



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

TUESDAY MAY 1, 2001



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Taking one for the team

E.C. Drury's Kourtney Rich (4) reacts to a high-impact collision after heading the ball against Milton District Mustang Christie Henderson during senior girls soccer play at MD Wednesday. Spartans Heather Arbuckle and Kelsie Leaman scored in a 2-1 victory over the hosts. Erin Beal made the lone deposit for the 'Stangs.

Spartan softballers pound Nelson 17-0

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Well, at least it was over quickly.

That's about the only solace Nelson's girls softball squad could take away from an afternoon massacre at the hands of host E.C. Drury Thursday.

Inside an hour at Lions Sport Park, the perennial powerhouse Spartans scored the maximum allotted seven runs in the third and fourth innings on the way to mercying the thoroughly outclassed visitors 17-0 in season-opening play.

The game was called after five frames — not soon enough, though, for the highly inferior Lords.

Drury scored early and often in the lopsided whitewash while enjoying a near perfect performance on the mound from veteran hurler Lindsay Harrold — who gave up just one measly hit and fanned half-a-dozen batters through four innings.

Closing things out for the victors — who'll be looking for a return trip to the regional finals this spring — was Ameer May.

Offensively, Tasha Leslie highlighted the day with an inside-the-park home run that also scored Harrold. This sparked a seven-run third-inning assault that was matched one inning later by the explosive Spartans.

Just about every E.C. player contributed to the blowout, including rookie first baseman Candice Anderson — who finished the day with three RBI and made all three outs in the third.

The Jamieson sisters — Anne and Marion — also had multi-RBI efforts, as did May and Jenn Williams.

A number of passed balls and wild pitches put local runners into scoring position and further fueled the scoring surge — Drury's biggest since a 27-1 annihilation over Acton last year.

The Spartans made only a couple of errors in the shutout victory — certainly a respectable total for such a windy afternoon.

With just about everyone back from last year's team, Drury stands a excellent chance of making a second straight Halton championship appearance.

Their bid towards that end continues Thursday afternoon when they travel to Burlington's Notre Dame High.

Meanwhile, Bishop Reding kicked off its season on a positive note by toppling Oakville's Loyola Hawks 5-1 Thursday at home.

A four-run sixth inning — punctuated by Lerah Scott's bases-clearing double — paved the way to victory for the Royals.

Earning the win with three innings of one-run ball was Amanda Robichaud. Other RBI were recorded by Carolyn Coates and

Melissa Sheppard.

The Milton District Mustangs weren't so fortunate on opening day, as they lost pitcher Jenne Taylor to a shoulder injury and lost 14-7 to the visiting Acton Redmen.

Seven runs against in the fifth inning proved to be MD's undoing.

The 'Stangs look to square their record today at home against Oakville's Iroquois Ridge, while BR is at Oakville's Q.E. Park. Both games start at about 3:15 p.m.

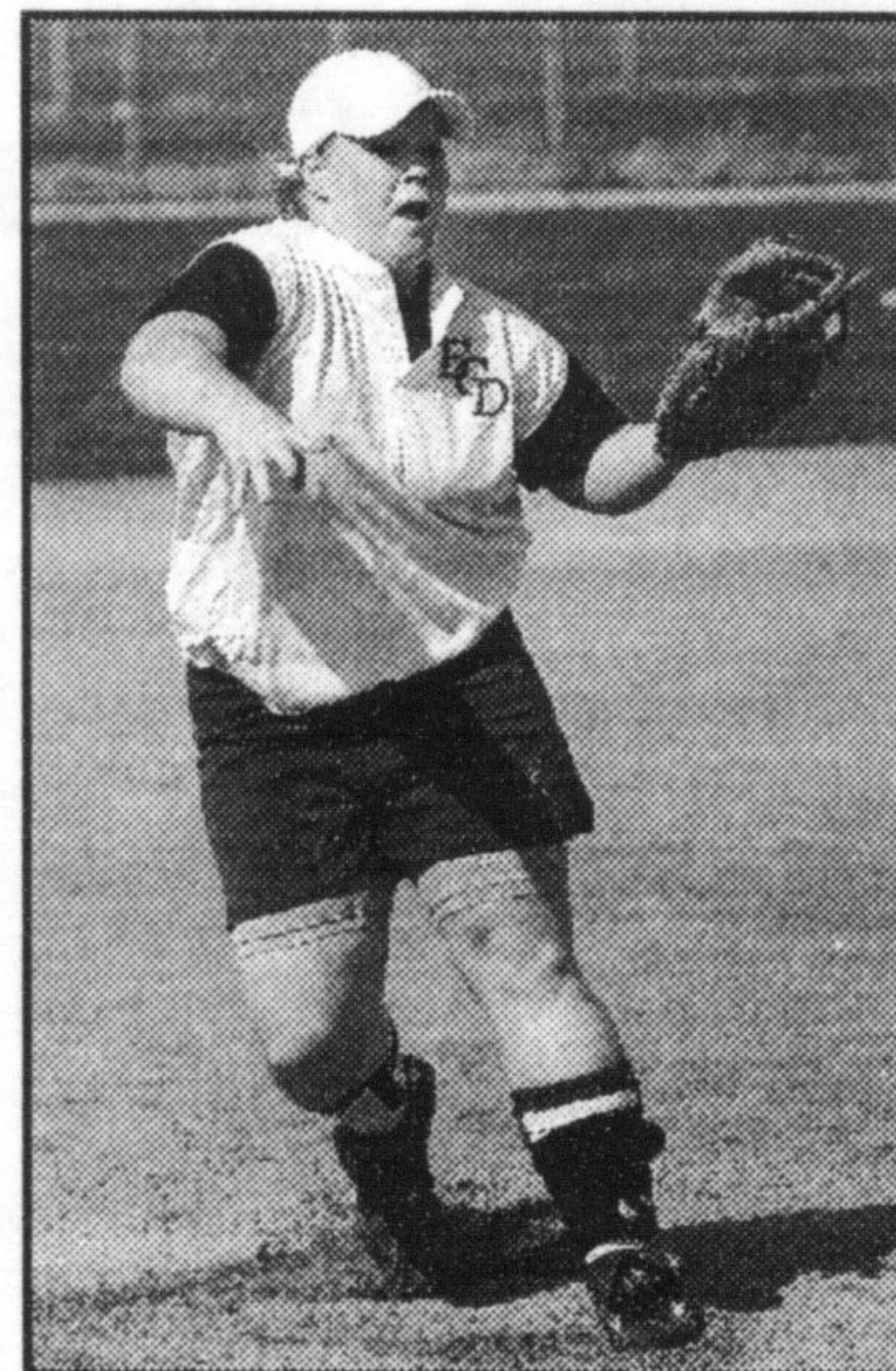


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Drury's Ameer May closes things out on the mound in Thursday's 17-0 victory.

TOYOTA "RED TAG DAYS"

1.9%

A great event doesn't need any hype.

MILTON TOYOTA

PURCHASE FINANCING
ON SELECTED MODELS*

400 Steeles Avenue
905-875-1700
(next to Gorrud's Auto Group)

Visit our website: www.milontoyota.com