

REKAI & JOHNSON

Barristers & Solicitors
49 Main Street East, 2nd Floor
Stouffville, Ontario
640-8100 or 649-3555

The Tribune

Sports & Classified

A Metroland Community Newspaper

LEASING

Today's easy way

to drive

Larry Cotter Leasing

640-4541

All makes and models

Second Section

Wednesday August 10, 1988

Stouffville Mites grab first stage of Ontario softball finals

The Stouffville Mite softball team won their first Ontario Amateur Softball Association playoff last week in dramatic fashion.

The Junior Buttermakers took the first two games in a best-of-three series against Aurora, both of which came right down to the wire.

The sweep qualifies them for a tournament to be held August 27. The winners of that showdown will advance one step closer to the provincial championship.

Friday, they edged the opposi-

tion 14-11 in Aurora, but couldn't finish them off until the eighth inning.

Tied at 11, Stouffville scored three runs in the top of the inning when Evan Boyd and Tim Smart singled and Scott Assinck tripled. Assinck scampered home when a bad throw to third gave him the extra base.

Stouffville pitcher Kevin Hackert held Aurora at bay in the home half of the eighth to ensure the win. Adam Crowder had four hits and scored three runs for the Mites, while Boyd chipped in with

three safeties. Smart, Assinck and Hackert had two each. Hackert struck out 11.

Coach Dave Boyd spent the first four and a half innings of Wednesday's contest with his head in his hands. The visitors from Aurora had taken advantage of pitcher Kevin Hackert's inability to find the plate, opening up a 13-8 lead.

But after watching relief pitcher Sonny Acosta do even worse, Boyd gave Hackert another chance, and he responded by holding Aurora to one run

in the final two innings.

In the meantime, his teammates came alive as well, rallying to win the crucial match 18-17 on Andrew Harper's clutch single in the bottom of the seventh and final inning.

While the first half of Wednesday's game was marked by sloppy fielding and errant pitching, the second half was pure classic. After Stouffville finally tied the score at 16 in the fifth, Hackert struck out the side in the sixth to set the stage for the late heroics.

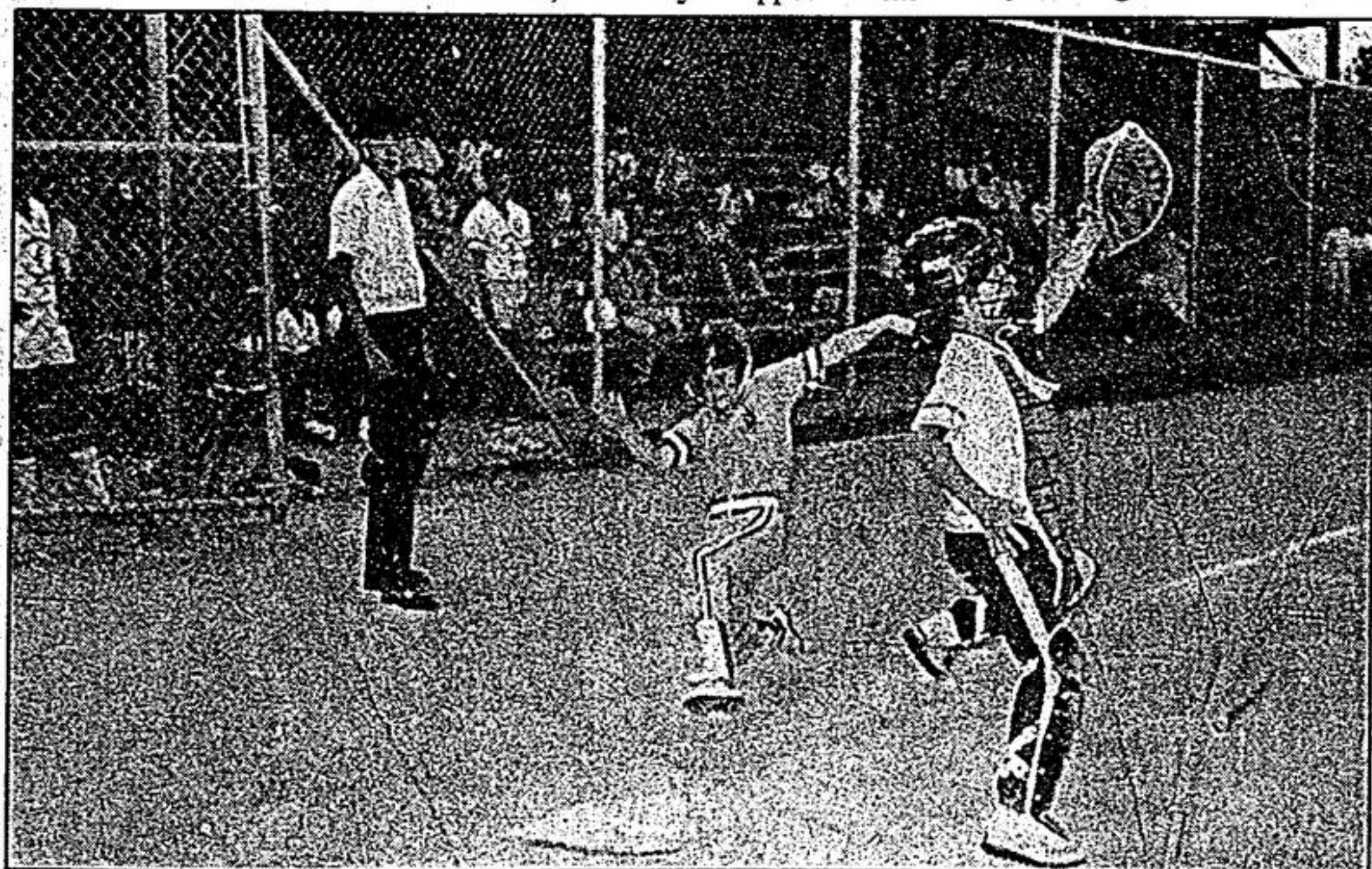
Evan Boyd hit his second home run of the game in the bottom of the sixth to give the Junior Buttermakers the lead for the first time. However, a leadoff triple in the top of the seventh, followed by two walks appeared to have disaster written all over it for the home side.

But after a single tied it, short-stop Tim Smart went high in the air to bring down a screaming line drive that would surely have scored two more runs. Smart then fired the ball to second base, doubling off the Aurora runner who was headed to third, ending the inning.

Assinck reached base for the fifth time to lead off the Stouffville half of the seventh. He stole second, then went to third on a single by Mike Brett.

Harper then triggered pandemonium on the Stouffville bench, and in the stands, by lofting a fly ball to right that fell in for the game-winner, as Assinck raced home with his fifth run of the contest.

Hackert and Smart also had round-trippers for Stouffville.



Tim Smart of the Stouffville Junior Buttermakers Mite squad crosses the plate. Smart was knocked in on a Scott Assinck single in the fifth inning during the Mites game last week.

Mite girls drop 11-3 decision to Unionville

By BRUCE STAPLEY

The Stouffville Mighty Mite Girls were up against the proverbial immovable object at the park Thursday, but thanks to Sam Comito and Krista Dudley, they were able to at least dent the machine a little.

The Mites lost to Unionville 11-3, but were in danger of being the victim of a no-hitter by pitcher Kristy Bellmore until Comito singled in the fifth. After Sarah Hurtle was hit by a pitch, Dudley lined a two-RBI single.

The Mites had scored their first run on a pair of walks and a steal of home in the first inning.

The Unionville team, which hasn't lost a regular-season game all year, was led by Bellmore, who struck out 18 in

the seven-inning contest. Allison Haffey homered and Kerri Cooper had a three-run double to blow the game wide open in the four-run fifth inning.

Stouffville's Melissa Miller pitched a credible game, striking out nine tough Unionville batters. The young pitcher also turned a double play in the fourth, catching a pop-up, then firing to Dudley to double off the Unionville runner at first.

It looked like Stouffville might add to their run total in the seventh, when Allison Crowder reached base on an error, and Comito and Hurtle walked.

But they couldn't engineer the key hit, and were forced to settle for three runs scored on the game.



Samantha Comito safely steals third in the Stouffville Mite Girls loss to Unionville, Thursday. Comito went to score Stouffville's second run. Unionville triumphed 11-3.

Carter Hayden cleans up at Scarborough camp

Carter Hayden recently returned from a successful two-week stay at camp. Just how successful is indicated by a trophy, two ribbons and a certificate he received at its conclusion.

Six-year-old Carter, son of Patrick and Marilyn Hayden, 139 Ironwood Crescent, Stouffville, attended Skate's Edge Hockey School in Scarborough. It was his second summer there.

Carter comes by his ability in athletics honestly. His father starred in football, hockey and lacrosse. His mother was an Olympic gymnast. Patrick and Marilyn have a second son, Hudson, twenty-one months.

Their grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. Howard Minaker, Thicketwood Boulevard, Stouffville.

He's the best

Carter received ribbons as the No. 1 on-ice star and the No. 1 off-ice star. The trophy, the most highly prized of all, is for 'Best All-Round Athlete'.

Sixty-five boys participated, ranging in age from three to fourteen.

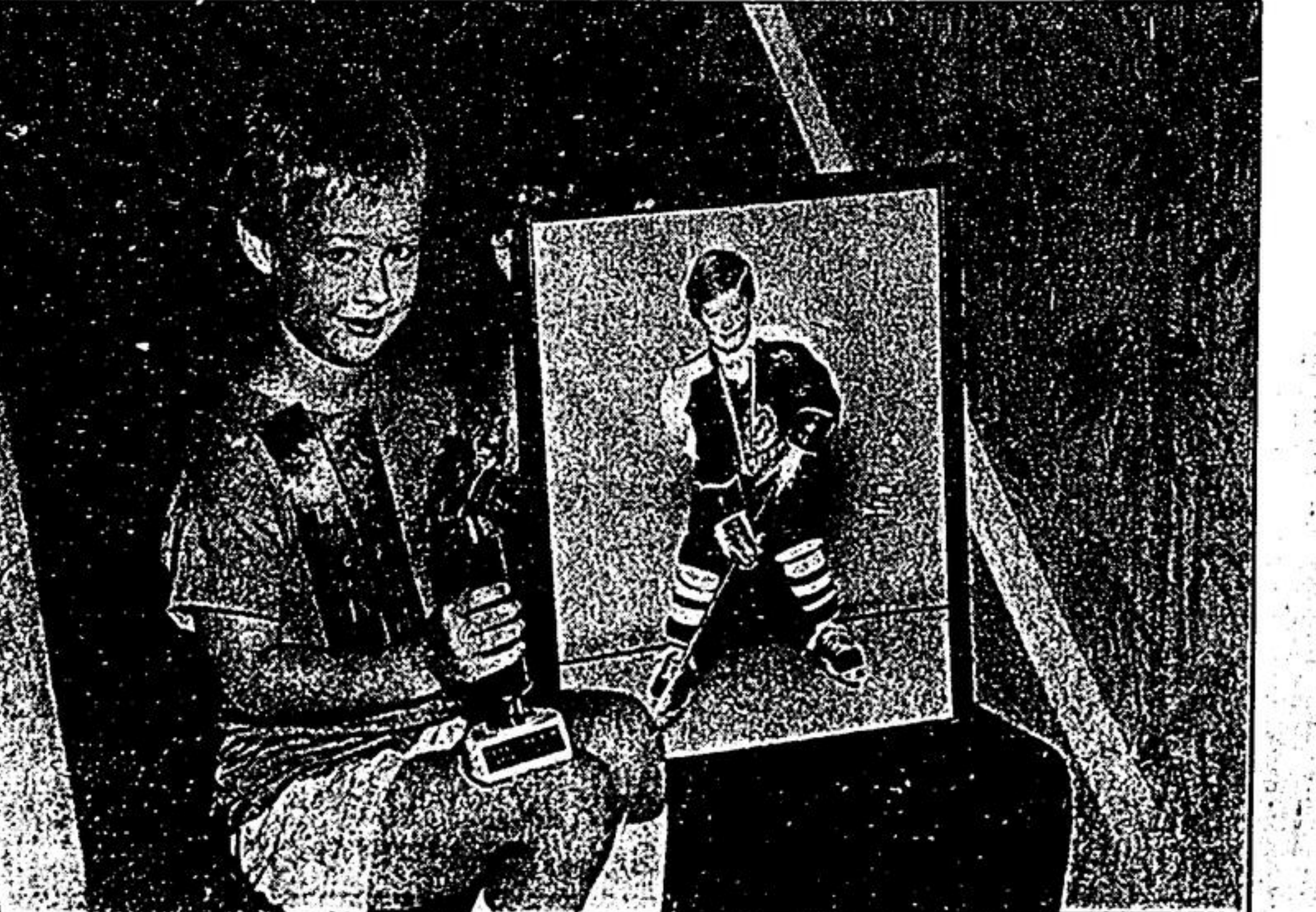
Categories represented by the award are significant. They include — willingness to learn; most gentlemanly; most improved; best conduct; hardest working; excellent hockey sense and a pleasure to teach.

Played Novice

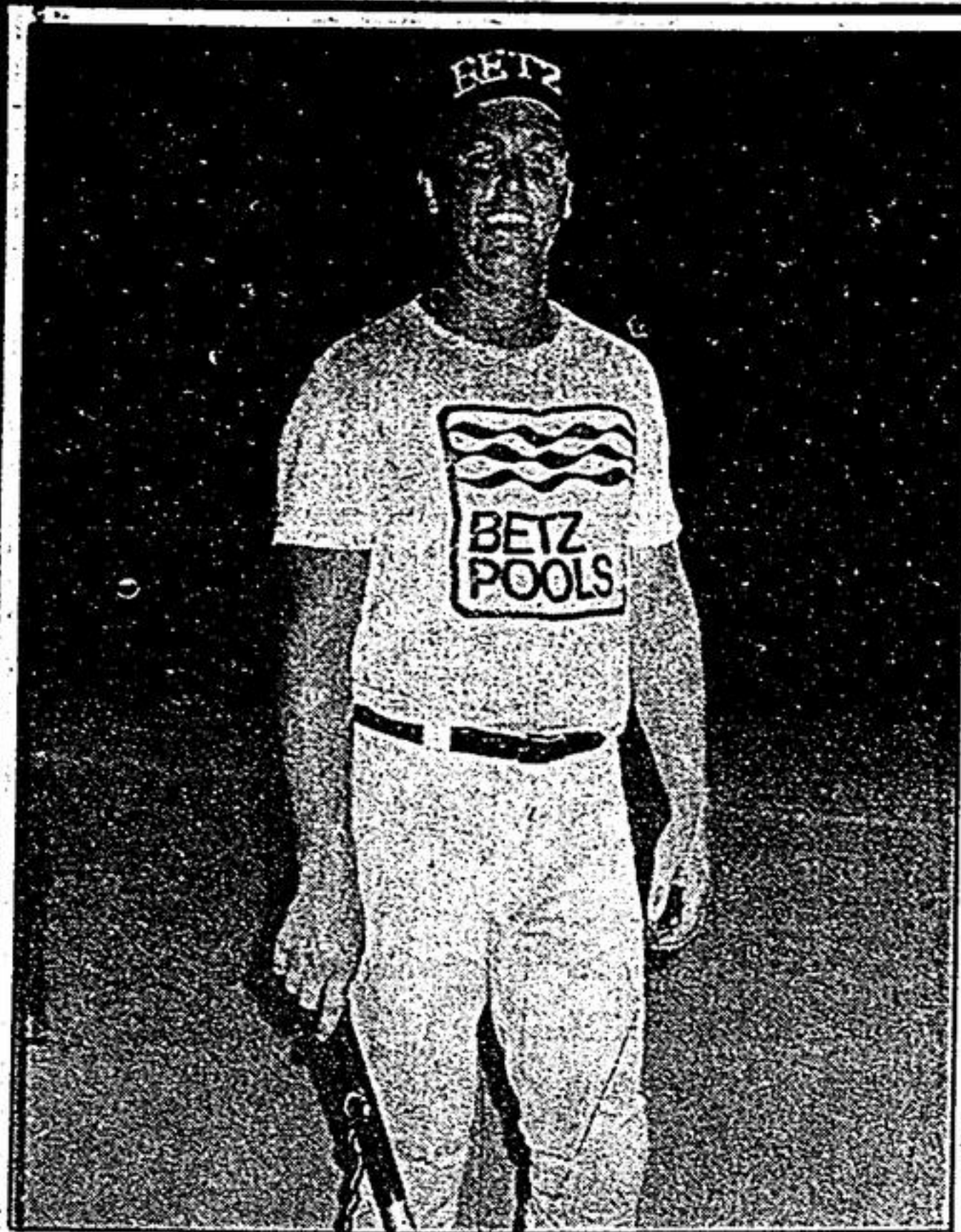
Carter played Novice with the Kinsmen team in the Whitechurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association last season.

While defence is his regular position, he also performed at both right and left wing. Carter hopes to also take part in the Kinsmen-sponsored Vern Bulfy Hockey School later this month.

His idol is Wayne Gretzky. In September, he enters Grade 2 in French Immersion at Dickson's Hill.



Carter Hayden proudly displays the awards he garnered as the best all-round athlete at the Skate's Edge Hockey Camp this summer. He was also voted best athlete on and off the ice.



Randy Grant led the Betz Pools fastball team to a 2-1 win over Greenbank this week. Grant was four for four at the plate, and drove in the game-winning run with a single in the bottom of the eighth inning with two out.

—Bruce Stapley

Betz Pools scoop 2-1 win from Greenbank

By BRUCE STAPLEY

Call it atonement, getting even, or good old-fashioned pride.

Whatever it was, Randy Grant put the frustration behind him Wednesday at the ball park, going four for four, driving in both runs, including the winner with two out in extra innings, to give Betz Pools a 2-1 victory over first-place Greenbank.

The Betz club, winless against the Gambler's all season, had lost a heartbreaker to them by the same score earlier this year.

But, for Grant, the whole season thus far has been something he'd like to forget.

"I don't think I've had four hits all season, let alone in one night," laughed the leftfielder after the game. "I just decided to relax up at the plate, and I guess I got lucky and hit a few."

The game was a classic pitcher's duel, pitting Betz ace Jim Chilvers against Greenbank's talented Mark Goreski. Betz took a 1-0 lead in the fourth, when Chilvers doubled to lead off the frame, and Grant cashed him in with a single.

Chilvers nurtured his shutout into the seventh, and appeared to have it sewn up. After giving up a leadoff single to pinch-hitter Gary Baker, Chilvers fanned catcher Don Phinney.

Steve Schell took a hard rounder off the bat of pinch-hitter Greg Wells, forced the runner at second, but was unable to turn the double play.

After running the count to 3-2 on Neill Rodd, Chilvers walked the number nine batter in the order, bringing in the ever-dangerous Terry Till. Till slashed a single to left to tie it.

Goreski shut down the Betz bats in the bottom of the seventh to bring on extra innings.

Greenbank seemed to have engineered an eighth-inning rally when their first two batters reached base. But Schell picked up a ground smash hit by Rodd Real, tagged the runner headed for third, then stepped on second for the double play to end the threat.

Gary Vaughan made it to first on an error to start the bottom of the eighth, and the speedy Gary Grant was sent in to run for him. Steve Brooks, attempting a sacrifice bunt, popped up to Goreski. But Greenbank first baseman Trevor Till was unable to hold on to Goreski's throw to try to double off Grant.

Grant then went to second on a wild pitch, and Chilvers was walked intentionally. Rick Wells popped out, setting the stage for Randy Grant's histrionics.

He smashed Goreski's first pitch into right centre for a single, and his fleet-footed brother Gary beat the throw to the plate to score the winner.

"I just wanted to hit the ball," Randy said. "It's been a frustrating season for me. I haven't earned the right to play regularly. Maybe now I'll be able to get on the diamond a little more."

Scarborough Midgets smash Stouffville 7-1

"I've got a feeling this is going to be a long night," sighed Stouffville Midgets coach Howard Burkholder.

It was the first inning of Wednesday's game, and the Cedar Hill opposition had already converted an error, a walk and a home run into a 3-0 lead.

By the time Howard's team had committed their last glaring error of the night, the Scarborough squad had rolled to a 7-1 victory. Only two of the seven runs were earned, as the error-filled play that has characterized the Stouffville team at home recently continued.

It was expected the local boys, many of whom comprised the Bantam team that won the Ontario championships last year, would come out swinging in light of their impressive showing at a tournament in Markham.

But ace pitcher Scott Evans, who had thrown three shutouts in Markham, was unavailable for the contest. He was in Nananee for the Canadian Softball Championships.

Chris Burkholder pitched better than the score would indicate, but was victimized by what Howard called lethargy. The right hander struck out two and

induced many ground balls and popups.

But his Stouffville mates seemed intent on throwing the ball away time and again, and it cost them dearly.

Sprinkled in among the errors, however, were a few examples of excellent fielding. Leftfielder Peter Fintelman made a sensational running catch of a drive hit over his head and to his left in the sixth inning.

Later in the same frame, the Stouffville infield showed they were capable of brilliance when they turned a double play that was capped off by Danny Larmer's great effort at first base. He stretched to catch the throw from second baseman Rich Burkholder, whose off-balance toss looked like it might elude the first baseman's glove.

Stouffville scored their only run in the first, when Chris Burkholder singled home Jason Yoshida, who had walked.

Stouffville was held to five singles on the night, with Fintelman chipping in two. Yoshida and Greg Horne had one each.

Cedar Hill pitcher Mark Murphy had the Stouffville hitters pounding the ball into the ground for easy outs most of the game.

—Chris Garbutt