

SPORTS - PAST GLORIES RELIVED



Athletic endeavours play a large part as a method in bringing a town together and to give it a sense of identity.

Stouffville's sporting history is full of outstanding achievements that has developed the town's identity.

Sports themselves had a much different look about them years ago. It was a more relaxed, low-key affair as compared to the high-pressure, win at all cost attitude that is so prevalent at all levels of sports nowadays, from pee wee up to professional.

Regardless of when or how the sport is played, it always brings enjoyment to those who participate and watch Stouffville's finest match their skills against their opponents.

In the late 18th century sports like hockey, baseball and

soccer were all very popular then as they are today, and also other sports such as lawn bowling, cricket and croquet were widespread, although they have been now more or less passed over.

Hockey has always been the biggest sport in Stouffville, as it is in any Canadian town. This town has had good success with its hockey teams, producing fine players and now and again grabbing itself a championship.

One team that stands out in many people's minds for their accomplishments is the 1952 senior B Clippers hockey squad that took the championship against Orillia.

The early 50's proved to be a very successful time for Stouffville sports, as along with the Clippers, the girls softball team took the Markham

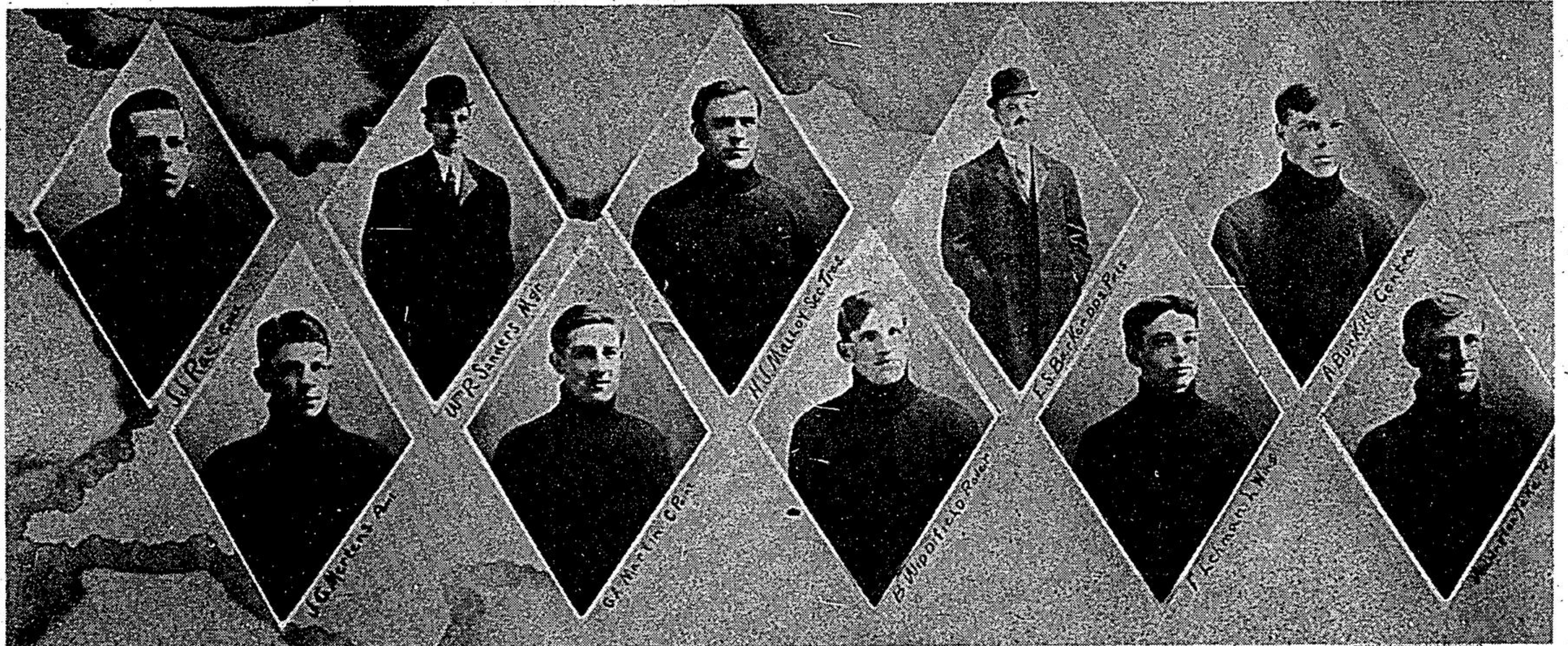
Township championship.

The Stouffville Red Sox baseball team was going strong back in the 50's, as they pulled off a string of three consecutive championships.

Even the girls' basketball team and the local lawn bowling squad pulled off championships in the late 50's, and of course Grant Wells, three time champion in the International Plowing matches.

But Stouffville's sporting success does not start or end in that decade, as there have been numerous winners throughout the town's 100 years.

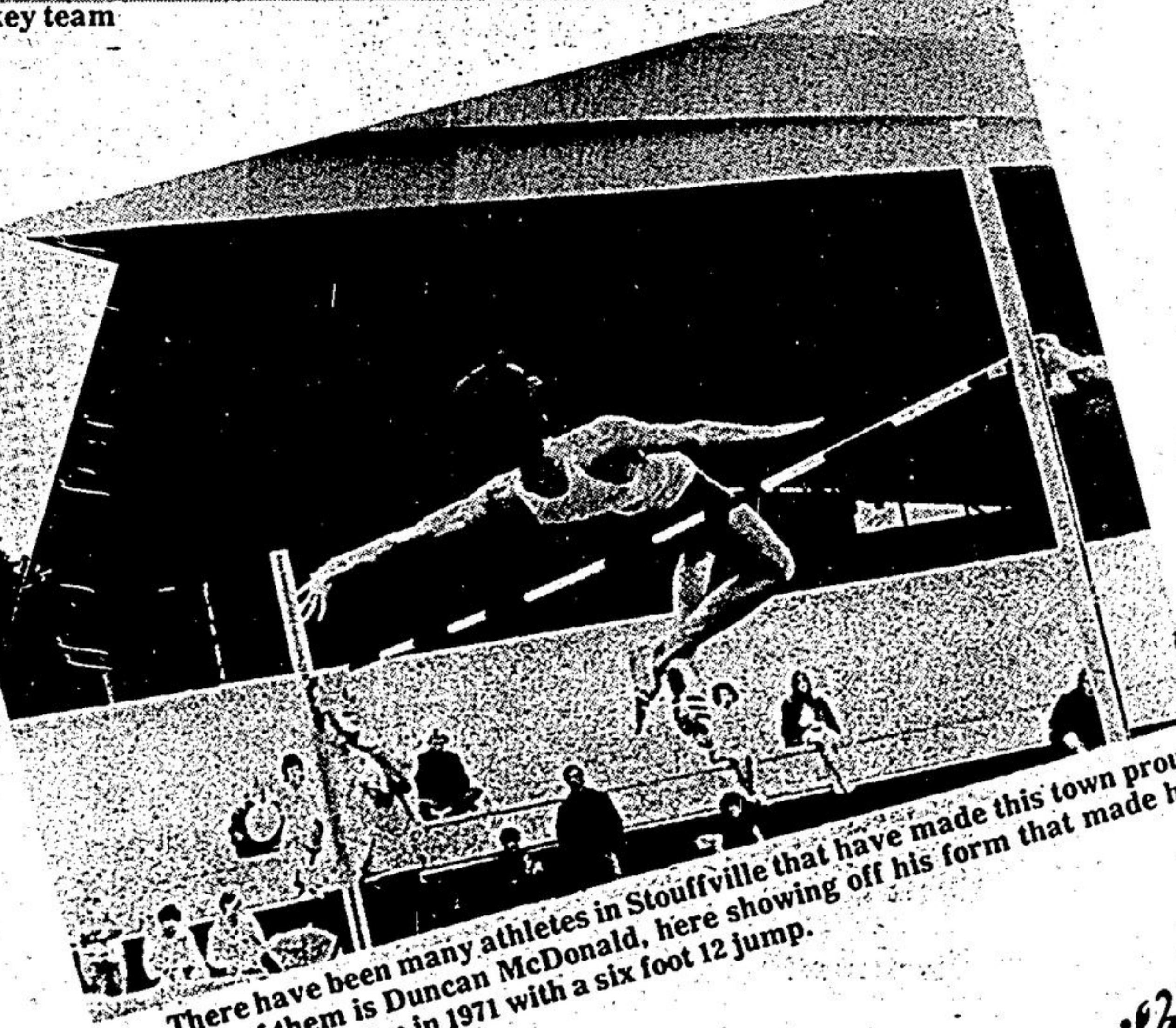
However, mention should not be made only of the winners, but to all the athletes, win or lose, that have given the town the pride and pleasure of seeing them perform.



1904 hockey team



One sport that has been played for many years but doesn't get too much notice is lawn bowling. Above shows a group of enthusiasts partaking in a game played in 1925.



There have been many athletes in Stouffville that have made this town proud. Just one of them is Duncan McDonald, here showing off his form that made him high jump champion in 1971 with a six foot 12 jump.

