

SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

PRESTO POOL
PRODUCTS LTD.
Come see us for all your pool & spa needs!
• Sales • Service • Accessories
305B Steeles Ave. E. 876-2211

FRIDAY JUNE 30, 2000

Midget girls show strongly at tournament

Milton Mystics deliver impressive effort before falling short in semis

Victory came in all shapes and sizes for the midget Mystics.

Unfortunately, it didn't quite come often enough for them to secure championship honours at their fifth annual girls softball tournament last weekend.

At Lions Sport Park Sunday, Milton's title bid finally fell by the way — as the hosts were outdistanced by the Oak Ridges Diamonds 5-2.

The Mystics cashed in single runs during second and third-inning play to keep it close, but just couldn't make up the difference.

Kate Moore and Laura Anne Sheehan led offensively with a double and a single each while chipping in one hit apiece were Shannon MacKenzie and Sarah Mooney.

Unusual victory

The loss put Milton into the consolation finals — where they prevailed in a forfeit win when an opponent from Clarkson was ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct and left her team without enough players to continue.

The Mystics were trailing 4-0 at the time, but wound up taking the bronze medal.

Milton had upstaged Clarkson in round robin play as well — only then it was by a 1-0 squeaker.

Providing the heroics was Tasha Leslie. In truly dramatic fashion, she hammered a shot to deep left field that allowed Sheehan to score all the way from first base in the bottom of the seventh with two outs.

Lindsey Harrold and Katie MacKroby

combined for the shutout with some stellar pitching, that was complemented by great efforts in the field.

Decisive win

The pair were rock solid in round one as well, when they helped beat Thorold 8-4.

Standing out in the convincing decision with a pair of triples was Sarah Zebruck, while Sherylene Leslie (no relation to Tasha) and Alicia Taylor had one triple each.

Two-hit efforts were delivered by Harrold and Sheehan.

Milton's only humbling moment of the tournament came in a 15-0 second-round thrashing at the hands of the eventual champion Mississauga Tigers.

Meanwhile, Milton's novice team had a fairly rough ride during the weekend showcase — losing all three preliminary games and taking an early exit from competition.

The younger Mystics' closest brush with victory came in round one, when they held a fourth-inning lead over Halton Hills but were eventually trimmed 8-6.

Brittany Lockwood and Ashley McKerracher split the pitching duties in that one while leading offensively with a pair of runs was Sarah Fredricks.

From there, the local ladies were humbled 12-2 by Richmond Hill and 12-4 by Dundas.

The Whitby Eagles won the novice division, upsetting the favoured Brampton Blazers 4-1.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Novice Mystic Jasma Deluce gets tagged out at second base by a Halton Hills opponent during tournament play in Lions Sport Park Saturday. Milton lost the game 8-6.

Red Sox' upset bid dampened by evening drizzle

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Milton's midget baseball team was hoping for a respectable rematch with undefeated league leading Brampton Monday night.

And for a while there the local lads were enjoying exactly that, until they missed the warning sign — "Slippery When Wet".

A handful of errors down the stretch — resulting from a steady downpour and subsequently hard to handle ball — undercut the host Red Sox' otherwise impressive efforts and spoiled their bid for an upset win or at least a narrow defeat against one of the top teams in Ontario.

Manager Herlo Hatje's charges took a one-run lead into the fifth, but flawed fielding eventually saw them fall 8-2 in a weather-shortened seven inning clash at Maplehurst Ball Park.

Milton, just past the midway mark of its 27-game regular season campaign, now sits at 7-6-1.

While the final score might indicate differently, the hosts delivered most of the exciting plays on the night. Unfortunately, only one of them was of the offensive variety.

It came in the bottom of the fourth on a perfectly executed suicide squeeze by shortstop Andrew Pepper. It cashed in a hard-charging Paul Duff and gave Milton its one and only lead of the game.

Moments earlier Duff drove in Kevin Cooper with the latter of back-to-back doubles.

Duff, still sore from pitching at the tournament, ran into some control problems on the mound through the initial stages of play — but was bailed out by some exceptional defense.

Those efforts were particularly vital in the second inning, when he walked the bases load with no outs but managed to escape the inning without giving up a single run.

Third baseman Mark Black made an especially big throw out

while one inning later centre fielder Michael Volpe made a great running catch to kick start another scoreless inning.

Brampton pulled ahead with three runs in the fifth inning and scored four more times over the last two frames to put things out of reach.

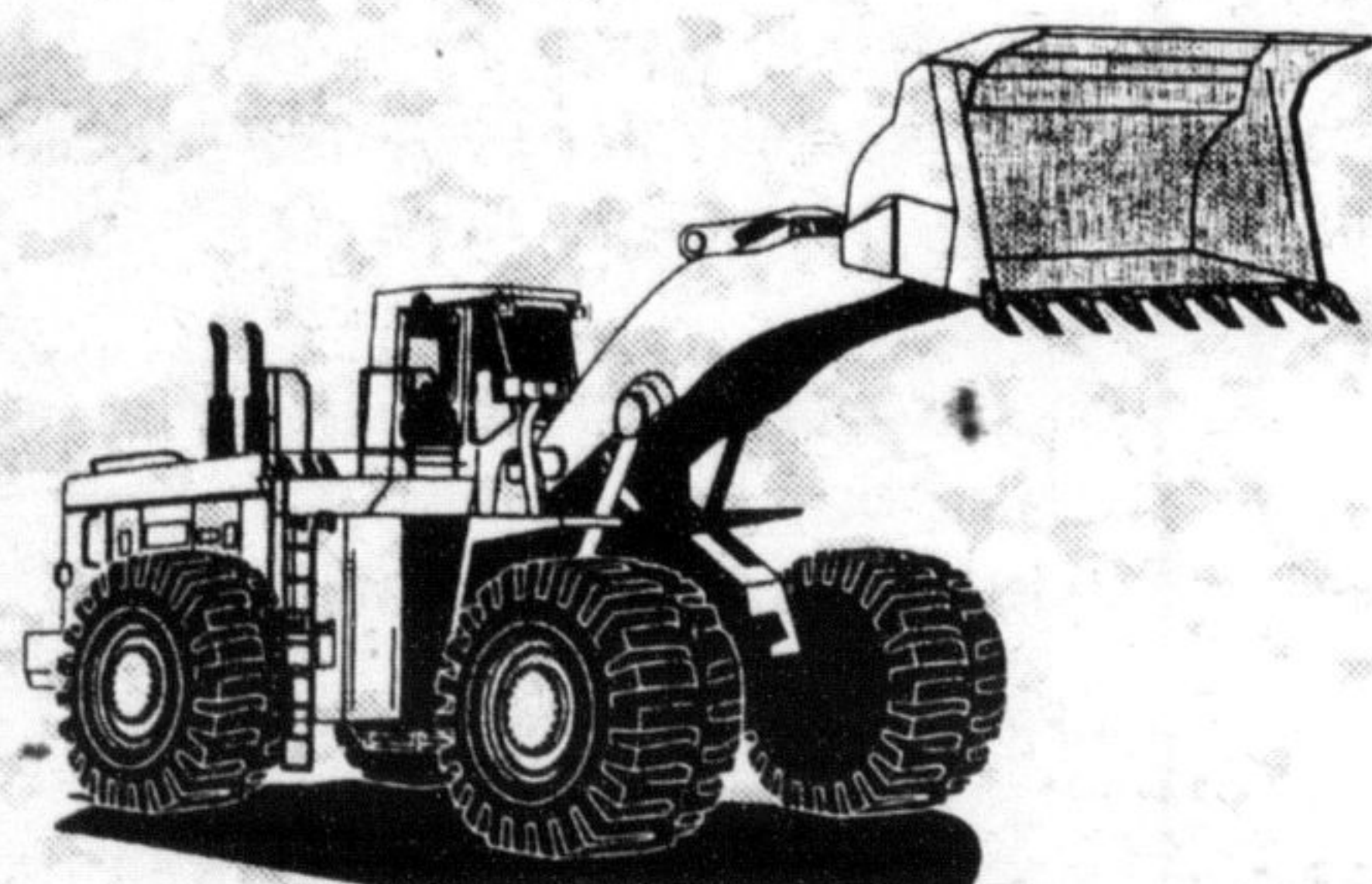
Volpe pitched the final three innings while second baseman Ryan Harper and left fielder James MacDonald had the other hits for Milton.

The Red Sox narrowly missed advancing to the playoff round of the Oakville tournament last weekend — losing to Niagara Falls 2-1 in their final division game.

Before that they trounced Oakville 12-1 and doubled New Lowell 4-2.

Milton's next home game will be held Monday at Maplehurst against Oakville.

Game time, as always, is 7:30 p.m.



**Blue Circle
MATERIALS**

Located on 5th Side Road (Campbellville Road) East of Hwy #25 on the north side. Blue Circle Materials (Formerly TCG Materials Limited) is now delighted to offer the general public the following aggregate products available F.O.B. our Milton Yard:

- Brick Sand • Concrete Sand • 3/4 (20 mm) Clear Crushed Stone
- Fine & Coarse Screenings

BLOCK DIVISION
R.R.3, #5 Side Road
Milton, Ontario L9T 2X7

Also suppliers of Concrete Block
and Masonry Bag Cements.
Please call our dispatch office to
place your order:

(905) 875-3690

1-800-668-4805