

Clint Crust
has a favorite
jump...B3

The Tribune

Sports & Classified

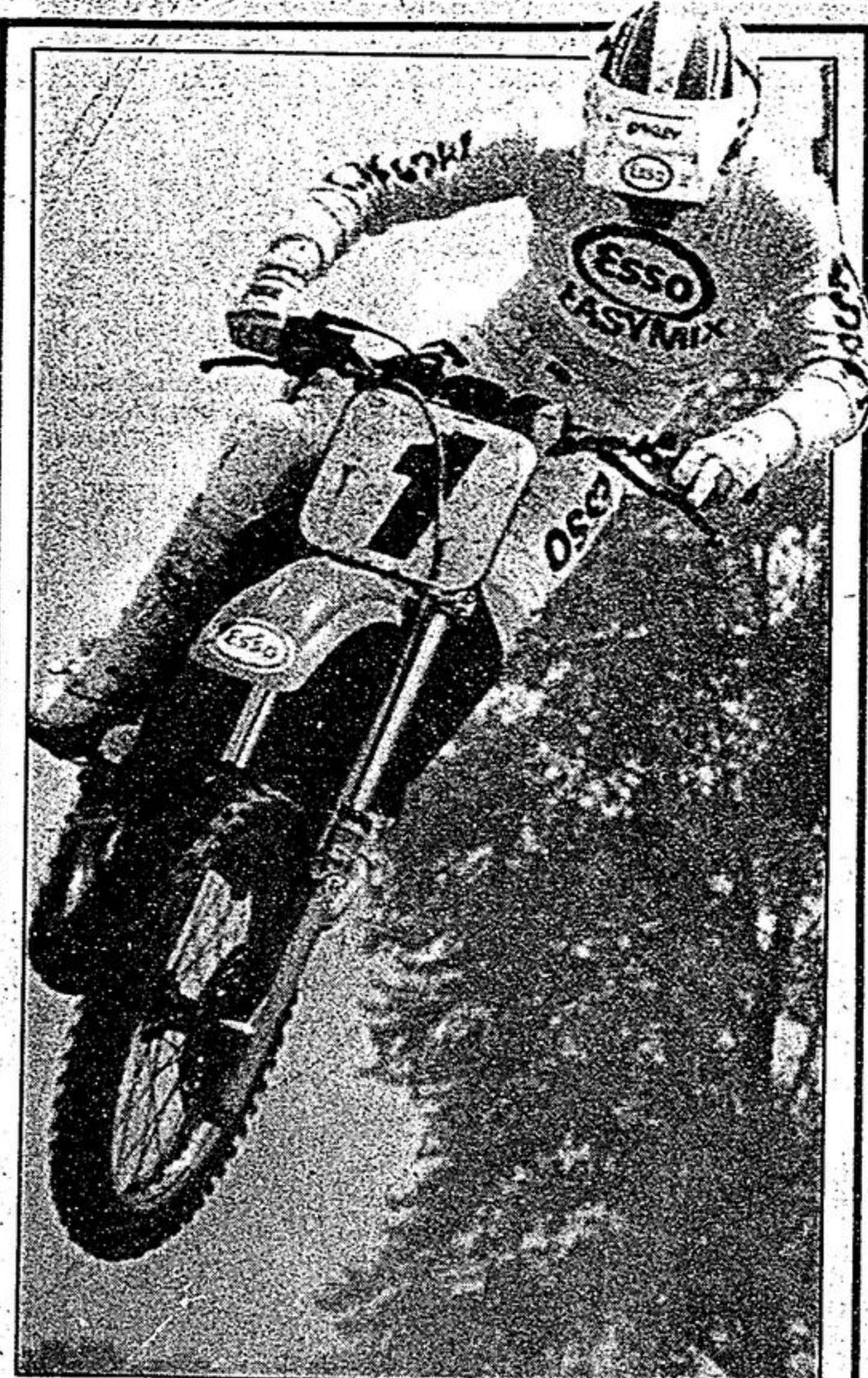
Stouffville girl
was judge at
L.A. Olympics
...B2

Second Section

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Hot Toddy and The Sweeper make Supercross look easy



BY KELLY CONNELLY
Sports Editor

Hot Toddy and The Sweeper could have been mistaken for surgeons in Darth Vader masks.

The two motocross riders — Todd Townend from Stouffville and Doug Hoover from Mt. Albert — negotiated jumps, hairpin turns and loop de loops at Monday's Cycle World/Honda Supercross like veteran surgeons in a routine operation.

Townend, recently crowned Canada's top 250 cc Junior, out-classed 20 rivals on his Austrian KTM cycle in the final moto. He crossed the finish line 20 seconds ahead of the pack.

Hoover, Canada's top 125 cc rider in 1985, lived up to his sweeper reputation with first-place wins in both the 125 cc and 250 cc Expert classes.

More than 1800 spectators attended the Supercross at Markham Fairgrounds to watch 205 riders compete in 80 cc, 125 cc and/or 250 cc classes.

Sunny skies and a dry 3000-foot track, which included a steep trailer jump in front of the main stands, provided fans with a close-up view of airborne racers, dusty landings and the odd crash.

"It's incredible, the spectacular crashes some of these guys have. But they're so well protected with equipment and in top shape..." followed the announcer after a traffic jam in the first turn of a qualifier.

Townend, 15, said the track design was tight and it slowed him down. "I'm used to more open tracks. This one was a little slower, but it was fun. The jumps weren't very demanding, but the

stutter bumps were pretty difficult."

The trailer jump knocked the wind out of many racers, he added. "The landing was steep and it was hard to angle your bike. Even the experts crashed really hard on that."

It wasn't a good day for 12-year-old Clint Crust of Stouffville. Although the 80 cc Schoolboy A competitor placed 8th in the qualifier, he wiped out twice in the final.

"The toughest part was clearing the doubles (four jumps in a row) at the back of the track," he recalled. "I was trying to pass someone and I hit him by accident."

"I expected to have a lot more jumps, but there weren't many on the back straightaway." Crust is travelling to Virginia next week to attend a one-week course on riding technique. In July he placed first in the 80 cc B class at Uxbridge Motocross.

Terry Barrett, Markham Supercross organizer and track designer, commended builder Sid Landry Excavating for a job well done.

"The track was more or less designed for the overall rider. There weren't too many wipe outs and few casualties," noted the 25-year-old Uxbridge racer.

"The stutter bumps were probably the most demanding part of the track." The average lap time was about 95 seconds.

Stouffville's Bruce Both, riding a three-wheel cycle, finished second in the ATC class.

Markham Fairgrounds will likely host the Supercross again next year, said Barrett.



TODD TOWNEND



DOUG HOOVER

Stouffville skater will go competitive

Stouffville figure skater Susan Anderson, who has put in more practice hours this summer than in the winter, passed two more tests.

The 13-year-old athlete passed her Senior Bronze Freestyle and second of three Junior Silver Dances (Rock) in Unionville recently. Earlier this summer she passed her Junior Bronze Freestyle and first dance (Tango).

A member of the Stouffville Figure Skating Club, Susan says her ultimate goal is to acquire her gold medals in Figures, Freestyle and Dance.

If that individual pursuit isn't enough, she also wants to skate competitively this winter. "I work better under pressure. I'll probably try going competitive this year and if I like it I'll keep going," she says.

"Going competitive" won't be easy for Susan, says her mother. "If she wishes to go competitive, she will probably have to give up her individual tests for a while."

Competitive skaters start off at the sub-sectional level. High finishes promote them to sectionals, divisionals and finally the nationals.



Lift Off!

Local motocross heroes Doug 'The Sweeper' Hoover (top) and Todd 'Hot Toddy' Townend come off a trailer jump during Monday's Supercross in Markham. Hoover, from Mt. Albert, and Townend, from Stouffville, were easy victors in their respective 125cc and 250 cc classes.

—Kelly Connelly

Local hardball team misses fall playoffs

Stouffville's one and only hardball team won't get a chance to compete in the Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) playoffs. It missed the registration deadline.

Stouffville skipper Bill Bower called it a "technical problem" and said his players were disappointed they could not enter the playoffs.

Bower explained he was not aware his team, which is comprised of midget and juvenile players, was to submit OBA player cards to qualify for playoffs. "We didn't know anything about this until three days before the deadline," he said.

"Some of the guys were disappointed. I think we would have done fairly well (in playoffs) because the team was coming together."

It didn't look that way early in the season. The squad suffered a few blowouts before it began to settle down and win games. Sponsored by Neate Rollers, the club finished the season with a 7-14 record.

BIG UPSET

A big 5-4 upset over Markham-1 in the last league game boosted Stouffville's spirits. Five games prior to that, the squad stunned Tottenham 8-0. Pitcher Jeff Bower faced 26 batters and struck out 11.

Many of the Stouffville boys had never played hardball before and their improvement over the season was tremendous, said coach Bower.

"The guys have really come on and played good ball towards the end of the season. They're really adapted to the game...and speed of the pitches."

Bower noted improved batting averages: Danny Roller (.438), George Collins (.428), Jeff Bower (.400), Nick Ellis (.370), John Parcels (.369), Morgan Winn (.363), Wayne Patterson (.342) and Paul Sinclair (.319).



BILL BOWER
coach

Jeff Bower, Patterson and Henderson slugged one homerun each this season. Bower collected 21 RBIs. Russ King's sharp eye got him 21 walks and he stole five bases. Henderson copped four.

Although Sunday afternoon games and the odd rainout dampened attendance at home games, the Stouffville coach was impressed with the enthusiasm of spectators who did show. He even received inquiries from boys who want to play next year.

Bower would like to have a separate midget and juvenile team for 1987. Collins, Ellis, King, Patterson, Sinclair, Glen Stewart, Duffy Wallis and Mike O'Connor will likely stay midget.

Parcells and Roller plan to move to junior competition next season.

Hardball fans can still catch the Stouffville team in upcoming exhibition games this month. Bower will release the confirmed dates shortly.

Uxbridge player goes to Holland

BY KELLY CONNELLY
Sports Editor

Ask any Dutch hockey player what his favorite post-game snack is and he'll probably say peanut sauce and mayonnaise on french fries.

Uxbridge athlete, Mike Van Veghel figures he put on a few pounds during his four month stint with Holland's second division hockey team Trias.

The unique opportunity to play in his father's native homeland and sample some strange munchies came last fall. Mike, a Dutch-Canadian who has played juvenile hockey in Uxbridge, received a phone call from the coach of powerful first division squad Tilburg Trappers.

The skipper and Mike's older brother Maurice were defensive partners on Tilburg's 1972-74 teams. The coach invited Mike to try out with Tilburg and if he didn't make it, there was always the second division.

"My brother always wanted me to go down. He said it was the best experience he ever had. But I originally was going to try out for the second division," says the blonde-haired centre.

Tilburg cut him and by the time he donned the green Trias uniform he had already missed 12 games.

But it didn't take long for the 21-year-old to fit in the groove. "They play a more finesse game of hockey in Holland. I love that style. It's not half as rough as over here, but there is a lot of sticking."

Besides himself, two other Canadian recruits signed on with Trias. Not surprisingly, the three Canucks led the club in scoring.

"We played Belgium one night to a 9-9 tie. Three Canadians got eight of the nine goals," Mike recalls. However, the lopsided strength of Canadian players is something the compact centre doesn't like to discuss.

Holland, unlike Sweden or Czechoslovakia, is not a bastion of talent for NHL scouts. Soccer is the national sport.

Mike's club finished second in the Netherlands Cup last March. He was the third highest scorer on his team behind the other two imports.

The division included six Holland and three Belgium squads.

"If we had finished first, we would have moved up to the first division," laments the St. John's school counsellor. But winning isn't everything.

Acquiring a taste for Europe, not to mention peanut butter and mayonnaise on french fries — now that's an experience.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"You have to take two showers after a supercross — one with your clothes on and one with them off." A spectator standing at the fence as motocross riders kicked up dust storms during Monday's Cycle World/Honda Supercross at Markham Fairgrounds.

Zephyr throws Stouffville Stingers a curve

The Stouffville Stingers figure they could have handed Zephyr its walking papers last week, but a few surprises delayed the opportunity.

The Stouffville sophomore team took a 2-1 best-of-five series lead after defeating Zephyr 14-6 last Wednesday night. Game four was scheduled for Stouffville the following evening.

The local girls were up, the momentum was theirs and eliminating Zephyr seemed promising. However, some of the players on the trailing club didn't want the game played last Thursday.

Stinger manager Ted Lowery said his club offered to give up hometown advantage and play the match in Zephyr. "The (Zephyr) players said 'no'. Maybe they felt they weren't strong enough and they wanted to rest their pitcher," suspected Lowery, a little surprised.

The Stinger manager wouldn't rule out the possibility his option was stalling the series. The match was rescheduled for last night (Tuesday).

Stouffville pitcher Candy Brown didn't like the series drag-

ging on. "I think Zephyr gives us the roughest time (play-wise) of all the teams. The sooner we get the series over with, the better," she remarked, adding she had a "gut feeling" her team would win last night's duel.

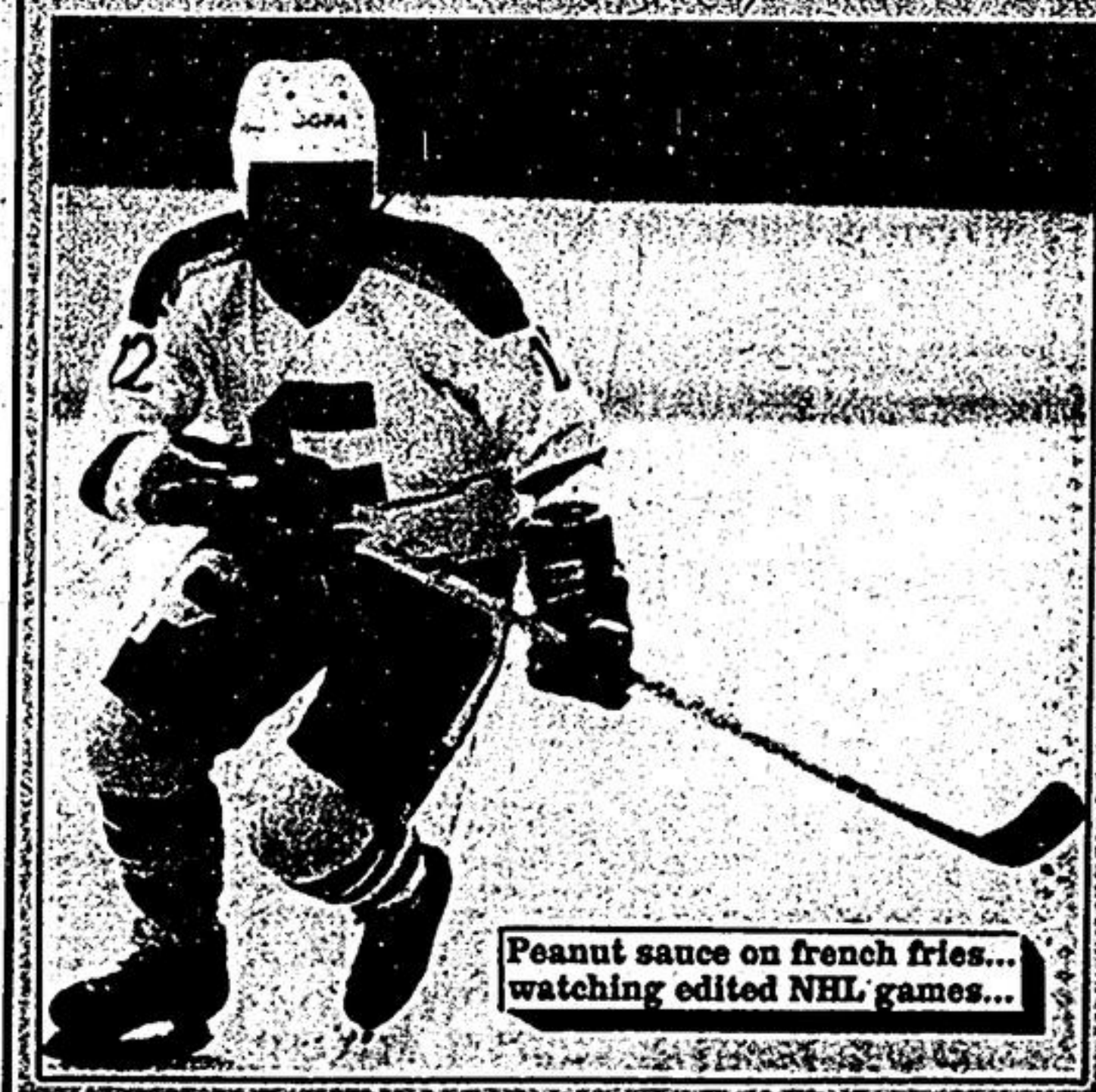
"I really don't like the idea of Zephyr holding out. The weather is getting colder too," added Stinger alternate pitcher Liz Crittenden.

A chilly temperature didn't cool the Stinger bats in last Wednesday's 14-6 victory. Although both teams exchanged slim leads until

the fifth, Stouffville proved more persistent.

The club broke free with five runs in the fifth. Brown, Debbie Gold, Allison Lowery, Alison Ashton and Diana Buchanan crossed homeplate. Brown (3) and Gold (2) collected key RBIs.

Both clubs have locked in close battles all season. A fifth game (if necessary) will be played in Stouffville, Thursday at 8:30 p.m. The winner will play either Mt. Albert or Bradford for the South Lake Simcoe Ladies Fastball championship.



Peanut sauce on french fries... watching edited NHL games...