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FRIDAY JUNE 16, 2000

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Drury softballers muscle way into finals

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

E.C. Drury High's girls softball squad is championship bound after engineering a little semifinal supremacy at Lions Sport Park Wednesday.

Handily negotiating the final obstacle to the regional title game, the local ladies hammered the underdog Lord Elgin Lancers 10-0.

The blowout was delivered in a six-inning mercy after the hosts exploded for the maximum allotted seven runs in the fourth frame and then scored another three times to add insult to injury.

Burlington's representatives meanwhile, managed a measly three hits off Lindsey Harrold and Melissa Park.

The veteran pitching tandem collectively retired 13 straight batters and let only one visiting base runners past second.

The Spartans were just one out away from a fourth straight scoreless inning when Tasha Leslie's bloop single to shallow left field brought home Anne Jamieson and Melissa Parcels.

From there the floodgates opened up wide, with five more runs being cashed in — including three on an Drury will host the finals at Lions Sport Park, startinside-the-park homer by speedy outfielder Amee ing at 3:15 p.m.

May, who rounded the bases on a lengthy shot to the centre field warning track.

Drury's embarrassment of riches was further fueled by a defensively-inadequate Lancers crew, who seemed to lose their composure when they couldn't get out of the inning still tied.

All over by the fifth

From there it was simply a case of going through the motions, as E.C. easily shut down their guests on the way to capping an undefeated run to the finals.

Jamieson and Parcels — guarding third base and shortstop respectively — highlighted a near flawless fielding effort for the winners while Jamieson and May each scored twice.

Other runs were posted by Cristina Hutchison, Marion Jamieson, Kristin Roberge and Alicia Taylor.

May and Tasha Leslie finished the afternoon with three RBI apiece while chipping in one each were Parcels and Marion Jamieson.

Because of rescheduling with the other semifinal game between the Georgetown Rebels and Oakville's St. Thomas Aquinas Raiders — who were expected to play yesterday afternoon — the Halton championship game has been postponed until Monday.

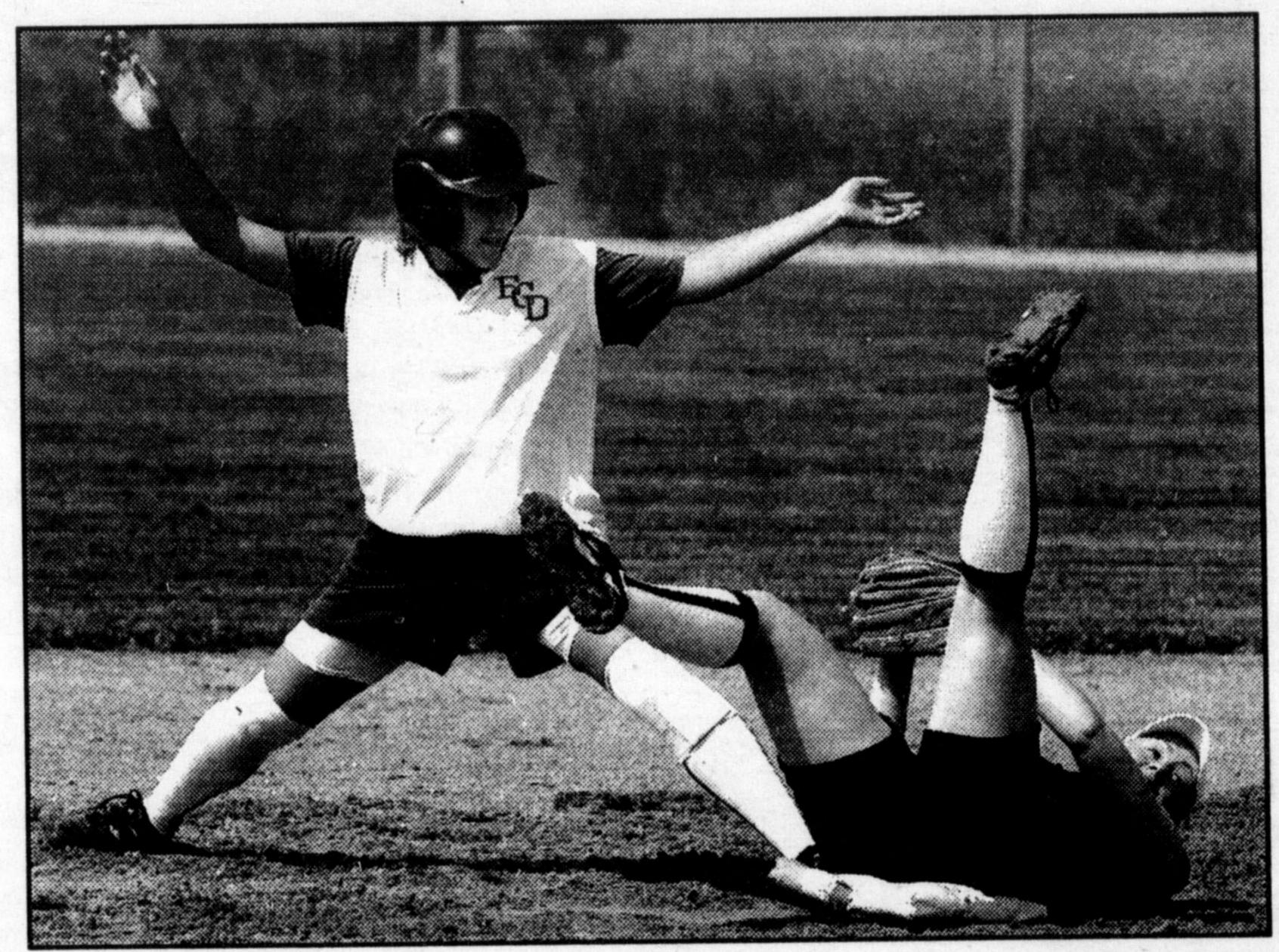


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Spartan Anne Jamieson is safe at second while Lord Elgin's second baseman takes a tumble during semifinal play at Lions Sport Park Wednesday. Drury won the game 10-0 to advance to the regional championship.

Intermediate Mavericks take title in Brampton



Milton's intermediate lacrosse team celebrates after winning the John McCauley Memorial Lacrosse Tournament Sunday.

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Last year they got just close enough to see the promised land. This time around, they made it through the pearly gates.

Overcoming shortened lineups and subsequent fatigue last weekend in Brampton, Milton's intermediates collected five straight victories on the way to becoming grand champions at the eighth annual John Lacrosse Memorial McCauley Tournament.

What the locals lacked in depth they certainly made up for in desire, discipline and defensive prowess — giving up just 11 goals overall, including only three in the semifinals and finals combined.

The Mavericks — championship finalists at the tournament last year — put the finishing touches on an unblemished title run by thumping Windsor 6-1 Sunday. Backed by crafty cager Josh Arnold,

Milton persevered through a scoreless first in recent memory against Windsor, period and then pulled ahead for the win - netting six unanswered goals and only relinquishing the shutout inside the last two minutes of play.

"Josh (Arnold) made a few big saves early on and stuck in there pretty square the whole time. He was amazing all weekend," said coach Dave Decaire.

Added captain Blair Beaulieu, "If anyone deserved to be MVP for that one, it was Josh. He was outstanding."

Fought through fatigue

Decaire said quick shifts and a lot of composure — with the locals taking just one minor penalty all game — helped the team minimize its exhaustion in the finals.

"They just didn't want to settle for second best this year. It was great to see," he remarked.

Delivering one of his best performances

Kaegen Sherriff led the way with three goals — including two in the final frame to put things out of reach.

Also scoring were Trevor Ford, Paul Pedulla and Jeff Hohendorf — who's also seen some time with the Jr. B Halton Hills Bulldogs this year and has a point for each of the eight games he's played.

Arnold and Bobby MacDonald each had two assists in the victory while contributing key picks and a highly physical performance was Matt Ventura.

Milton was nearly as disciplined and dominating during the semifinals when they humbled Peterborough 6-2. Beaulieu and Pedulla tallied twice while stellar goaltending was offered by Arnold.

Much like in the finals, the local boys got stronger as the semifinals wore on and set the tempo for much of the game.

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