

Hawks settle for silver in three divisions

The Halton Hills Hawks had an outstanding showing but the top prize managed to elude them.

The Hawks made the finals in three of four divisions of the Halton Hills Girls Softball Association Tim Horton's Spring Tournament. Unfortunately, each time the opponent captured the gold medal.

The Bantam Hawks assured themselves of a silver medal by winning a tight 1-0 game over Mississauga North. The teams battled through seven scoreless innings until Cheryl Mastalerz doubled home the winning run

in the eighth. Hawks catcher Ashleigh McIndoc was the game MVP.

The final was scoreless through three innings until the Merriton Bulldogs struck for three runs. They added three more in the sixth. The Hawks snapped the shutout bid on Keri Lindsay's triple in the seventh but lost the gold medal game 6-1.

The Hawks' silver medal performance began with three straight victories in round-robin play. Jenn Lukas pitched a strong game in a 10-6 win over Guelph. Lindsay was

named game MVP for her strong defensive play and timely hitting, which helped the Hawks pull away in the last few innings.

In the second game, Mastalerz baffled the opposition, tossing a no-hitter in a 6-0 win over Acton.

In the final round-robin match, the Hawks trailed Waterloo 2-0 until Andrea Carella sparked a sixth-inning rally with a leadoff double. The Hawks took the lead and held on for a 4-2 victory.

The Novice Hawks got started with a 4-0 shutout over the

Barrie Storm. They followed that up by doubling the Aurora Diggers 10-5 and then downing the Pickering Heat 12-4.

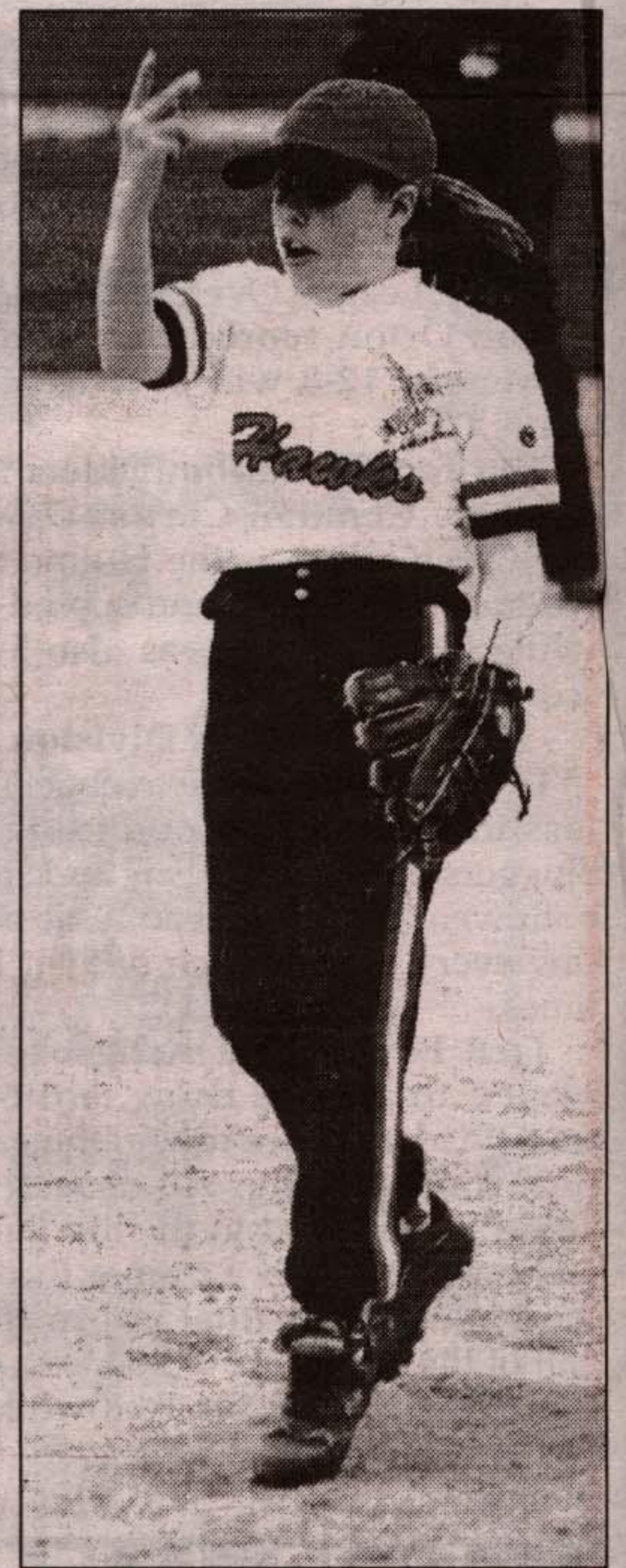
In the semifinals, the Hawks topped North Mississauga 3-1 to advance to the final. There the Newmarket Stingers managed to shut down the Hawk bats for a 4-0 victory.

The Squirt Hawks got off to a rough start, losing 13-1 to the Scarborough Spirit but they rebounded with two convincing wins. First they defeated the Clarkson Settlers 11-3 and then posted a 13-1 victory over the Newmarket Stingers.

In the semis, the Hawks blanked the Whitby Eagles 2-0. The final was a rematch against Scarborough and despite a much better game, the Spirit claimed the gold with a 7-4 win.

The first-year Mite Hawks ran into some tough, more experienced competition. They lost 26-3 to the Newmarket Stingers, 16-0 to the Kitchener Classics and 24-2 to the St. Catharines Wildcats. The team improved throughout the tournament and that showed in a much-improved result in the bronze medal game, where they dropped an 18-11 decision to Newmarket.

Carolyn MacLeod and Alisa Civiero did a great job pitching for the Hawks, helped out by



Stacey Allison, pitcher for the Halton Hills Link-Line Construction Mite Hawks, lets fly a pitch during tournament action.

Photo by Yvonne Gaynor

Lauren Gilpen behind the plate. Emma MacDonald led the Hawks' offence with a double and a triple.

Excuse me!

Stephanie Mosuk (right) of the Georgetown District High School Rebels takes the ball away from a Lord Elgin opponent in a recent senior girls soccer game. Mosuk and Charlene Roche each had a goal for the Rebels but Lord Elgin scored midway through the second half to break a 2-2 tie and then held off a late Rebel charge to win 3-2.

Photo by Herb Garbutt



A MESSAGE FROM REGIONAL CHAIRMAN JOYCE SAVOLINE

I am pleased to present the results of the Region of Halton's 1998 operations.

Despite the many challenges faced by the Region in 1998, Halton achieved an overall operational surplus of \$7.3 million and the Region's balance sheet improved significantly. Our strong financial position and prudent fiscal management is recognized by both Canadian and American bond rating agencies, which continue to rate Halton as "AAA", the highest financial rating available. This means that Halton can borrow at the lowest rates possible in the market.

This past year was marked by significant changes made by the Government of Ontario to the municipal/provincial funding relationship for a number of services. The Province assumed 45% of the cost of local education in Halton in exchange for the Region being responsible for the full cost of public health, Highways 25 and 5,

land ambulance, property assessment, social housing and additional costs for social assistance, children's services and GO Transit.

On top of the added responsibility of completely funding services for Halton residents, social assistance and social housing costs for the Greater Toronto Area (which includes the Region of Halton, York, Peel, Durham and the City of Toronto) are being shared. These "pooled" charges added in excess of \$41 million dollars to the Region's costs in 1998.

In total, all of these changes added approximately \$127 million of the Region's total spending.

However, more change in 1999 included the Province introducing 50% grant funding for public health and ambulance. In addition, the Province provided Halton with one-time grant assistance to help with the transition (\$15 million in 1998, and \$2.5 million in 1999).

Although the changes occupied much of Council's time during 1998, the Region was able to accomplish a number of initiatives such as, continuation of the cast iron water meter replacement program; securing a private sector operator to build and operate a 400-450 slip marina in Bronte Harbour; shifting certain regional planning responsibilities to the area municipalities that will enable "one stop shopping" for land use changes and opening a small business enterprise centre to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit in Halton.

Overall, we faced a lot of challenges in 1998 -- we had to do more with less. Council and staff worked hard and were able to continue to provide Halton residents with top quality service and programs.

I look forward to working with the Halton community to ensure that together we meet the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. If you have any questions, please contact me at (905) 825-6115 or at any of the numbers noted below.

STATEMENT OF CURRENT OPERATIONS (\$000's)	1998		1997	COST FOR AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD		FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (\$000's):	1998	1997
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	1998	1997			
EXPENDITURE								
FUNDED BY PROPERTY TAXES								
General government	\$ 16,027	\$ 20,155	\$ 11,239	\$ 65.39	\$ 32.61	Cash and short term investments	\$ 289,720	\$ 227,325
Social services	118,174	111,338	43,962	270.85	49.17	Net long term debt	49,419	61,634
Social housing	36,242	35,403	657	210.05	0.00	Capital fund	79,316	57,576
Protection to persons and property	45,227	43,762	41,622	269.32	189.91	Reserves	99,434	82,295
Health services	14,523	13,836	7,850	71.12	10.98	Reserve funds	72,347	67,196
Roadways & GO Transit	13,705	13,244	2,963	119.14	29.83	Debt per household	398.78	508.95
Planning and development	1,854	1,933	1,847	8.13	6.07	Current expenditure/household	2,707.53	1,618.84
Recreation and cultural services	1,108	1,055	1,110	6.54	5.05			
Waste management	17,349	17,027	16,157	102.09	86.38			
FUNDED BY USER RATES								
Water/wastewater	38,729	39,833	38,073	402.75	402.75			
Total expenditure	302,938	297,586	165,480	\$1,525.38	\$ 812.75			
REVENUE								
Property taxes - General Purpose	171,597	173,944	68,810					
Property taxes - Solid waste	14,574	14,353	14,409					
Water/wastewater billings	56,297	60,865	57,426					
Solid waste disposal/diversion fees	2,101	2,438	2,150					
Ontario grants	70,935	68,997	40,765					
Other revenue	17,216	22,181	19,147					
Total revenue	332,720	342,778	202,707					
Excess revenue over expenditure	29,782	45,192	37,227					
Net transfers to reserves and capital	29,782	37,899	30,414					
Surplus for the year	\$ -	\$ 7,293	\$ 6,813					

Copies of the 1998 Consolidated Financial Statements audited by KPMG from which these highlights were extracted are available from the Corporate Services Department upon request by calling extension 7042 at one of the numbers listed below:

- From Burlington (905) 639-4540
- From Halton Hills (905) 878-8113
- From Acton (519) 853-0501
- From Oakville (905) 825-6000

CAM WELDON, CA
Director of Financial & Purchasing Services
and Regional Treasurer
1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1



www.region.halton.on.ca