

Stouffville Tribune

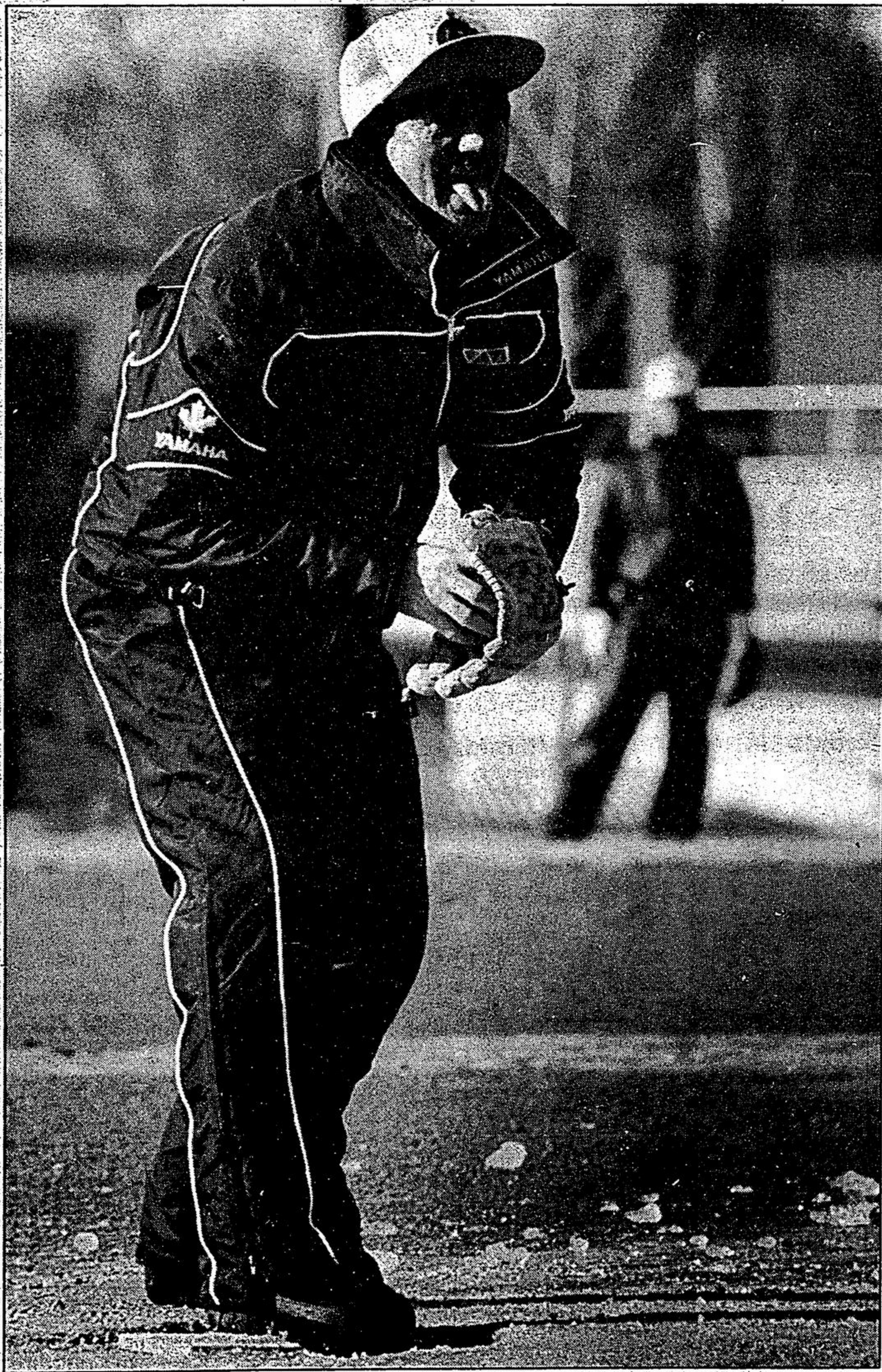
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Photo/ANDRE WOLBERT

Tongue wagger

Pitcher Terry Gregory's strategy is to stick his tongue out as he prepares to pitch the cold temperatures, the games might have looked like grapefruit season ball what with the lack of snow this year.

competition last weekend. If it hadn't been for the

Stouffville mayor happy Sunday injunction bid lost

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

York Region "played the numbers game again" last Thursday to open up the Sunday shopping debate, "but this time it failed," says Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury.

And while the 'big five' in Markham wanted to discuss the issue of whether or not the region should seek an injunction, Mayor Sainsbury says she is happy the discussion was lost.

According to the regional councillor for Stouffville, the "game playing" failed because in order to "get the issue off the ground" the "big numbers" (Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill) needed a 2/3 majority of the total council but the sweep did not go through.

So the region will wait out the four weeks to see what happens in Peel Region, which have sought out in injunction against the food giants — a move that is costing that region \$50,000.

"An injunction in Peel would not help keep the stores in York closed," Mayor Sainsbury points out.

But other council members say if an injunction is not sought now the matter could only delay the

process a lot longer and prolong the shopping battle.

Mayor Sainsbury says the Committee for Fair Shopping, representing the interests of the major food chains, say the Retail Business Holiday Act is unconstitutional and should be struck down.

If the committee's appeal against the injunction is granted in court, the decision would be final and the move "would affect the whole province," says the mayor.

"This is all new to us and York can't go alone. We have no bylaw. We can seek an injunction and cooperate with the Attorney General (Ian Scott) and save the taxpayers \$50,000. But it may all be decided by the courts anyway."

"I am happy the injunction issue was not re-introduced. The big numbers were backing it, playing that numbers game again, but it failed," she says.

"The whole thing goes back to deciding if the act is constitutional or not, whether or not we dictate (if the stores can open Sundays)," she concludes.

As a result, York Region will sit on the issue for at least four weeks, and see how the court process in Peel turns out.

Success Square plans more stores, apartments

Main Street's Success Square Plaza has announced it will expand Stouffville's shopping opportunities and provide some housing units on a new 15,000 sq. ft. addition.

In a release, The Seaton Group developers say "it's time to grow" and want to expand the plaza, located at 220 Main St. E., by adding on a 70 ft. x 262 ft. lot adjacent to the existing building.

The site will be developed for an additional 7,500 sq. ft. of commercial retail space plus 7,500 sq. ft. of residential space, both to be leased by Ren/Tex Realty Inc.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Planner Michael Saunders says the developers are currently working on a site plan agreement with the town and the additional residential units allowed the developers to obtain additional water and sewage allocation.

He says that because the Town is required by the province to provide some rent-subsidized or affordable housing, the services were granted to the Seaton Group for the "whole new wing" that is in its first planning stages.

The expansion will encompass two floors with 10 apartments on top of the commercial units.

SENIORS

Stouffville seniors party at Silver Jubilee Club See page 12



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SPORTS

Stouffville girls go for the net in volleyball action See page 26

