

Markham stumbles in bigtime

At least one York Region high school coach thinks the switch to a York-Durham championship format is going to be tough on local athletes.

Murray Everett's Markham District High School golf team swept the York championships several weeks ago. But against the best Durham had to offer on Tuesday, his squad placed third.

The tournament, played at a

very challenging Thunderbird course, saw Markham's Juniors finish behind Pickering and Eastdale.

Todd Gerrard shot an 87, Trevor Gardner 88, Steve Searle 92 and Glen Atkinson 98.

The Seniors gained their third out of 17 teams. Steve Filipowicz led the way with a 79, followed by 85s from Mike Bryniawsky &

Dave Pashko, and an 89 from Jim Stevenson.

MDHS was the best-scoring York school in both divisions.

"We're in the big leagues now," said coach Everett, who's assisted by Howard Christie. "Markham's athletes are going to have to work quite hard to achieve the results they're used to."

In fact, he noted finishing behind Durham schools at York-

Durham meets "may become a pattern if we don't watch it. We'll have to pull up our socks."

(Before this year, York champions met the best from Simcoe County to determine a Georgian Bay Secondary School Association titlist.)

It was a different story at the York Region meet, where Pashko's 74 was the lowest of all scores that day. Bryniawsky had an 83,

Darren McKenzie 84 and Filipowicz 90.

On the Junior side Gerrard topped the individual scores with an 81. Trevor Gardner had a 91, while Atkinson and Andrew Smith carded 94s.

"We won quite handily — the Seniors by 24 strokes and the Juniors by 28," said Christie, interviewed prior to the Durham tournament. "I'd put these boys up against anybody."

Weekender

Sports

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Boys start slow

By FRANK KING
Sports Editor

Look no further than inconsistent play to explain the slow start for Markham District High School's Junior boys volleyball team.

The squad hasn't exactly been burning up the York South loop, sporting only one win against three losses so far this year.

The story is no better on the tournament scene, where Markham went winless at a recent York Mills Collegiate competition.

But coach Kim Watson isn't one to complain — at least not publicly. Her boys lost 15-9, 7-15, 11-15 to Brother Andre then knocked off Thornlea 15-13, 15-9.

"The guys played extremely well in both matches," said Watson. "Their only downfall was the underhand passing skills against Brother Andre. For some reason they slacked off."

She was happy with the setups provided by Craig Lanning and Paul Pachis, though.

The inconsistent play there continued against Thornhill (a 15-5, 15-10 defeat) and Unionville (a 15-13, 15-7 loss).

"Bumping was again really weak," said the coach about the Thornhill battles. "And for some reason we weren't playing as a team."

Things improved against Unionville. "They started to pull together, but the game should have been protested and I didn't."

The gist of Watson's argument is Markham was given three timeouts — one more than the rules allow — by the referee. He then turned around and penalized the squad by giving Unionville a point.

"It wasn't my fault (the referee lost count)," Watson contended.

"So the next time we'll make sure we're far enough ahead (before any controversies erupt). It was really frustrating."

In the meantime she was pleased with the work of Mark Bowyer, who was "diving for balls all over the court. It was just lovely to see."

And his net play was really good too.

As for the losses at the York Mills tournament, Watson wasn't too concerned.

Weather holds in final

The weather's been lousy lately, but the rain held off long enough for the Markham Softball Association to hold its championship day last weekend at Centennial Park.

The Mite boys crown went to 7-Up, which knocked off Kinsmen 12-4. All the Kinsmen scoring came from homers by Mike Kernohan, Stephen Parker, John Cooper and Scott Higgins.

7-Up had key hits from Scott Pallant, Ryan Reesor and Jeff McLeod. Stephen Gottschling handled the pitching chores.

Lori Dickson, Sharon Jacks and Lori Grant shared mound duties as Family Trust/Charlie Barnett slipped past Dominion Coal 4-3 for the Mite girls title. Gillian Green supplied an unassisted double play.

Markham Family Life took the Squirt girls crown with a 13-9 win over Music Stand. Homers by Mike Bell and Darren Seymour helped Chouinard Bros. Roofing beat Daycal Publishing 24-3 for the Squirt Boys championship.

A wild pitch and a hot seventh inning were enough to give Village Box Meats a 12-11 come-

from-behind win over Markham Honda in the Pee wee/Bantam boys final.

It was 11-8 for Honda going into the bottom of the seventh. Then Village scored three runs to knot the count and brought home the winner on a wild pitch.

Chouinard Bros. Roofing beat Salton Canada 21-10 for the

Novice/Bantam girls championship.

T-Ball finals saw Crothers Pharmacy beat Speedy Muffler King 31-20 for the boys crown, and Century 21/Dennis Cribari dispose of Chouinard Bros. Roofing 40-23 in the girls' battle.

Jennifer Sheppard of Chouinard contributed a three-run double.

Foreman heads Markham club

Three-year member Larry Foreman has been elected president of the Markham Youth Soccer Club.

Foreman defeated House League convenor Eira Key in a secret ballot at the organization's annual meeting, attended by about 75 people Wednesday night.

Last season Foreman coached the Minor Mosquito girls representative team, and was the club's tournament director. He

succeeds Mike Whiston, who served two years.

Amongst the other top executive jobs, Greig Candlish returns as representative team coordinator and Ron Currie is back as treasurer.

New faces include Sandi Larter as house league director, Osler Guainy as representative to the York Region Soccer Association, and Doug Stewart as vice-president.

Drivers have a 'smashing' time!

BY KELLY CONNELLY

The smell of overheating rads, black smoke and burned-out engines can mean only one thing — Demolition Derby.

The pit crew, dubbed "Doctor Fixits" at Markham Fair's Crack-Up last Wednesday night, were armed with the sport's customary tools — sledge hammers, blow torches and axes.

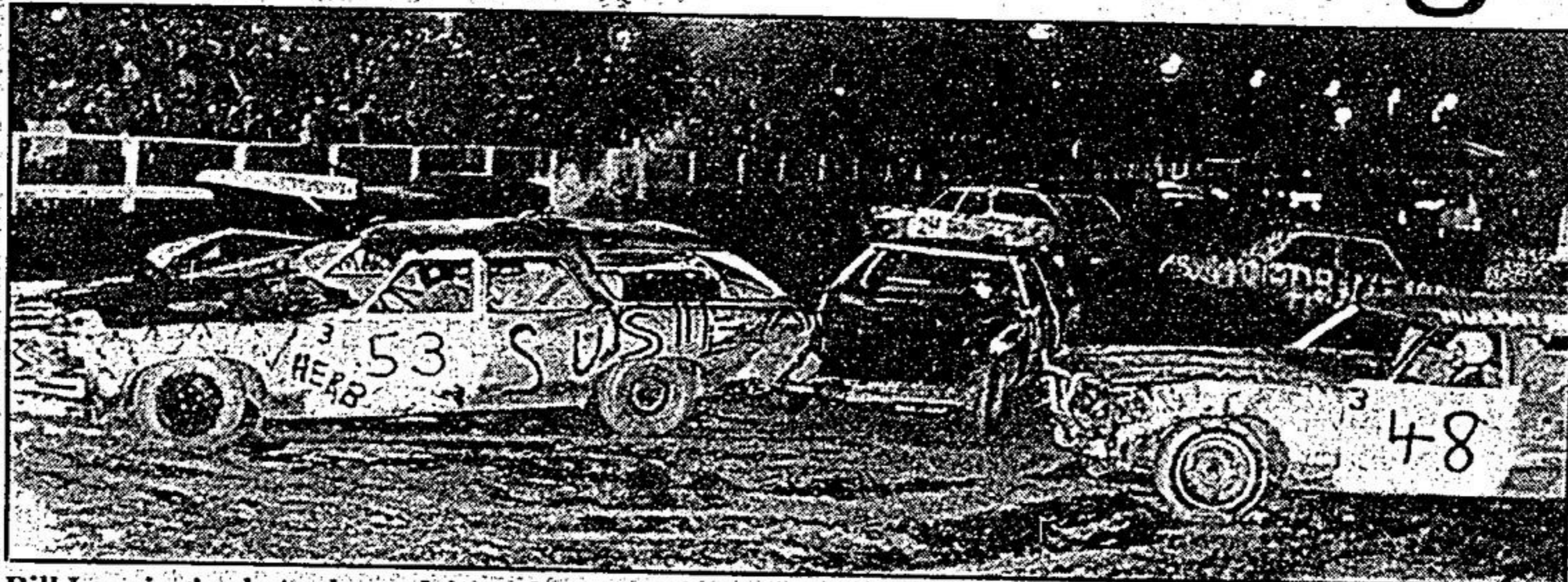
A junk car mechanic may not have the delicate hand of a surgeon, but he knows how to make a bad-looking heap of brown metal run.

Cut off a piece of protruding bumper, slam a fender back into shape, chop that off, weld this on, replace the radiator with another old radiator and she's moving again.

There were 21 ghost cars on hand for the show; their spray-painted carcasses almost begging for one more go at the demo ring before they're laid to rest in the scrap yard.

The object of the demolition derby: destroy your buddy's car before he mutilates yours and be the last junker still moving.

No head-on collisions and driver door smashes were allowed. Any vehicle that ex-



Bill Lanning's photo shows drivers battling it out Wednesday

ceeded the rather small 65 by 95-foot boundary or did not make competitive contact every 30 seconds was disqualified.

After three hilarious heats, the top six drivers and their rusty clunkers advanced to the grand finale 'feature' smash up.

When the ramming and slamming was over, only one car was still moving — it belonged to Billy Trudel (a.k.a. Billy T) of Oshawa.

Any driver bold enough to paint his car hot pink deserved

to win, quipped a railside spectator.

Billy T's 1976 Impala station wagon with the tacky color, bulging four-ply snow tires, chained doors and Pink Panther logo was a favorite with the 1000-plus fans who packed the grandstands.

Markham's Ross Brennan, driving a Pontiac Wagon, battered his way to first place in the opening heat, but jammed on a boundary log in the feature crack-up. He settled for third place (\$25) behind winner Trudel (\$300) and Dave Snowden (\$100).

Although Whitchurch-Stouffville was well represented in the first heat with Shawn Leonard, Brian Ball (Claremont), Trevor Jones and David Ferrier, none made it to the final showdown.

Jones was disqualified for hitting a driver's door, Leonard was rammed over the boundary post and disqualified, and Ferrier and Ball were battered to a standstill.

For Leonard and his 1974 Grand Torino, it was all over too fast. "There were three

cars done in before mine, but it was just a bad break getting pushed over the boundary," he said, adding it was his first time in a demolition derby.

Most of the participants were novices, said organizer Jim Grant, owner of an auto wrecking company on Hwy. 48.

"You run across all kinds of guys in this sport. I remember one guy who was banged up so bad he got scared and refused to take his car into the feature race."

"Sometimes a guy will get so nervous, he'll throw up before the starting line," Grant continued. But pre-derby jitters didn't get that bad Wednesday night.

Along with M. Albert's Glen Kennedy, the two men hastily assembled the event in only two weeks. Getting insurance was difficult, said Grant, an 11-year veteran of the sport. Markham's Kinsmen Club came to the rescue.

After the show he noted that "some of the cars were mutilated pretty good, but others were barely hurt." Grant bought seven of what he considered the choice twisted-metal heaps from drivers who wanted to discard them.