



Gotcha!

Hey, this is fun, second baseman Katie McNamara exults, as she grabs a hot grounder during a workout of the Richmond Hill team this week. However, Katie's hoping the ground won't be that muddy all the time.

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Shaping up for a junior tournament

Richmond Hill will host the Junior Ladies Ontario Elimination Softball Tournament June 24, 25 and 26 and Mary Williamson would just love to be an ungracious host.

Mary will be managing the Richmond Hill newly-formed Junior Girls softball team which, up to a few weeks ago, were orphans.

"We've been appealing for sponsors for the team for a long time," she said, "and we finally got one."

But not in Richmond Hill. "Newtonbrook Plaza in Willowdale finally came through for us," said Williamson in somewhat wry fashion. "We couldn't find one in Richmond Hill."

Mary hopes the sponsorship will be the start of something big for her young gang of girls.

Some of the newcomers are Sue O'Connell plus ex-Richmond Hill juveniles as Debbie Milnes, Sheila Harrison, and Heather Bullivant.

Opens

The team opens its schedule at home to Oshawa May 18 and come May 20, 21, and 22 will be competing in the Port Colborne softball tournament.

All in all an interesting season.

One that will be more than just interesting if Mary's team comes up with a big win in the Ontario and gets to represent the province in the Canadian finals in Newfoundland in August. Would be lovely.

Love to win

"Certainly I would love to win the Junior Ladies Ontario tournament, especially on our own home ground," said Williamson. "Everyone's got a chance although we'll be facing some pretty tough competition."

Mary, along with coach and husband Moe Williamson, will get a pre-season look at their charges tonight (Wednesday) via an exhibition game with the Downsview Juniors.

The team will be entered this season in the East York Ladies Softball League with such teams as East York, Oshawa, Newmarket and Thornhill.

Shaping up

How's the team shaping up?

"We've been working out regularly every Wednesday at the town park," said Williamson, "and we're coming along pretty good. We're still hoping to fill some weak spots before the season starts."

Williamson figures her strongest point at the moment is the pitching brigade as represented by Darline Nelson, Donna Querengesser, and Kelly MacInness.

"Donna was out of ball last season but she should be a big asset with the team," said Williamson. "She's also a good hitter."

Returnees

The Richmond Hill team will boast some returnees from last year's intermediate team including Janet Buxton, Bonnie Bryan, shortstop, Bernice Thompson, infielder-outfielder, and Katie McNamara, second base.



This way

Not all games are won by line drives and the long ball, and that's why Richmond Hill coach Moe Williamson, is giving Bernice Thompson some help with her burning technique. It's the little things that count, Bernie.

The Liberal Section B
sports
Classified

Ah so! Judo club features karate

The Thornhill Budokai Judo Club has added a new twist to its activities.

Karate. That's the word from Judo head Chris Toule who told The Liberal that the Willowdale Karate Club has decided to join forces with his club.

"We always get a number of people who are interested in karate," said Toule, "but I don't like trying to get into

a field I'm not totally familiar with." Head instructor of the Willowdale club is Bill Sirentis, of Richmond Hill, who is a long-time acquaintance of Toule.

"Bill started out with me years ago," said Toule, "and I'm glad he's back. He's a very good karate man, tough. One of the reasons for his coming here is the availability of better

facilities," said Toule.

Sirentis said his club comprises "some 20 members now but we're looking for more candidates."

Introductory course

He's offering an introductory one month course for the low fee of \$8. If you're interested just call the Willowdale Karate Club at 881-1371.

Sirentis said that "we handle our members according to their age. If they're young and competitive we put

them through a stiff course. If they're older we let them set their own pace."

The Willowdale club works out Tuesdays and Thursday nights at the Budokai Club, 120 Clark Street, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.; and Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30.

Nationals

Meanwhile, back at the judo front: Budokai's Toule is busy preparing his men for the Nationals to be held May 28 at Lethbridge, Alberta.

"We'll be entering three of our members," said Toule.

They are Joey Toule, his son, Steve Penyige and Jarrett Haggard.

"I'm looking for big things from these boys," said Toule, "despite the tough competition. Particularly, Joey and Steve."

Joey finished fourth last year in the under 154 pound weight class while Steve got a fifth in the under 139.

"Both should improve this time out. I'm looking for better things from Steve because he's getting stronger now and that's been the only thing holding him back."

"When you're only 17 it takes awhile to get your strength but he's starting to

come now. He's got all the rest, the technique and finesse."

Toule is also high on Haggard although "he does lack the experience. But this is where he'll get that experience which will benefit him later on."

Womens'

Toule's other hopeful for Women's Nationals, at a later date, is Kimberly Mayne.

"Right now we're going through quite a rigid training working out four or five times a week. You can never work too hard, you're never that good."

Hockey needs a selfless spirit

Minor hockey will work only when a true and unselfish spirit of co-operation really exists.

This was one of the parting thoughts left by Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association President Bob Reeves at last Wednesday night's annual meeting.

Reeves was stepping down after three years at the helm and will be replaced by Jim Cade.

His remarks were included in a wind-up speech which welcomed the amalgamation of the Richmond Hill and Richvale organizations.

"I suspect that the coming year will see many changes in the operation of the RHHA," he said.

"These will be necessitated by an increased enrolment, better competition, and a better use of ice time because of amalgamation.

"There will be, I hope, many new faces on the board of directors — and that's healthy. But it is only healthy when it operates in an atmosphere of total co-operation in all areas of the hockey operation."

Reeves listed a series of what he termed "hackneyed, old time-worn expressions" which he hoped would someday disappear.

These included:

I won't do that, it's not my job; it failed because you did it too early; people just don't want to buy tickets on a draw; the ladies didn't co-operate; the men didn't co-operate; how come I have to pay to see my kid play; it's parents that ruin hockey; where did

you find that damned coach.

"This business of minor hockey can and will work only when a true, unselfish spirit of co-operation really exists," said Reeves.

"Add to this a liberal dash of understanding the other fellow's problems and maybe, just maybe the future will be better.

Reeves said his biggest failure in the past three years was "not encouraging this very attitude."

He felt his greatest successes was being "involved with the amalgamation with Richvale and the initiation of the coaching program.

"I am proud of these two steps forward and of all the people who made them a reality," he said.

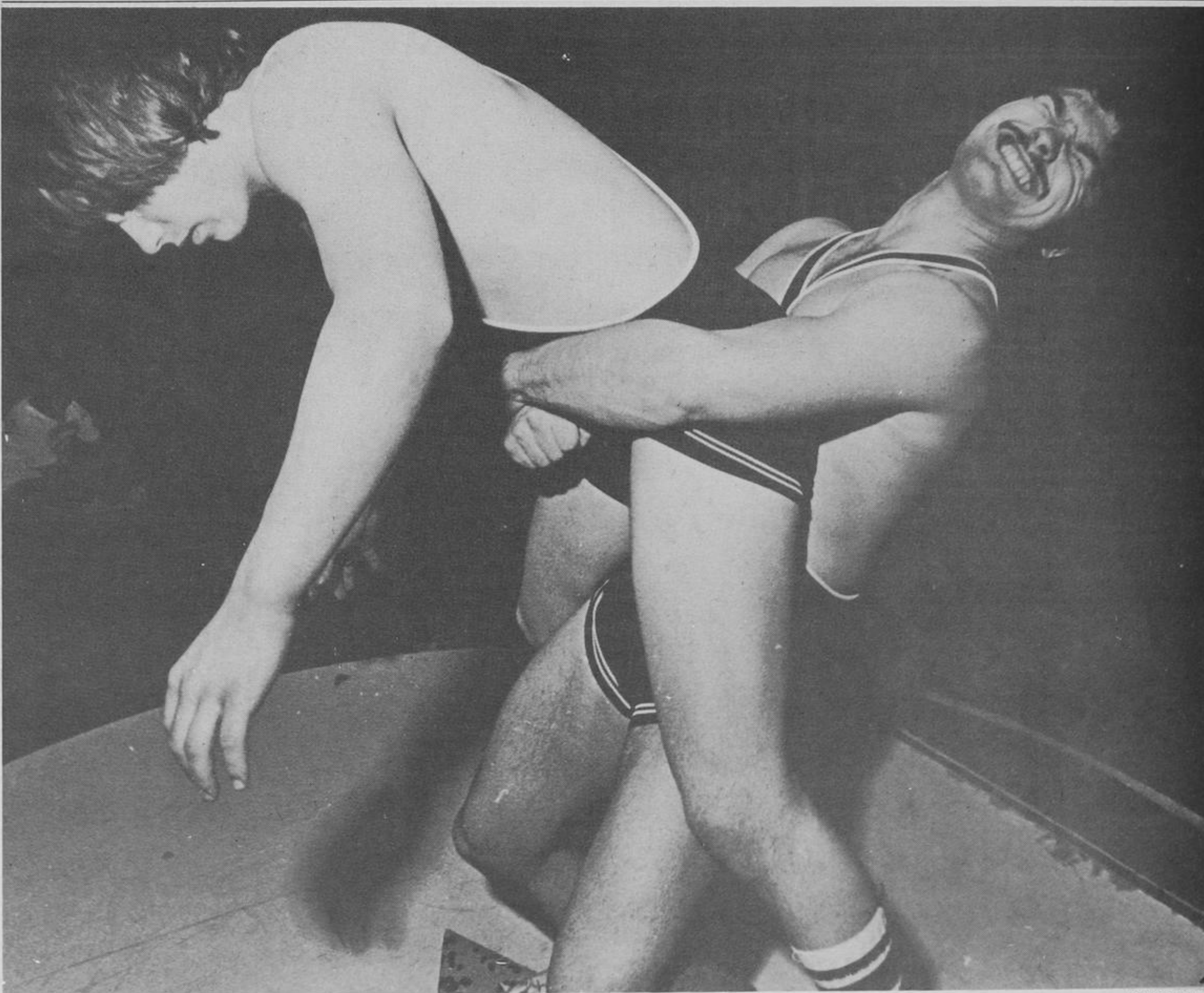
Reeves noted that if "success is measured by championships won our OMHA teams did not fare too well this year.

"None of our teams won the All-Ontario although the juveniles, Magna Midgets and the Minor Bantam A's all won the York Simcoe honors.

"This helped to keep some of the all-knowing, super-critical wolves away from the door and this is not meant facetiously.

"These teams played well and all the players, coaches and managers deserve our heartiest congratulations.

"If, on the other hand, success is measured in player development and skills learned and improved on, I believe there was considerable success this year," he said.



Ugh!

This is hurting me more than it's hurting you, is what Randy Sparrow of Aurora, seems to be telling Michael Gamblin 17, of

Richmond Hill, as he embraces him in a fierce grip at Richmond Hill Wrestling

club. Sparrow, who is assistant coach of the club, was only demonstrating, however.



fred simpson

Fred is on holidays