



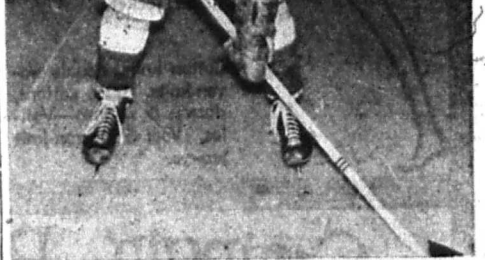
COLUMBUS THIRD SACKER — Richie Hebner's last stop on his way to major league starting position with the Pittsburg Pirates was with the Columbus Jets of the International League last season. He is shown scooping up a ground ball in playoffs.

In his first game as a freshman he scored the first time he came on the ice against Framingham when he took a Dana Maus pass and fired it home. Perhaps his biggest thrill when only a 14 year old freshman came on Saturday, Jan. 19, 1963 when he scored three goals to defeat Natick 4-2 and assisted on the other.

TOPS IN BASEBALL
As a freshman Richie Hebner was a starting shortstop for the Norwood High School team. He batted over 300 and had a strong arm, and at this young age was being touted as a sure fire major leaguer. He was a 5-10, 176 pound frosh, he batted left and threw right and

to be quite an honor. "I loved hockey and had my biggest thrills in it, but I knew the money and the future was in baseball. If I had to choose between the two with the same amount of money for both, I would have taken baseball," Hebner declared. Now he signed with the Pittsburg Pirates and he was on his way up the ladder. After signing he played for Salem, Virginia in the Rookie League and was only up 100 times, but he batted .364 and played under ex-major leaguer George Detour. He spent six months in the service that year and would now have to go into Marine training one month a year and one weekend out of the month. In 1967 he played Raleigh in

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THANKS PARENTS
"Words can't explain my feeling of being given a chance like this and my first thanks has to go to my parents. My mother and father stayed with me through some anxious moments during my life. They were at every game I played and I can't explain the inspirational lift that this gave me. They are just the greatest and I thank God that I had them on my side. Whatever I gain in life in my profession I owe to them, for without their help and love I would be just nothing," he said. Hebner has a brother Denny who graduated last year from Norwood High. He has a



ALL-SCHOLASTIC HOCKEY PLAYER — Richie Hebner was rated as one of the best hockey players ever to come out of the Bay State League, making the Bay State League All-Stars three straight seasons and winning the Most Valuable Player award in State Tourney in his senior season.



HEBNER AS LITTLE LEAGUER — Richie Hebner (circled) was one of Norwood's greatest Little League ball players. He played for the American Little League All-Stars, which went to the state finals in 1959 and on the same team was another Norwoodite who made the major leagues, "Skip" Lockwood (fourth from right, top row). Front row, left to right: Richie Santaspago, Don Perry, Richie Ehrlick, Robbie Hebner, Bob DeRose, Dave Heylin, Richie Hebner, and Jack Lanzoni. Standing, Coach Claude Lockwood, Paul O'Donnell, Roger Lanier, Eddie Martin, Dave Eck, Manager Charley Miller, Skip Lockwood, Bill Benkavitch and Coach Gus Petrovek.

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BAY STATE HOCKEY CHAMPS — Richie Hebner was Norwood's best hockey player and led the Mustangs to a pair of Bay State League Championships. This is a photo of the 1964 team which was honored and given jackets by the townspeople. Seated, left to right: Dick Lovell, Richie Hebner, Al Whitty, Bill Crowley, Bob Donahue, Blaine Maus, Richie Hasenhus, Tom Smeilstor, Jack Kovac and Jack Bayer. Second row: Tom Twomey, Timmy Armour, Paul Angelo, Tom Clifford, Bob Clifford, Jim Cleary, Jack Haughey, Paul O'Donnell, Assistant Coach Rev. Dan Young, Assistant Coach Jim Gormley, and Head Coach Don Wheeler.