

TOWN OF MARKHAM THUNDERBIRDS

"AAA" O.H.H.A. HOCKEY

Spring Camp Announcement

1989-90 Age Group

MINOR NOVICE	May 23, 7 p.m.	May 27 6 p.m.
NOVICE	May 27, 7 p.m.	May 28, 6 p.m.
MINOR ATOM	May 23, 8 p.m.	May 28, 7 p.m.
ATOM	May 13, 6 p.m.	May 26, 5 p.m.
MINOR PEE WEE	May 13, 7:30 p.m.	May 27, 8 p.m.
PEE WEE	May 12, 8 p.m.	May 14, 6:30 p.m.
MINOR BANTAM	May 13, 9 p.m.	May 19, 8:00 p.m.
BANTAM	May 12, 9:30 p.m.	May 19, 9 p.m.
MIDGET	May 14, 7:30 p.m.	May 26, 6 p.m.

All Camps held at the THORNHILL CENTRE BAYVIEW & JOHN ST.

All players within the town of Markham Boundaries are eligible for these teams. All 1988-1989 Thunderbirds are eligible.

PER: UNIONVILLE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOC. MARKHAM MINOR HOCKEY ASSOC. THORNHILL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOC.

Blue Jays? Who needs them?

A comment made by Toronto Blue Jay newcomer Al Leiter, when combined with the lemming-like tendency of Toronto-area sports fans to turn out in droves to watch lousy pro teams perform, has me more sold than ever on the quality of our sports attractions right here in Stouffville.

Leiter, in discussing the plight of the has-been Blue Jay squad, said that the negativism of the Toronto press contributed to the team's demise.

Bunk. There's a big difference between knocking a crew of rank amateurs who are simply out-matched and writing cynical reports about teams whose players are paid megabucks but still play like turkeys.

And the fans are getting what they deserve. After all, they are the ones who continue to shell out the big bucks to watch the Blue Jays — and the Leafs — perform. And this despite the fact there are much

more entertaining sports events being played right in their own backyard.

At least that's the situation here in Stouffville. Sure, we may be a little short on upper-level hockey the past few years. But the overtime thriller staged by the Atom Girls House League a few weeks ago had more raw excitement than most Maple Leaf games over the past season or two.

The same goes for the SAHL finals this year. Not to mention the neighboring Uxbridge Bruins and their playoff surge that provided the fans with the same thrills the Leafs of the 1960s used to offer.

The innocence that is amateur baseball is very much alive here in town. The Betz Pools men's fastball team, which hits the diamond tonight (Wednesday) in an exhibition game in preparation for next week's opener, has resisted the tendency of some of their peers to offer cash incentives to outsiders to sign up to play.

A family of four doesn't have to lay out close to \$100 to watch these guys, like they do for a Blue Jay game. And the action can be much more entertaining than the mini-tragedy being offered at Excruciation Stadium of late.

Howard Burkholder's Midget Boys team could be the outfit that makes us all stand up and take notice this summer.

The addition of Byron Baroneski to a pitching staff that already included flamethrower Scott Evans has Howie thinking



Sport notes

Bruce Stapley

ahead to both the provincial and the national championships. Then there's the kids.

The Mites, Squirts, Pee Wees and Bantams can find themselves involved in some nail-biters. So can the girls rep squads, with the Stouffville Stingers ladies team the best-kept softball secret in town last season.

It doesn't cost a dime to watch any of these teams play.

And if they lose, you won't find negativism in the local press as you will in the big city, for the simple reason that you don't find yourself sitting there in the stands feeling like a guy who just had his pocket picked by a bunch of goldiggers.

Stouffville Spartans earn win

For the defending York Region High School softball champion Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans, Thursday's season opener was more like a walk in the park than a baseball game.

Stouffville whopped Toronto Waldorf 12-0 and coach Doug McCammon was almost apologetic at game's end.

"We only left Scott Evans (the team's No. 1 pitcher) in for two and a third innings and we went with our second stringers for a good part of the game. It's really no fun winning against a team that just can't compete."

Evans, who homered in the game, echoed his coach's sentiments. "It was ridiculous. It's no fun winning like that."

Chris Winn pitched the rest of the five-inning contest.



SCOTT EVANS ...pitched well

Squirts win first game

The Stouffville Squirt rep softball team, led by Evan Boyd's three runs scored, and the seven-strikeout pitching of Graham Crowder and Paul Koert, defeated league rival Pickering 14-4 in their first exhibition game Saturday.

John McKinnon, Koert and Ian Ellis scored two runs each, with nine different players crossing the plate.

The Choko Design Squirts, coached by Wally Crowder and Steve Ellis, have three players returning from the 1988 squad, Graham Crowder, Ian Ellis and Michael Underwood.

Graduates from the Mite rep team include sluggers Scott Assinck and Boyd, Adam Crowder, Tim Smart and Craig Wood.

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MARKVILLE TOYOTA'S ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

AMANDA CHARLES, 7 - Took a silver for the Markham Gym Club at an East York Gymnastics meet last weekend

MARKVILLE TOYOTA 1177, 97 EAST OF MCCOWAN 294-6100

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