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Tribune

# Sports

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Wednesday, June 28, 1989

## Betz Pools win twice in extra inning games

By BRUCE STAPLEY

After running themselves out of the game in a 2-0 home loss to Greenbank Wednesday, the Betz Pools Fastball team came back to take two extra-inning contests later on in the week.

And Betz coach Dave Webster couldn't be happier with the turn of events.

The Pools platoon, coming off a morale-boosting tournament win in Oshawa the previous weekend, allowed the Greenbank Gamblers to gain measure of revenge Wednesday for Betz' tournament semi-final win over the Gamblers in Oshawa.

The G-Men turned a couple of Betz errors into a second inning 2-0 lead, and despite Pools' pitcher John Annis' holding the Gamblers to two singles the rest of the way, the Betz bats couldn't

bring any of their eight base runners around to score.

On two occasions, Betz base runners were easy outs trying to take extra bases, ruining promising rallies.

But in Oshawa Thursday night, Betz came up in the clutch, edging the Merchants 3-2 in eight innings on Mark Joslin's timely single.

And as if that wasn't enough of a show of character, they pulled another rabbit out of a hat Sunday, besting Greenbank 2-1 in nine innings, with Gary Grant stroking the game winning base hit.

Webster said afterwards the two extra inning road victories were just what the doctor ordered.

"I like to call them character builders," he offered. "It's star-

ting to come together for us now. We're getting more intense."

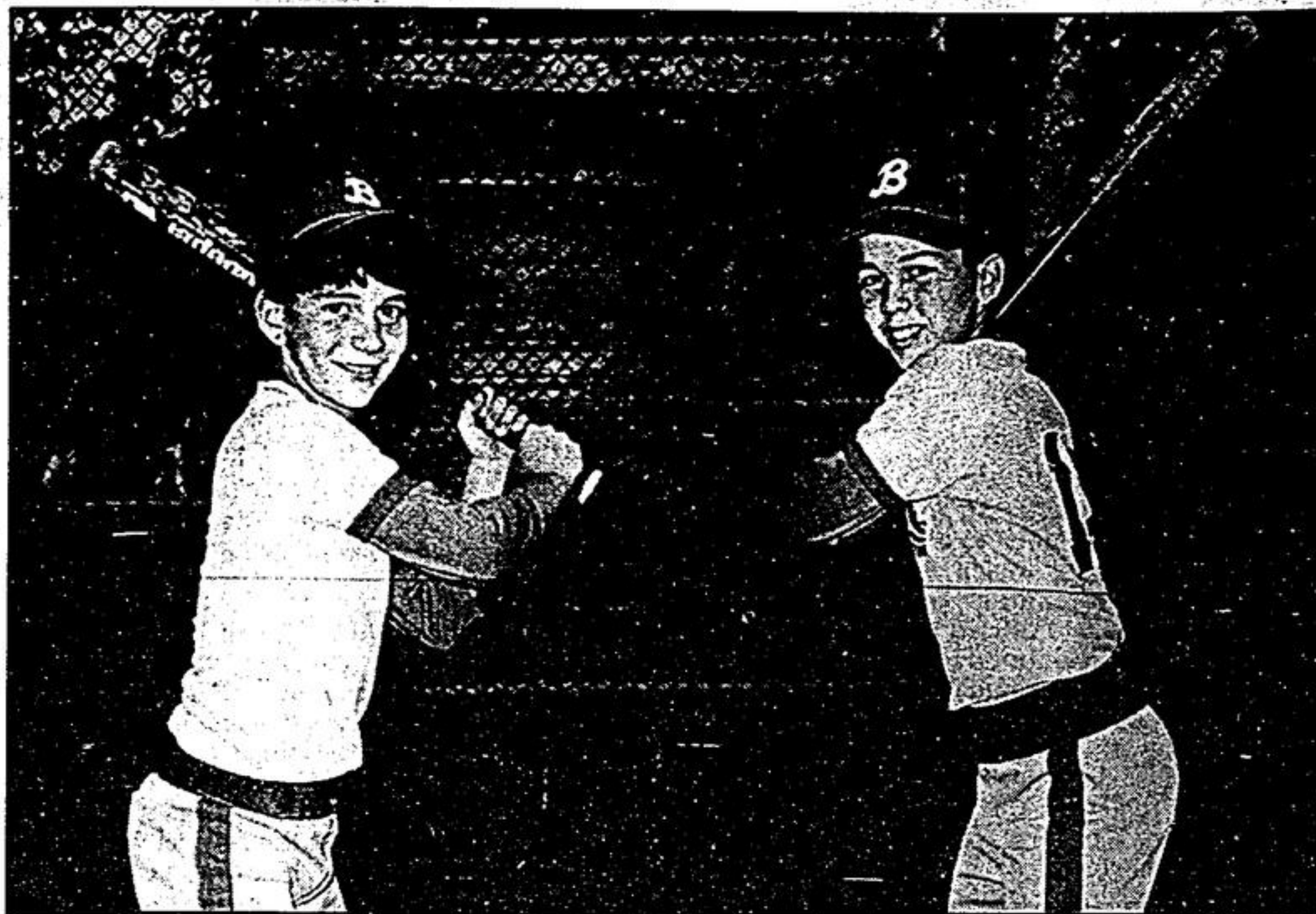
Webster feels the players are succeeding in combining keen competition with fun.

"The guys are having fun, and they are maintaining their edge at the same time. They are starting to jell as a team."

Doug Webster, the coach's brother, gave Betz six and two thirds innings of near flawless pitching in Oshawa Thursday, with Darryl Moxley striking out three in an inning and a third of stellar relief.

Sunday, it was Moxley going all the way, firing a six hitter.

Betz plays York Sundance at home tonight (Wednesday) then travels to Buffalo to participate in the annual Corky Florke Memorial Tournament.



Photo/BRUCE STAPLEY

The big bats for the Stouffville Buttermakers Mites team were (from left) Dan Tardella and Jeff Hassard last week. The team's undefeated record was helped by Tardella's five runs batted in. He also went three

for three at the plate and had two doubles. Hassard scored three, had two singles, a double and two RBIs. The club beat Port Perry 20-7 last week.

## Mites remain undefeated

By BRUCE STAPLEY

Bobby Lewis and Kevin Hackert combined for a four hitter at the Town Park Wednesday evening as the Stouffville Mites Buttermakers softball team thumped Port Perry 20-7.

The win left the little Butters with a perfect record in league play so far this season.

The Mites have virtually walked over all comers up to this point, and Wednesday's game was no exception.

Lewis fanned 12 Port Perry batters, and was in control except for the third inning, when Hackert was called upon to come in and retire two Port swingers.

Dan Tardella was the big gun at the plate for the Butters, driving in five runs with two doubles and a single, while scoring three times.

Jeff Hassard went three for three, with two RBIs and three runs scored, while Billy Wray crossed the plate four times.

Derek Emmerson scored three runs, with Hackert and Mike Brett each counting a pair of runs.

The visitors managed to make a game of it for the first three innings, but the Stouffville club put the game away with a nine run outburst in the fourth frame, followed by a five run rally in the fifth and final inning.

## Boyd's Midgets top Scarborough 19-18

By BRUCE STAPLEY

The momentum just keeps building for the Stouffville Boyd's Sports Midgets softball team.

Boyd's, who captured the Lorne Ford Midget Tournament in Willowdale June 18, returned to league play by outslugging Scarborough 19-18 in a road game Wednesday.

The Midgets, who are preparing for the Ontario Midget Elimination Tournament this weekend in Hagersville, hit for seven runs in the first inning Wednesday, salting the game away with a six-run uprising in the fourth.

Jamie Miller led the way with a home run, a triple, and a single.

Rob Parcells had three singles, while Peter Fintelman chipped in with two hits and three runs scored.

Rich Burkholder and Keith Piette contributed a double each.

Pitching ace Byron Baranieski was given a rest after throwing two shutout innings, with Chris Burkholder going the rest of the way.

Midgets' coach Howard Burkholder feels his team is ready to challenge for the Ontario title this weekend.

"Wednesday's game was good in that it gave us a chance to hit,

and to make some plays in the field. And the tournament in Willowdale gave them the chance to see they could do it."

Winner of the Hagersville provincial competition goes on to play for the Canadian Midget championship in Victoria British Columbia, the first week of August.

## Tournament returns

There will be approximately \$2,400 up for grabs this weekend as the Stouffville Buttermakers host their eighth annual slowpitch tournament.

The competition, which commences Friday evening at six o'clock, will include 12 'D' level teams, and from 12-20 'DD' squads, depending on the number of last minute entries.

The majority of the teams will be from the Markham-Stouffville-Uxbridge area, with one team scheduled to come in from Quebec to compete.

The Buttermakers report there will be several masters teams, and say they will be taking team entries right up to tournament time.

The Buttermakers team itself will not be taking part on field unless they are needed to fill a spot.

The tournament will feature a beer garden, and food booths will be manned by the Buttermakers and the Stouffville Classics Oldtimers hockey club.

The tournament is scheduled to wind up Sunday afternoon, with \$600 going to the winning 'D' level team. The top 'DD' outfit will receive \$500.



Photo/STEVEN BROWN

## Through the Grapevine

Stouffville youth Jay Bathija (right) took a few friends to meet the inimitable Don Cherry at his Grapevine in Unionville last Sunday, after winning a draw at Dickson Hill Public School for a luncheon with 'Grapes.' Hamming it up are (from left) Michael Horsley, Dean Shonkas, Cherry, Hans Bathija, and Jay.

## Garbutt to compete in track

Stouffville Special Olympics athlete Tracey Garbutt has earned another place on the York Region team to compete at this year's competition in August.

Tracey, a Special Olympics veteran who already holds gold and bronze medals for swimming in the past, qualified this year for track and field.

She'll run in the 100, 200 and 400 metre events, as

well as the softball throw and long jump.

Tracey, 17, was named most valuable player in track by the York South Association for Community Living last Friday.

She's one of two competitors who will represent York Region at the Special Olympics, being held Aug. 10-13 at York University.

## John Annis still making his pitch for Betz Pools

Call it understated reliability, or just plain day-in, day-out consistency.

Whatever it is, John Annis has that quiet confidence of a man who has watched the fastball shooting stars come and go, with their fragile egos and their dreams of super stardom.

Annis, who in recent years has been relegated to second fiddle stature due to his advancing years, is the stabilizing force of Stouffville's Betz Pools men's fastball team.

Bryan Emery, while giving me the rundown of the Betz lineup last spring when he was coach, told me that Annis was a crafty veteran who pitched with his head.

"John will always find a way to get batters out," said Emery.

I remember my anxiety when, early in the season, Emery chose to start Annis against league power house Greenbank, leaving ace Jimmy Chilvers on the bench.

Two batters into the game, it was 2-0 Greenbank, and I wanted to disappear, so as not to have to witness the impending slaughter.

But Annis proceeded to shut down the G-men the rest of the way, and it was only a fluke double play that left Betz on the short end of a 2-1 final score.

With Chilvers gone to play for the prestigious Scarborough Ambassadors this year, Annis continues to march out to the pit-



## Sport notes

Bruce Stapley

ching rubber, providing one third of what has come to be seen as a most credible hurling corps, along with newcomers Darryl Moxley and Doug Webster.

Annis' two shutouts were the feature of Betz' recent tournament victory in Oshawa.

And he continues to provide

that quiet quality so badly needed by the Pools platoon in league games this year.

While Annis is the picture of composure out there on the rubber, he claims it wasn't always that way.

"I used to be the hottest-headed S.O.B. there ever was," he

laughs, reflecting back to the early stages of what has been a 20-year career in Intermediate ball. "But that changed with maturity."

Annis says he has long abandoned any delusions of grandeur he may have once had. In a game so dominated by pitching, he prefers to blend in with the others, to be just another player on the team.

He has his memories. They include an appearance in the All-Ontario finals with Port Perry in 1983.

He remembers the night he struck out 17 batters while pitching for the Stouffville Juniors 18-years ago. He fanned 20 three years back in a tournament

game. And of course he was a member of the Betz team that took the Intermediate 'B' provincial title two years ago.

But these days, he's just happy to get out there and pitch. He claims it helps him remove himself from the responsibilities and concerns of his career as a piano salesman.

Born and raised in Brouham, Annis calls Altona home these days.

And as he heads into the twilight of a memorable career, John Annis is happy to head back home after a game, win or lose, and put it all behind him.

After all, he says, it's only a game.

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