

# Sports Teams

## Paul Currelly

### The Cobourg Angels Women's Fastball Team, the Cobourg Junior Angels and Paul Currelly

*Picture this – it is a warm Tuesday night - the 4-tiered bleachers of Cobourg's Victoria Park are literally packed with fans - the smack of leather on leather is heard as the pitching battery warms up - bugs circle the glow of the outfield flood lights - a cheer rises from the bleachers as the Cobourg Angels take to the field with their signature 'hustle' - a very proud man in the "green & gold", with a serious grin, directs his players like a conductor working his orchestra. It's Tuesday night - the Angels' home game - and all's right in the world.*



It was the dream of an avid sportsman, a man named **Paul Currelly**, to one day see "top notch" women's ball here in Cobourg – but the dream started small.

Together with assistant coach Max Smith, Paul put together a peewee team in the east end and called it the "**Coverdale Aces**". Soon three more teams were created, representing the other areas of the town. The year was 1963 and the first league was born.

As players grew into their teens, the organization expanded through Bantam and then Juvenile. **1968 marked the "birth" of the "Cobourg Angels"** team as the cream of those local squads, and they found their home at Victoria Park. Cobourg joined the Provincial

Women's Softball Association where it didn't take long for them to earn their respect.

As time passed, the *Cobourg Angels* matured into a Junior "B" team – which involved the very best players that south-eastern Ontario had to offer. The majority of those players Paul had personally sought out – enticing them with summer jobs, reasonable summer lodging and the chance to play "good ball". In 1975 and 1976 this team **made history by winning Ontario Championships back to back**. In 1983 Cobourg's first Senior Women's Squad earned a spot in Ontario Women's Fastball.



Runners-up in the Pee Wee section of the Cobourg District Girls' Softball League were Coverdale Aces. Left to right, they are: Front — Carol Currelly, Sharlene Abrams, Maureen Smith, Nancy Currelly; Middle — Sandra Macklin, Diane Stacey,

Barbara Potier, Cathy Williamson, Anne DesMarteau, Elaine Sprigley; Back — coach Max Smith, Barbara Smith, Kathy Crowe, Brenda Lemmon, Susan Johnston, Maxine Smith, manager Paul Currelly

*The Coverdale Aces*