words, what Bachman meant was: "My linemen are big enough if they will play the kind of football I want." And since his team has won all four of the games played thus far, including shutout victories over Michigan, Carnegie Tech and Manhattan, in all of which his forwards were outweighed, it would seem that Bachman's theories as expounded that day early in the season were correct. Also, that the State linemen are playing the type of football he expects of them.

Since the Grinnell game, when three touchdowns were scored on them by long runs, the Spartans haven't had their goal line as much as threatened. In fact, one could almost count on the fingers of one hand the number of times opponents have crossed into the Spartan's half of the playing field.

No more convincing proof could be given than that of the ruggedness of State's defense, most of which naturally is shouldered by those so-called lowly 180-pounders.

State's starting backfield, by the way, averages only 159 pounds, but it also is doing well.

BEN EASTMAN, LITTLE MAY GET PRIZED MEDAL

NEW YORK, Oct. 24.—The most



By Jack Calder

The Whole Hog Brought Home

At last an O.B.A.A. title is ours.

That championship for which the Constineus, the Penetrates, the Conniberas, the Peters, the Morgans, the McColls and all Chatham's other baseball greats strove in vain was finally grasped yesterday at Guelph when our good intermediate B-1 team, the Stars, stepped all over Penétang Shipbuilders.

It just crept up on us. Without the usual blaring, the mad back-patting and the whoops to high heaven Chatham has finished out a baseball season. And for once we ride the crest. Let there be no trace of stinging to our celebration.

The Stars cannot be said to have won their title at home. During all the playdowns they managed to win only one game here and the margin of victory in that contest was one small run.

That's no discredit to the team. In fact those many triumphs on the road tell big things. Only once were the Stars beaten away from home. Sarnia, Welland, Milton and Penétang all fell victims to the Stars' power attack on these teams' home lots. And Welland and Penétang were whipped on neutral battlefields.

Arrangements are already under way to do just tribute to one of the best road teams baseball in this province has known. Let Goldsmith dig his foot into that big mound at Southampton and mow down the rival batsmen. Let Fidler kick the dirt about in Strathroy while the home town fans applaud. Chase, Tabron, Terrell and Talbot like to win their games the hard way. They'll throw the ball down the mouths of the hostile fans and make them like it.

Chatham's champions. Those up and down Stars, who fortunately are better uppers than downers.

Blow, Blow, Thou Winter's Wind

Let the chill winds blow from the north. Let the snow and the ice, the frozen radiators and the bare trees have their day. Let the base-lines be blotted out by drifting whiteness. Baseball and softball have had their turn. Now give us winter. And with it, by all means, hockey. Those Red Devils? They'll be through Saturday it would seem. Hockey practice tonight.

Putting the Maroons Where They Belong

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TUESDAY'S GAME AT GUELPH RESULTS IN SCORE OF 13-7

Chatham Lads on Hitting Rampage in Fourth Game of the Final Series—Flat Chase Performs "Iron Man" Act—Comes Back After 11-Inning Game Monday to Hurl Stars to Victory.

GUELPH, Oct. 24.—The long 1934 season of the O.B.A.A. was brought to a close here yesterday when Chatham colored stars defeated the Penétang Shipbuilders 13 to 7 in the deciding game of the Intermediate B-1 finals. It was the last of the several O. B. A. A. series to be decided. The two teams played a two-all tie game here Monday but after staying here overnight they went out on a wild scoring rampage yesterday and batted the ball freely. The game was another long and draggy affair.

Chatham won the title because of the fact that the ace hurler of the club, Flatfoot Chase, was able to do a successful comeback inside twenty four hours, whereas young Marchildon of Penétang, who was suffering from a sore arm, could not equal his great effort of Monday. Marchildon started, was batted out and later came back to finish the game in impressive style. While he was out of the box Shortstop Crippen attempted to hold the colored team in check but could not do so being wild and also ineffective. Chase didn't start for Chatham but had to jump into harness after the first three batters in the opening Penétang innings had reached the paths. He then went along, after giving up four runs in that frame, to win handily.

Most of the scoring was done in the early innings and after that the teams settled down and turned up some smart defensive work. The fielding feature of the game was a running, shoe-string, somersault catch by L. Harding, the Chatham centrefielder. Tabron, at short for the winners, also played well in the field while Spears and Hale did some good work in the outer reaches for the losers.

The box scores:

CHATHAM

AB. R. H. O. A. E.

L. Harding, cf. 4 3 4 2 0 1

Terrell, 3b. 5 2 1 1 1 1

W. Harding, 1b. 6 1 1 9 0 1

Chase, ss. 6 3 3 2 0 1

Talbot, 2b. 5 1 0 0 4 0

Washington, c. 5 0 3 6 1 0

Tabron, p. as. 6 0 0 4 3 1

Robins, lf. 3 2 0 2 0 0

Ladd, rf. 5 1 3 1 0 0

Totals 45 13 15 27 9 5

PENÉTANG

AB. R. H. O. A. E.

J. Bald, 1b. 4 1 2 4 1 0

M. Bald, 2b. 3 1 1 3 0 1

Devillers, c. 3 1 1 14 0 0

Marchildon, p. 3b. 5 2 1 0 3 0

McCuaig, lf. 4 0 0 0 0 0

Sheppard, 3b. as. 4 0 0 1 1 2

Spearn, rf. 4 0 0 2 0 0

Hale, cf. 4 0 0 3 1 1

Totals 34 7 5 27 7 4

Score by innings:

Chatham 345 610 000—13 15 5

Penétang 400 002 100—7 5 4

Summary—Three base hit—Chase; Two base hits—Washington two. Stolen bases—L. Harding, three, Terrell, Chase three, Marchildon, McCuaig. Double plays—Hale to M. Bald, Talbot to Tabron to W. Harding. Runs and hits—Off Tabron 2, runs and one hit in 6 innings; off Chase, five runs and four hits in nine innings; off Marchildon, six runs and nine hits in five innings; off Crippen, seven runs and six hits in four innings. Struck out—by Chase six, by Marchildon nine, by Crippen five. Bases on balls—off Tabron two, off Chase three, off Marchildon two, off Crippen five. Hit by pitched ball—by Chase (M. Bald, Devillers). Runs batted in—Chase four, Washington four, Marchildon two, Sheppard two, L. Harding two, Crippen one. Wild pitch—Chase.

Maple Leaf Coach Thinks Two Out of Five Will Register.

TORONTO, Oct. 24.—Charlie Conacher, most prolific scorer in the National Hockey League last season, and said to have the hardest and fastest shot in professional hockey, thinks a lot of goals will be scored this coming season as a result of the new penalty shot rule.

The rule designed to punish a defending player who trips or otherwise fouls an attacking player to prevent the latter getting a clear shot on goal when the attacker has eluded all players but the man who fouls him. The offence calls for a free or penalty shot to be taken at

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Chatham 345 610 000—13 15 5

Penétang 400 002 100—7 5 4

Summary—Three base hit—Chase; Two base hits—Washington two. Stolen bases—L. Harding, three, Terrell, Chase three, Marchildon, McCuaig. Double plays—Hale to M. Bald, Talbot to Tabron to W. Harding. Runs and hits—Off Tabron 2, runs and one hit in 6 innings; off Chase, five runs and four hits in nine innings; off Marchildon, six runs and nine hits in five innings; off Crippen, seven runs and six hits in four innings. Struck out—by Chase six, by Marchildon nine, by Crippen five. Bases on balls—off Tabron two, off Chase three, off Marchildon two, off Crippen five. Hit by pitched ball—by Chase (M. Bald, Devillers). Runs batted in—Chase four, Washington four, Marchildon two, Sheppard two, L. Harding two, Crippen one. Wild pitch—Chase.

Maple Leaf Coach Thinks Two Out of Five Will Register.

TORONTO, Oct. 24.—Charlie Conacher, most prolific scorer in the National Hockey League last season, and said to have the hardest and fastest shot in professional hockey, thinks a lot of goals will be scored this coming season as a result of the new penalty shot rule.

The rule designed to punish a defending player who trips or otherwise fouls an attacking player to prevent the latter getting a clear shot on goal when the attacker has eluded all players but the man who fouls him. The offence calls for a free or penalty shot to be taken at

the early innings and after that the teams settled down and turned up some smart defensive work. The fielding feature of the game was a running, shoe-string, somersault catch by L. Harding, the Chatham centrefielder. Tabron, at short for the winners, also played well in the field while Spears and Hale did some good work in the outer reaches for the losers.

The box scores:

CHATHAM

AB. R. H. O. A. E.

L. Harding, cf. 4 3 4 2 0 1

Terrell, 3b. 5 2 1 1 1 1

W. Harding, 1b. 6 1 1 9 0 1

Chase, ss. 6 3 3 2 0 1

Talbot, 2b. 5 1 0 0 4 0

Washington, c. 5 0 3 6 1 0

Tabron, p. as. 6 0 0 4 3 1

Robins, lf. 3 2 0 2 0 0

Ladd, rf. 5 1 3 1 0 0

Totals 45 13 15 27 9 5

PENÉTANG

AB. R. H. O. A. E.

J. Bald, 1b. 4 1 2 4 1 0

M. Bald, 2b. 3 1 1 3 0 1

ANALYZING SPOT.



(By Jack Calder)

THANK YOU

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