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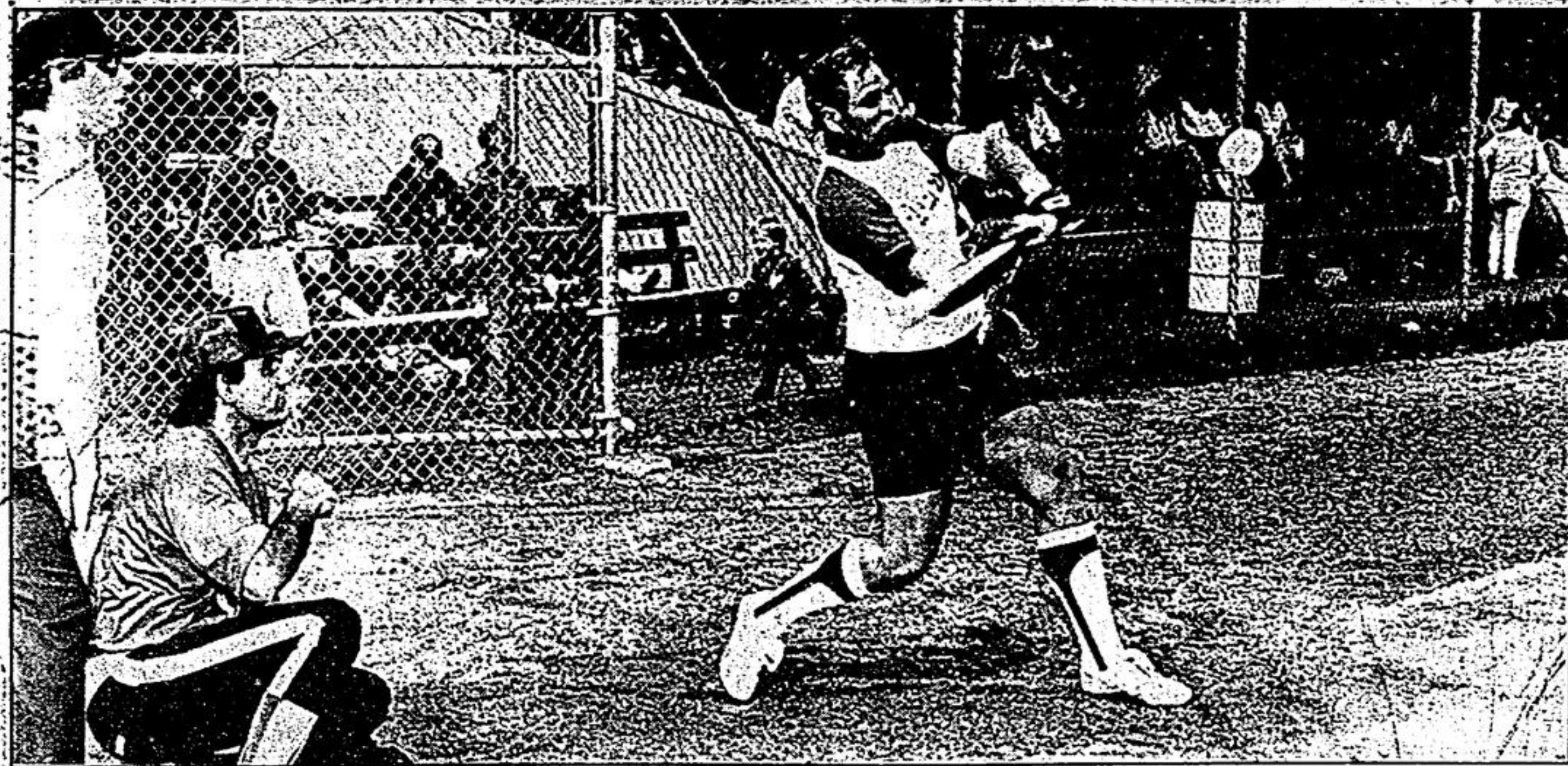
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**A big hit!**

Paul Baker of the Greens Whalers prepares to blast one into deep centre field at last weekend's annual slo-pitch tournament, held in Stouffville. The Queen's Hotel from Barrie won in the 'C' and 'D' division, while the 'DD' division was taken by Gelco Express of Richmond Hill. Chris Florio acts as catcher for the Boyd's Sports team. Boyd's won the game 6-0. —Jim Thomas

**St. Andrew's a golfer's dream**

By KATE GILDERDALE  
St. Andrew's Golf Club, situated on Concession 7, north of the Bloomington Road, is every golfer's dream.

Designed and built by Rene and Charles Muylaert, the beautiful 18-hole course is set among rolling hills and valleys, with the clubhouse at the highest point, offering spectacular views of downtown Toronto and Lake Ontario. The principal owners of the club are Bill MacWilliam and David Paterson.

Bill, who has spent most of his life in the area, is no stranger to golf, with both his father and grandfather involved in the sport.

"I was a pro by the time I was 16," he says. He was head professional at the Westview Golf Club and previously owned the Kitchener Dundee Golf Club. He also owned the highly successful Dynamic Golf Centres, which he has recently sold to the Professional Golfers of Ontario on a five-year buy out plan.

When the partners decided to build a course in the area, they spent a long time searching for the ideal spot. "I walked this farm two years ago," recalls Bill. "We had passed the sign and paid no attention, then one day we pulled in and asked to see it."

It turned out to be the home of Whitchurch-Stouffville councillor Jim Rae. "Within an hour, we both knew this was the place," Bill asserts.

The partners immediately hit it off with Jim. "We have named the 12th hole 'Rae's Grove' after Jim," smiles Bill. "This golf course will always be on the Rae property." Jim comes out regularly to inspect progress. "He seems to enjoy the fact we're here," Bill observes.

The course has been one of the fastest developed in Canada. "We were very fortunate to get in under existing bylaws," Bill says, "we didn't have to go to rezoning

for the club. We started April 1st, 1987 and had the course fully constructed by last fall."

Construction of the clubhouse is well under way and they plan to open the course in July (actual dates will depend on the weather), with the club house opening the second week of June.

The clubhouse will feature a dining room, snack bar, locker rooms and sauna. There will also be a fully stocked pro-shop. Membership will be restricted to 350, with 250 full members and 100 weekday members.

"Two hundred and ninety have already signed up," Bill notes. Because they are committed to low numbers, there will be no starting times.

Members have the option of putting money into the club, which can take the form of a refundable deposit if they wish to leave, or opting for membership on an ownership equity basis, in effect buying a share of the club.

"In time this club will be owned by the members; not by us," Bill points out. The owners expect to retain a 10 per cent share in the operation.

Two other clubs in Ontario offer the ownership equity option and members have seen the value of their shares rapidly increase.

"People like the idea of being in control of their own future," observes Bill. He is pleasantly surprised to note that almost half the current membership is from the Markham/Stouffville area.

Both partners will be living in the area, and Bill's family will be involved in the day to day running of the facility. In addition to an extremely challenging course comprising approximately 127 acres, with six ponds and about 150 bunkers, the club will also offer an extensive practice area, with driving range and two full-sized practice greens, complete with bunkers.



Members of the Queen's Sports team from Barrie accept the top prize in the 'C' and 'D' division of the Stouffville Slo-pitch Tournament last weekend. Paul Murray presents a cash award and sports equipment to the team's captains. The annual event drew teams from across southern Ontario. —CHRIS GARBUTT

**Making their mark**

**Ballplayers take it seriously**

By BRUCE STAPLEY  
They are smartly dressed by day, going to work in their designer shoes and making their mark on the business world.

But get any one of them out to the ball park at night, and they are just one of the guys, chasing fly balls, gobbling up grounders, putting bat to ball and chewing bubblegum like any other ballplayer.

They are the Stouffville Stingers, as competitive a woman's ball club as you'll find. Three years ago, they won the Provincial Women's Sophomore Championship, and they took their Intermediate Division Playoff championship last year.

Competing in the South Lake Simcoe Ladies Softball League, the Stingers are up against some pretty fair competition from Bradford, Mt. Albert, Zephyr and Uxbridge.

But coach Bob Gold is confident his charges will once again be able to hold their own this season.

"The opposition is tough," he acknowledges. "But I suspect we'll be quite competitive. The ones who have come out this year seem to have lots of talent."

The nucleus of the squad has remained intact.

"We still have seven girls from the Provincial championship team, and we have nine back all together from last season."

Gold himself is part of what has become unofficially recognized as a rotating coach system, which sees him alternating seasons with Dave Fockler.

"It's his (Fockler's) year off," Gold says. "So I'm coaching with help from my son Doug."

The team manager is Ted Lowery who, Gold claims, is indispensable to the operation.

"He's been with the team since before they won the provincial championship," the coach says. "He's always there when you need him."

Gold's own daughter Debbie is also a mainstay of the team, pro-

viding the Stingers with first-rate catching, as well as representing the long ball threat every time she comes to the plate.

"Debbie does a fine job at catcher and she is a real consistent hitter," Gold says. "Most of the girls who have been with the team a few years have good bats."

Average age of the team is about 20, he claims, and all five of the new recruits this year seem eager.

The pitching appears to be sound, according to coach Gold. Denise Davis has been brought in from Mt. Albert to help veteran pitcher Candy Brown, and Sheila Fockler gives the team a good

third hurler. Gold is impressed with Davis, saying the newcomer is a good all-around player. "And she hits the ball a ton."

Allison Lowery is a fixture at first base who Gold claims also carries a big stick to the plate with her. Second base is still up in the air, shortstop will be played by one of the pitchers, and Wendy Wideman, a new recruit from Vandorf, will play third.

Veteran Allison Ashton will patrol left field.

"She is as good a leftfielder as you'll find in the league," Gold says. "She has good range and a good arm."

Centre field belongs to Sheila Fockler. "She's got incredible range," Gold says. "She's like a waterbug out there." Lisa Blanchard will play right field.

And Gold is excited about the team's depth.

"Our bench strength is going to be good. We have Sandy Clee, Tracy Park, Kathy Shore and Diana Buchanan."

The season consists of 20 games, followed by the playoffs. And according to Gold, it's just as important that the ladies enjoy themselves as it is to win.

"As long as they have some fun and work a little, then I'll be happy."

**Mennos gearing up for another fastball season**

By BRUCE STAPLEY  
Those "Bible thumping" ballplayers are gearing up for another season of displaying both their faith and their baseball skills.

The Markham Mennos, who competed for years in the Metro Interchurch Fastball League, are now getting set for their second season of battling the other nine teams in the North Durham Men's fastball league.

"We're a church oriented team," Howard Burkholder says. He will step down as team manager after 15 years at the helm.

The squad is comprised of Christian men from Stouffville and Markham area churches, and it has a tradition of playing good, entertaining ball.

The Mennos will be managed this season by Art Burkholder, with Richard Reesor and Paul Eyre coaching. Howard will still help out when needed, and will continue to be active as a player along with his son Chris.

The senior Burkholder, who will manage the Stouffville Midget Rep team this summer, has brought along pitching ace Scott Evans from his 1987 Ontario Champion Bantam team to augment the Mennos' pitching staff.

"We finished 5th last year out of ten teams," Howard says. "But I think the prospects look good this year. We have a good young team."

The Mennos will compete against teams from Zephyr, Sharon, Claremont, Sunderland, Uxbridge, Seagrave, Brougham and Mt. Albert. Home games will be played Tuesday nights in Victoria Square.

Howard feels the team is solid in the infield, with Dave Elliot doing the catching, Lynn Barkey at third base, Rob Reesor and Chris Burkholder at short, Paul Eyre at second, and newcomer Dave Ramer sharing the first base job with Howard. Rich Reesor, Mark Byer, Terry Reesor and Jeff Steiner will look after the outfield.

"We've got some good hitters," Howard claims. "Paul Eyre, Rob Reesor and Rich Reesor can hit the long ball. Dave Elliot and Mark Byer can hit for average, and Mark's got lots of speed."

Howard is looking forward to the season and is quite happy to have new blood running the team. "With managing the Midgets this year, it would have been too much if I had remained as manager," he says.

A spectacular play at home plate highlighted the Stouffville Peewees 10-2 win over East Gwillimbury Wednesday.

The Peewees prevented a home run in the seventh inning after a ball was hit over the head of centrefielder Tim Lavell. Lavell recovered the ball, and relay man Jason Whitebread drilled it to catcher Bob Cartagenise in time to make the tag.

Solid defence, such as an over-the-shoulder catch in the fourth by leftfielder Kevin Cargill, helped pitcher Jody Infarnari hold East Gwillimbury to just the two runs.

While the defence was strong, Stouffville's offence was equally capable. Most of the hits were singles, and the high score came from good base running and capitalizing on the opposition's errors.

Stouffville allowed one East Gwillimbury run in the first, but quickly came back for two in the bottom half of the inning.

The Peewees then rallied for five in the second to take a 7-1 lead. They scored two in the fourth and one in the fifth before giving up another run in the sixth.

This year's lineup includes Kevin Cargill, Bob Cartagenise, Derek Harrison, Daren Hurst, Kevin Nichols, Michael Peters, Vincent Wilson, Dave Carmonico, Jody Infarnari, Tim Lavell, Chris

Barker, Jason Ericson, Jason Whitebread and Jason Cowan.

The win gives the Peewees a 1-1 record after an 8-3 loss to Newmarket May 17. Their next game is tonight (Wednesday) at Port Perry.

**Acton nets Oiler goal**

Stouffville's Keith Acton wasted no time when he finally got his chance to play for the Edmonton Oilers.

Keith scored the winning goal in the opening game of the Stanley Cup finals against the Boston Bruins Thursday. It was his second game-winner in only his third appearance in the playoffs.

The 30-year-old centre scored the goal early in the third period, deflecting a slapshot from fellow Oiler Steve Smith, giving the team a 2-1 lead. The score held, and the Oilers took the lead in the series 1-0.

Keith and the Oilers were on the verge of capturing the Cup yesterday, taking a 3-0 series lead into the Boston Gardens last night.

The Oilers did not use Keith until late in the semi-final series with Detroit, but he has played every game since then.



The A&S Raiders were excellent hosts for the annual Stouffville Slo-pitch tournament on the weekend. Here, Doug Hitchen of the Boyd's Sports team takes a crack at one that dropped over the plate. Glenn Whitebread waits his turn on deck. —Jim Thomas