

What's in a name? Wrigleyville Rocks sounds good

I was in Chicago recently taking in a Cubs game at Wrigley Field when a guy walked by me wearing a baseball cap inscribed 'Wrigleyville Rocks'.

Not immediately realizing that the statement was a declarative referring to the local nightlife, I thought it was the name of a local baseball team: The Wrigleyville Rocks.

Well, it could be. Actually I kind of like it as a team nickname. Go Rocks Go! Think of all the fun the headline writers could have with that nickname.

Rocks crack under pressure or Volcanic Rocks explode for win or Rocks slide in standings or even, Rocks on the rocks.

Of course once people got used to the nickname there would be variations on The Rocks, including stones, pebbles, nuggets and the like.

The Rocks are only a figment of my imagination. In the real world of professional

REAUME WITH A SPORTS VIEW

with BRAD REAUME



sports there are many strange nicknames, sometimes traditional, sometimes novel, and more recently designed to sell merchandise, that do exist.

One cannot work this turf without mentioning The Toledo Mud Hens, a great traditional nickname for the Detroit Tigers triple A baseball affiliate.

The Mud Hens are one-of-a-kind, if you except the Nelson Mud Hens baseball team who adopted the nickname when the Halton Board of Education and the high school refused to support the sport, which despite its popularity

is still unsanctioned.

The Detroit Tigers are actually the flagship possessors of one of the most popular of all nicknames in sport if you consider the college and high school level.

Tigers, Bears, Orioles, Cardinals, Dolphins and numerous other animals have long held sway in the nickname department. Often teams, in their infancy, were given pet names which corresponded to some local phenomenon of flora or fauna.

Other teams, the Boston Red Sox, the Chicago White Sox, and the Cincinnati Reds were named after the colours they wore. The Brooklyn Dodgers were so named because their fans used to have to dodge streetcar traffic on their way to the stadium.

In the logo driven world of professional sports the Carolina Mud Cats, a single A baseball team in North Carolina should be front and centre. The team makes no bones

about their desire to market their logo on T-shirts, caps, glasses and anything else that will sell. The National Hockey League's San Jose Sharks, with the hockey stick chomping shark logo is a hot seller.

In keeping with modern sensibilities the two National League expansion teams, Colorado and Miami have done considerable market research regarding their names, colours and styles of jersey. The Miami team has adopted 'Marlins' as their nickname in keeping with the National Football League Miami Dolphins and borrowed their basic colour scheme.

The Colorado team, based in Denver, has taken on the moniker 'Rockies' because of the mountain chain which defines the area. I hope that local writers find Rockies a little tough to deal with, so much so, that they shorten it to the Colorado Rocks.

And who knows, maybe the nightlife there isn't all that bad either.



SPORTS

Bruce Hood
MILTON
Travel
The Way To Go!

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1992

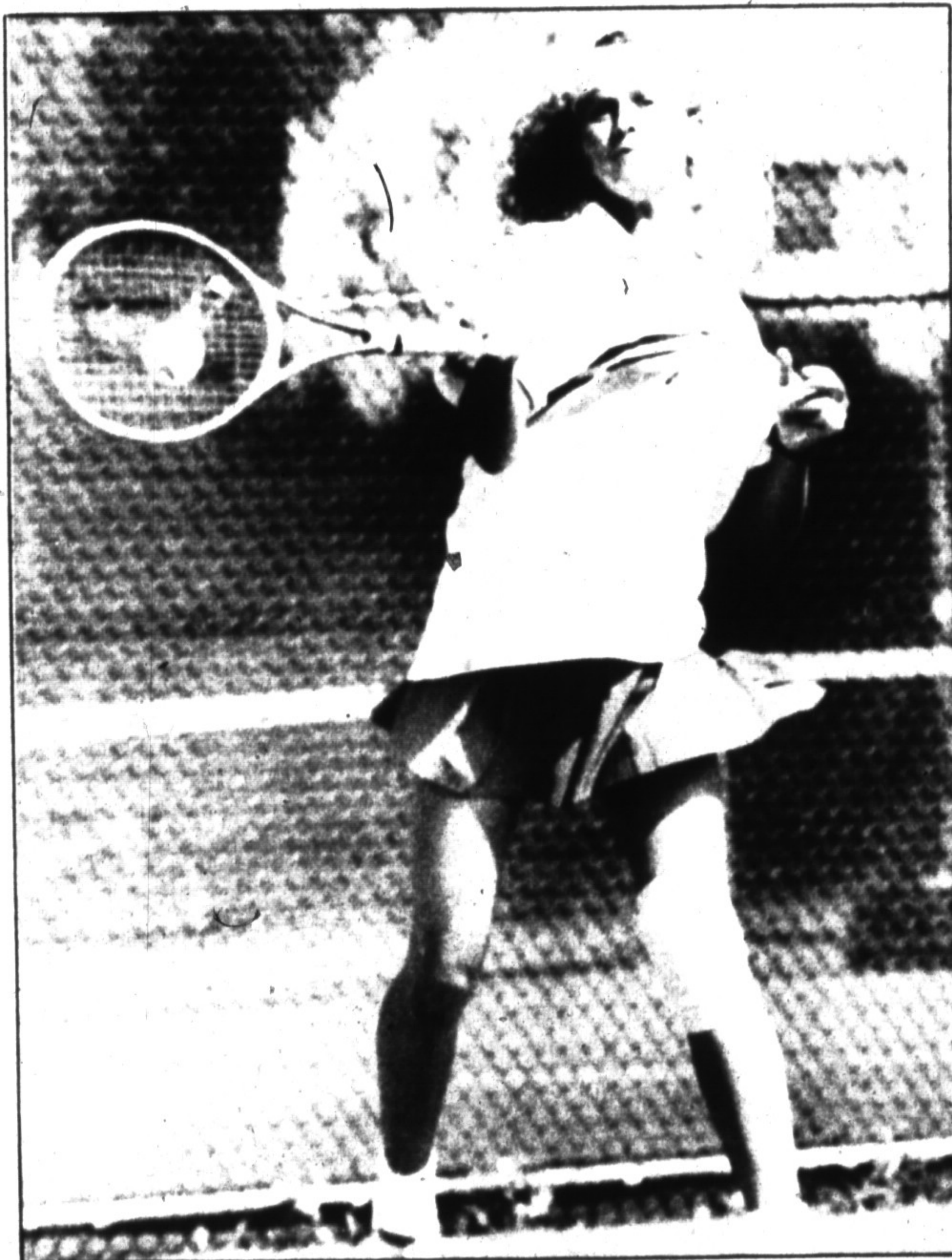


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Anyone for tennis?

Stephanie Slippacoff, the girls number five seed in the Phillips Under 16 Junior Canadian National Championships whacks a ball back to first round opponent Sasha Mettu. Action continues all week at the Milton Tennis Club on Child's Drive.

Under 16s win Whitby tourney

The Leggett Weatherhead under 16 girls select soccer team travelled quietly but confidently to Whitby to compete in the annual Iroquois Soccer Tournament in late July.

In round robin play Milton defeated Scarborough 3-2, Gloucester 3-0 and Whitby 2-0.

In the semifinal Milton eliminated their Halton neighbours Oakville 4-1 playing controlled, aggressive soccer. Marisa Capobianca with two beautiful goals, and Zuzsa Fedacsek and dynamite speedster Catherine Kemp each with one, rounded out the scoring.

In the final the Milton squad defeated Scarborough 1-0 in a hard fought, entertaining

match-up. Michelle Maynard scored the all-important winner direct from an intelligently struck free kick. The whole field was electrified as the Milton goalkeeper, Linda Lipari made a series of stunning saves to consolidate the win.

Milton got excellent performances throughout the tournament from: Angela Mastracci, Karen Murray, Viviana Gerace, Lisa Frizzo, Heather Woods, Shona Cameron, Michelle Damp, Maria Fredriksson, Fedacsek, Capobianca, Lipari and Maynard.

Tournament officials selected Lipari and Maynard as joint tournament MVPs.

Red Sox improve to 15-10

Edge Brampton to qualify for OBA

By BRAD REAUME
The Champion

The Milton HJM Red Sox claimed three wins, including a big 4-3 win over Brampton to qualify for the Ontario Baseball Association intermediate playdown, which in turn will qualify them to play in the OBA championship tournament on Labour Day weekend in Ajax.

Milton also picked up wins 12-6 over Sheridan and 10-9 over Glanbrook, in addition to losing both ends of a doubleheader to Hamilton 5-0 and 4-3.

In total the Red Sox season record stands at 15-10.

"We've got one of the best hitting teams in the league," said Red Sox manager Glen Turner. "As long as we keep hitting we'll be able to keep the wolf from the door."

Milton downed Brampton thanks to a Doug Dunn sacrifice fly in the bottom of the ninth which scored the winning run. Dunn also had a two run homer in the contest. The game was a Milton home game played in Erindale because of park availability.

George Moore started the game for Milton and lasted into the eighth when Brampton put their first two runners on with the score 3-2 Milton. Sean Davidson came on in relief, and gave up a run before retiring Brampton in the ninth.

"I can't say enough about the battery," said Turner. "both our pitching and catching have been phenomenal."

Turner detailed a litany of error filled games with four and five Milton mistakes marring each contest.

Against Sheridan, Milton held a 6-0 lead after three innings due in part to a two-run homer by Matt McCandless and a solo shot by Brent Currie. Sheridan climbed back into the game but a three-run seventh inning by Milton put the game out of reach.

Al Dairou picked up the win going eight innings and notching eight strikeouts while giving up nine hits and three earned runs. George Moore came on in relief to start the ninth and gave up only one earned run on one hit.

Both Milton pitchers were the victim of an unearned run.

Earlier in the week the Red Sox travelled to Glanbrook and came away with a 10-9 win, though they needed 12 innings to do it thanks to a seven-run eighth frame for Glanbrook. The game took more than four and-a-half-hours, finishing just after midnight.

Milton starter Al Dairou ran out of gas in the sixth and Tim Blackadar came on in relief getting the Red Sox into the eighth frame without significant trouble.

In the eighth it fell apart. Blackadar faced

six batters without recording an out before being pulled in favour of Moore. Moore walked the first man he faced, hit the second and gave up consecutive singles before escaping from the inning. In the meantime seven Glanbrook runners crossed the plate.

The game was tied a 9-9 through the 11th frame. Milton finally managed to score in the top of the 12th when Paul McCutcheon walked, advanced to second on a fielder's choice and scored on a Doug Dunn single.

Glanbrook gave it a good shot but left the tying run at third base when the game ended on a fly ball to Bill Corradetti in right field.

BOXSCORES on page 19



Doug Dunn

Johnston, Braam win categories in road races

Several Milton runners took part in the Erin Mills 10-kilometre, and two-kilometre runs on the weekend.

Eleven Milton runners participated in the races which started and finished at Erin Mills Town Centre.

In the 10-km race Brian James finished 37th from a field of 450 runners. His time was 37 minutes, 17 seconds and he was third in his 40-44 year old age category of 45 runners.

Kathy James was third in her 30-34 age group of 16 runners with a finishing time of 39:43.

In the 35-39 category, Milton's Cindy Johnston was first of 14 runners with a time of 43:52. Milton's Anna Morris finished third in the same classification with a time of 46:32.

Tina Braam, of Milton, was first in her age category 45-49 with a time of 45:42.

Other Milton runners who completed the 10 kilometre race were Petra Halk (55:18), Chris Slade (40:02), Malcolm MacCallum (40:08), Steve Fleming (48:12), and Larry Young (47:57).

Denise Callaghan ran her first ever race, the two kilometres, and finished in nine minutes and 11 seconds, for a 30th place finish out of 77.