

Patenaude's triple spells Redmen win

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Shari Patenaude's two-run double highlighted a six-run uprising in the fifth inning by the Acton Redmen girls' softball club last Wednesday en route to a 7-5 win over the previously unbeaten E.C. Drury Spartans.

The Redmen looked beat after the Spartans took a 5-1 lead after four frames, but three Spartan errors coupled with timely home side hitting at McKenzie-Smith, put the locals in the lead to stay and ruined Drury's bid for a perfect 7-0 season.

Lauren Furness and Andrea Lunau also collected RBI's in the fifth inning for the 4-2 Redmen, who downed Oakville's T.A. Blakelock 4-3 on Thursday to end the regular season.

The same two teams began the playoffs at McKenzie-Smith yesterday (Tuesday).

"This was by far the best game we've played this year," declared Redmen coach Chris Cullen after the game. "Pitching was great and we had excellent defence. A lot of balls to the outfield that were caught would have been dropped earlier in the year.

"The girls came to play, they played the game and the bench was supportive."

But the biggest support came from the mound, courtesy of Sharon Kearsy and Heather Ambrose. They silenced the Spartan bats, holding the 6-1 Milton club to a single run over the final three innings.



Redmen third baseman Shari Patenaude checks an E.C. Drury Spartan runner scampering to the bag. (Doug Harrison photo)

Kearsy struggled early but settled down as the Redmen bats started mashing the ball. She finished her four innings work, giving up five runs on 14 hits, walking two, but failed to strike out a batter.

Ambrose, meanwhile, frustrated the visitors in the middle innings, allowing just one run, five hits and two walks.

"Sharon and Heather pitched excellent games," Cullen praised. "I don't think they (the Spartans)

were as good as they were hyped to be. They're definitely more aggressive than other teams we've played and smart defensively, but they didn't surprise me offensively."

NOTES: Patenaude also doubled and stole a base ... Rookie Kelly Holmes added an RBI-groundout ... First-baseman Mandy Bosch delivered the winning hit against Blakelock on Thursday, chipping the ball between the first baseman and right fielder.

Under-15 soccer squad doubles Hillsburgh

Daryn McIntyre scored his first hat-trick of the season in his team's second game on Monday at the Community Centre in Erin, as Acton's under-15 boys' soccer squad doubled their Hillsburgh opponents 6-3.

Travis Stewart, who opened the scoring for the visitors, notched a pair of goals, while Ryan Gallagher had the other.

Setting up goals were Greg Barends with two assists and Joey Field with the other.

Special mention goes to David Schmuki for his solid defensive play and Matt Morrow, who exhibited excellent ball control and good crosses.

Acton swarmed the Hillsburgh net early in the contest as Stewart

made good on the numerous Acton scoring chances.

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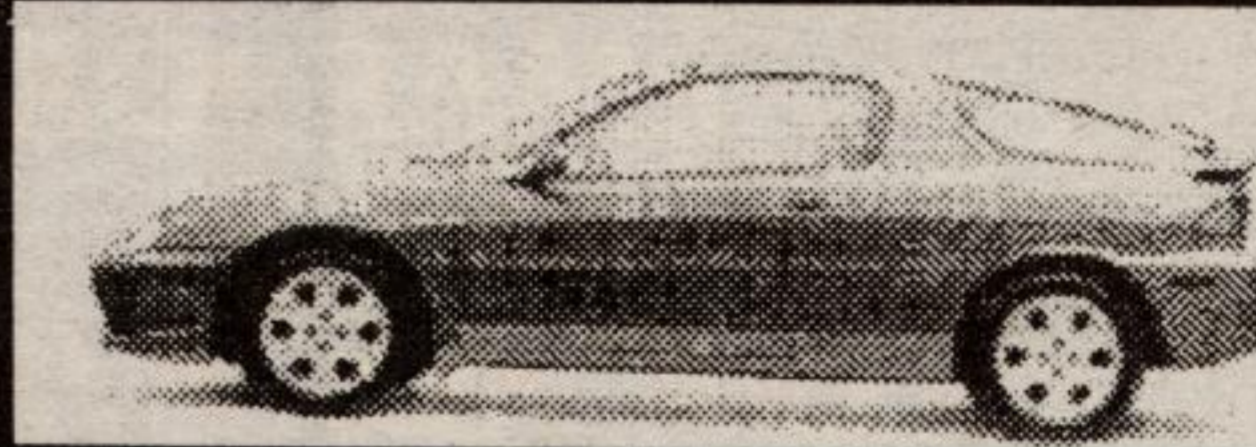
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