

'Unique' Gorgon concept thrives

By Chris Shanahan
UXBRIDGE
 The name 'Gorgon Foundation' tends to conjure up some pretty threatening images among the uninitiated. But beyond the name, there's a vibrant community service that's unique in Ontario, and quite possible the entire country.

nally patterned after a system of Central sporting clubs in New Zealand and Australia. In these countries, resources are commonly pooled by one group for use in sports and social activities.

"We were out to have a good time and build our own team spirit," Hilge says when Golden Eagles was the club's nickname. (Gorgon was eventually borrowed from Greek mythology in order to instill fear in the opposition.)

Along the way, the organization also began running various sports leagues, including the Gorgon touch football league that'll feature 12 teams this year, and a men's floor hockey league.

real organization to start raising money for new sports equipment. Hilge explains: "We were being a sort of voice for the improvement of sports facilities in town."

admits public acceptance of the Gorgons has come a long way since the club's formation. "We were like the black sheep in the community when we first started... no one knew who we were or what we were doing," he

says. "In the early days we were just considered a bunch of long-haired, drug-smoking hippies," according to Hilge, 32. "Now, those same people are making a contribution to the social fabric of the surrounding community."

Membership now stands at about 160, with an equal male/female ratio, but continued growth is anticipated. Average age is 25.

A monthly newsletter keeps members abreast of the virtual whirlwind the Gorgon activities, which include more intellectually oriented events like trivial pursuit contests.

branches in Stouffville and Thornhill, he adds. "Maybe five or 10 years down the line, the founder would like to see the Gorgon Foundation develop its own recreation complex. Presently, 10 per cent of dance revenues go into a building fund with that goal in mind."

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Pete Hilge, founding member of Uxbridge's Gorgon Foundation, envisages a bright future for the sports-based community group. He'd like to see the organization develop its own facility for recreational and social activities.

The operation of 10 to 12 dances a year is the foundation's bread and butter, according to Hilge, an Uxbridge resident since 1974. The sale of alcohol at these events helps raise an average profit of \$1,500, the majority of which is distributed by the executive to the Gorgon's various sports activities and charitable interests.

"People know that whatever we present will be good," says the past president, who now focuses much of his promotional abilities on these dances.

Other future include an increased focus on working with children's sports programs. Members plan to share their expertise with young local athletes in the five to 10 age range.

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Gowan

STOUFFVILLE — Gowan, the pianist/songwriter who recently played to capacity audiences at the Ontario Place Forum, is tentatively scheduled to headline a summer dance in Stouffville.

The Gorgon Foundation of Uxbridge has already signed the Toronto performer for a July 27 date. It's planned for the old Stouffville arena.

The Uxbridge-based service organization stages between 10 and 12 dances a year, with proceeds going to finance a variety of sports activities in the area.

Gorgon past-president Peter Hilge, who organizes the group's dances, said it's hoped more of these events can be held in locations outside Uxbridge.

Gowan, a British born, Toronto-raised performer, has released such hits as 'A Criminal Mind', 'Desperate' and 'Keep The Tension On'.

Softball

T-ball scores from the third week in the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Softball Association included Farquharson Realty's 30-18 drubbing of Stouffville Recycling, Farquharson's Jacob McManiman belted to homeruns in the win.

In other action, Kismen beat Rennie 33-21 on Evan Boyd's two homers. Meanwhile Maclean's Carpet and Newtonbrook Block battled to a 25-25 tie. Country Stop Burgers slipped past Vandorf General Store 29-25. Signage Advertising thumped the Ballantrae Lions 32-17 on two two-homerun performances by Jamie Moore and Reagan Sheahan.

Mites

Vandorf Garage drove over Giles 21-9 on homeruns by Sean Nesbitt, Ryan Burkholder and Jay Hause. Claremont beat the Stouffville Lions 17-10. In other action, Craven Acres got past the Taber Farm Broncos 21-15 thanks to homeruns from Steve Tait, Tom Smurthwaite and Dale Bull. The other game had Signage Advertising shooting down the Stouffville Hawks 20-4.

Squirt girls

Princess Chinchillas drubbed Claremont 23-5 on homeruns from Erica Noble and Tracey Britton. Helen's Chicks beat the Stouffville Lions 20-12. In other action, Main St Printing sank the Sun 20-13 on homers from Jenny Hart and Alison Jones.

Squirt boys

Petro-Canada nipped Pole Electric 16-14 while the Ballantrae Lions tripled Lehman's Gardens by a 9-3 count. In the other game, Hans Motors destroyed Claremont 24-5.

Pee-wee boys

John Doner Ltd. 12 — Claremont 10.

Bantam boys, girls

Ram Forest Products 24 — Claremont 5. McNeil Labs 6 — Claremont 5. On the girls' side, Wesley's Restaurants humiliated Claremont 24-6.

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MARKVILLE TOYOTA'S ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



PAUL HOUSE

Paul plays for Markham District High School Jr. Rugby Team. He scored 2 tries in the Georgian Bay Final (unfortunately in a losing cause), but he was named the team's M.V.P. for the season. Congratulations Paul!

MARKVILLE TOYOTA