

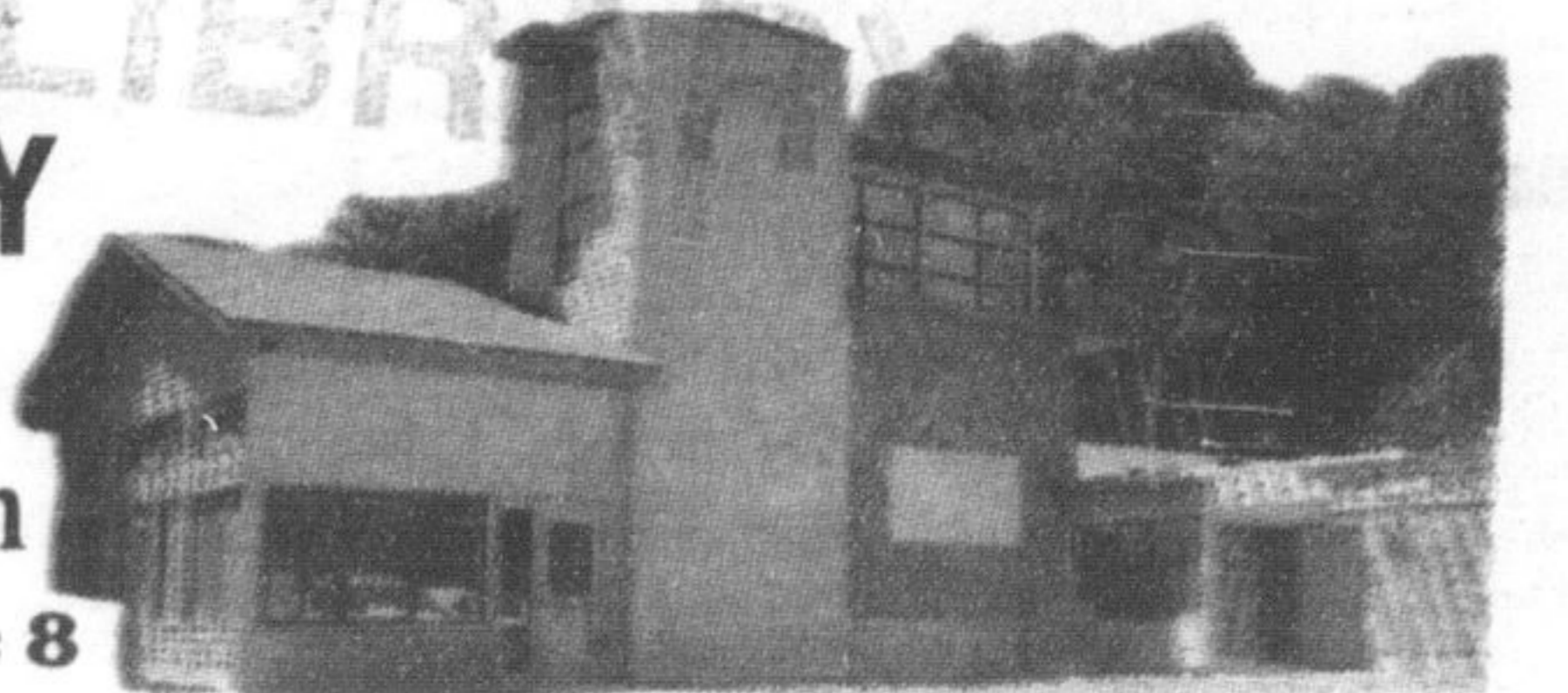
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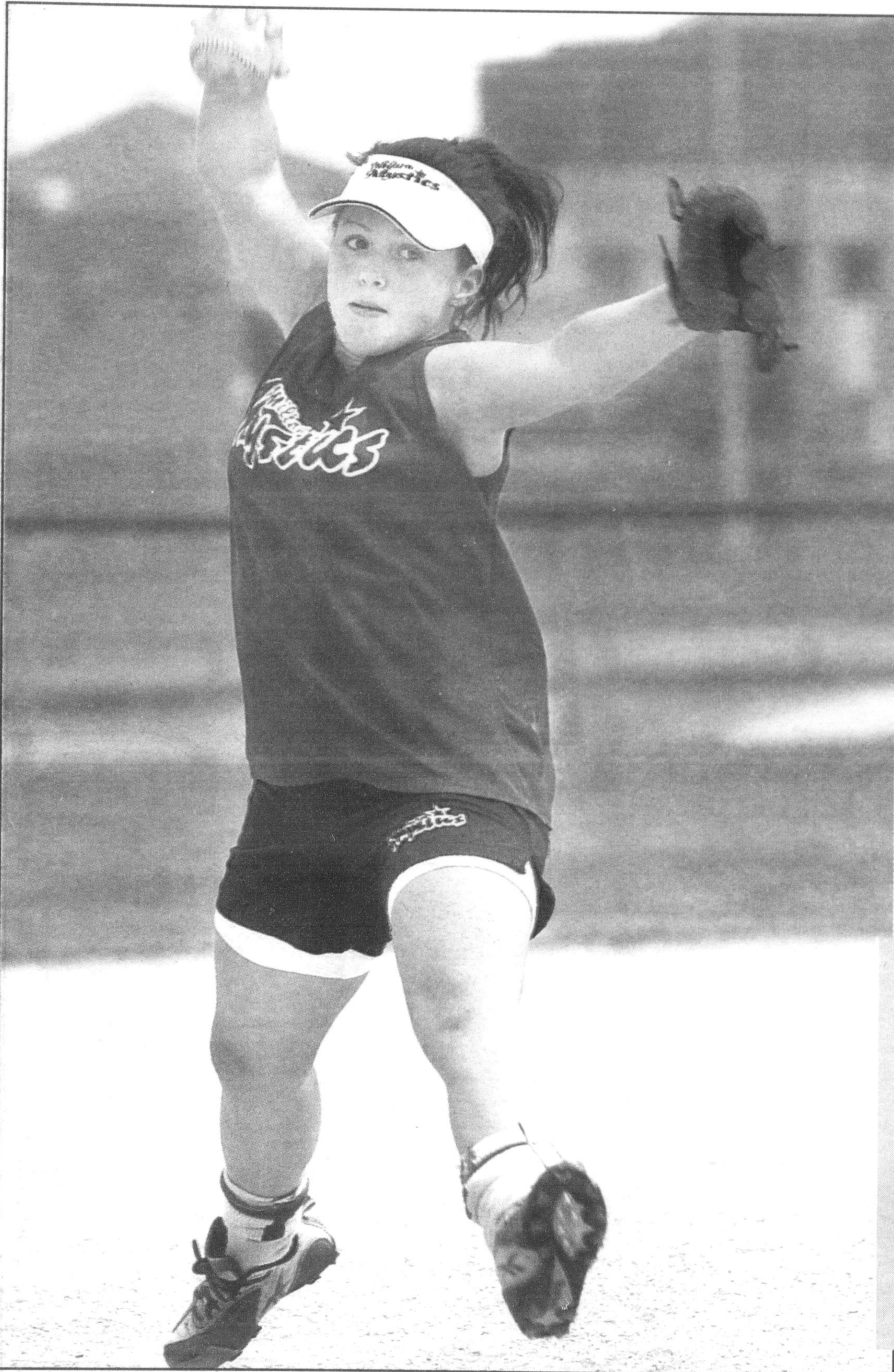


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## Orillia man charged with manslaughter in death of dentist

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**  
*The Champion*

An Orillia man has been charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of Dr. David Dumencu.

Officers from the OPP's Orillia detachment made the arrest without incident Friday, the day of Dr. Dumencu's funeral at Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church.

Det. Sgt. Paul McCrickard of the Orillia OPP said it's a lack of intent to kill that separates the charge of manslaughter from murder.

"If there's no real intent for the person to murder someone, it's a charge of manslaughter," he said. "Based on the evidence, we chose to lay a manslaughter charge."

Although the criminal code says manslaughter can carry a maximum penalty of life in prison, Det. Sgt. McCrickard said a quick look at case studies shows that's rarely imposed.

Dr. Dumencu, 42, was found lying unconscious with head injuries in the parking lot of the Atherley Arms Tavern, near

Orillia, at about 2 a.m. July 16.

He was taken to an Orillia hospital and then transferred to Toronto Western Hospital where he died early July 18.

A post mortem revealed the cause of death was a blunt force head injury.

Det. Sgt. McCrickard remained tight-lipped about the circumstances surrounding the death.

He wouldn't say whether Dr. Dumencu was hit with an object or if he hit his head on the ground, both which could cause blunt force head injury.

He also wouldn't say whether the attack took place in the parking lot where Dr. Dumencu was found unconscious, or somewhere else, confirming only that the incident took place on the Atherley Arms property.

Media reports that a fight had broken out at the tavern before Dr. Dumencu was fatally wounded remain unconfirmed at this time.

The only new piece of information given was that help wasn't called right away.

• see **ACCUSED** on page 3

## Mystic form

Milton Mystics pitcher Eryl Morgan delivers a pitch Saturday morning during the fastball tournament the team hosted at Lions Sports Park. See related photos and full results in Friday's Champion.

Photo by **GRAHAM PAINE**

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