

SPORTS

Stouffville squads take two titles

Trappers, Betz Ladies tops at Buttermakers

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

They took two different routes, but the end result was the same for the Stouffville Standard Aggregate Trappers and the Betz Pools Ladies at the rain-dampened Rowntree Buttermakers Strawberry Festival Slo-Pitch Tournament over the Canada Day weekend.

The Trappers, who were assigned to the loser's side of the competition after dropping their second game, came back to win four in a row to claim championship honors in the C-D Division, along with \$625 in prize money.

The Betz ladies swept all four games played, taking the \$500 first place loot with a 9-4 win over the Jags in the championship match of the B-C Ladies category.

The Trappers started off the rain delayed tournament with an 8-4 win over Orillia Saturday morning, before falling 6-3 to Allin's Orchards later in the day.

With their backs to the wall in the double knockout tourney, the Trappers edged the Thornhill Thunder with a 14-12 win, before gaining their revenge on Allin's with a 13-4 win.

The victory put them in the Monday afternoon final against the Etobicoke Mulberry Muggers, who had yet to lose a game.

Faced with the prospect of having to take two games to capture the title, the Stouffville squad hung tough, winning the first contest 7-4, then edging their opponents 8-6 in the deciding match up.

The Betz crew whopped Uxbridge Dominion Auto 11-1 in their opener, then blasted the Jags 17-4 to take their pool.

They handled the Scarborough Sandy B. Gamblers in the semifinal, then bested the Jags again to take the title.

The tournament's DD final was a battle for Uxbridge bragging rights, as the Uxbridge Allandrew Industries outfit defeated the Choko Champs, also from Uxbridge, 10-7, to take the division and the \$700 prize money.

Allandrew boasted a perfect 6-0 record for the tournament, which was originally to have wound up on Sunday, but had to be carried over until Monday due to rain.

The Stouffville Angies/Spotlight 7 men's team won three of five games played on the weekend, as did former Toronto Maple Leaf Bill Root's Rootar's Renovators.

The Claremont Blazers split their four games. Both the Straughan Carpentry Red Sox and the Stouffville District Secondary School Skullywags had a win and a pair of losses.

The A&S Raiders, the Spring Lakes Tigers and Todd Pools were all eliminated in two games.

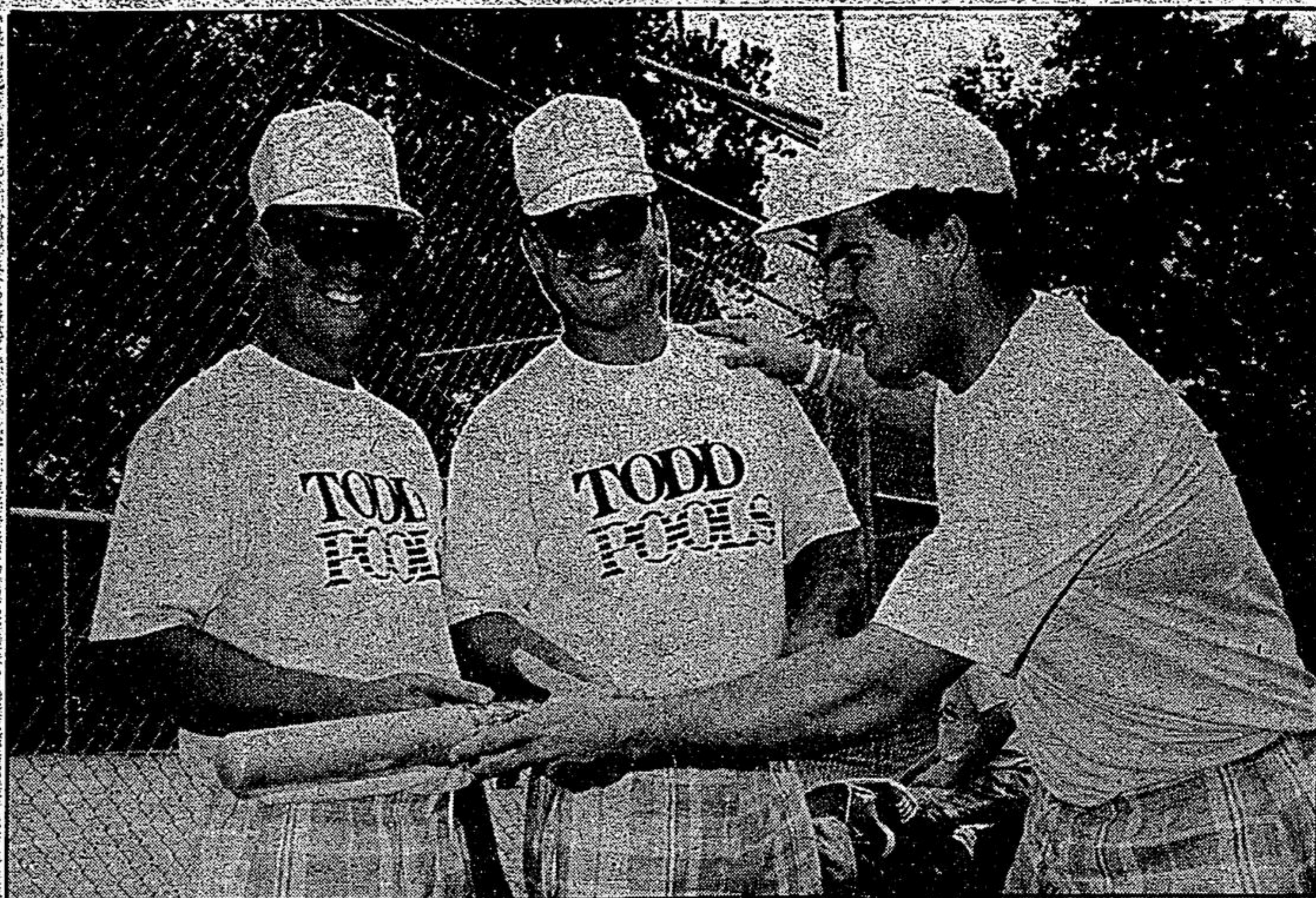


Photo: BRUCE STAPLEY

Some helpful hitting hints

Scott Sutherland, right, gives batting tips to fellow members of his Todd Pools team during action at the Stouffville Buttermakers Slo-pitch Tournament on the weekend. Paying close attention are Ross Todd, left, and his brother Doug. The Todd Pools team was easily identifiable over the weekend due to their colorful shorts and neon pink personalized baseball caps.

Sod turned for running track

It was a celebration of community spirit and accomplishment as they kicked off the Whitchurch-Stouffville Community Track project with a sod turning ceremony Thursday evening.

As a crowd of about 300 gathered on the site of the track/soccer/tennis facility to be built to the west of Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS), the school band started off the festivities with a selection of tunes.

SDSS principal Allen Dickson then handed the brass shovel, along with personally inscribed hard hats, to three of the original proponents of the undertaking — SDSS student Julian Franklin, SDSS Phys Ed Director Dave Connell, and Stouffville Tribune sports writer Bruce Stapley.

After the first ceremonial dig, principal Dickson was then presented with cheques and pledges for the Community Track Fund.

York Region Board of Education Chairman Harry Bowes confirmed the board's commitment of \$125,000 to the track.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury told of the town's contribution of \$40,000 to the track, along with an earlier \$109,000 for lighting.

SDSS student Michelle Barker presented Dickson with a giant sized cheque for \$27,086 from the school's fund raising efforts. Summitview Public School students

Jason Reesor and Melissa Austin, along with gym teacher Joan Gordon, presented Dickson with an oversized cheque for \$1,731 from their school's fund raising.

Cap Cowan, of the Stouffville Lions, told of his club's commitment of a minimum of \$10,000 through special projects.

Alfons Rubbens, representing the Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club, said another \$20,000 would be forthcoming towards lighting from a trust fund formed in the past.

Dickson then announced that the fund raising committee was looking for families and individuals to contribute \$150 to have a brick with their name on it used in the construction of a restraining wall to the north side of the facility.

He also said the committee would need 120 volunteers for a one night door-to-door fund raising blitz tentatively scheduled for July 30.

The committee will also continue to elicit the support of sports and service clubs, as well as the services of local contractors, said Dickson.

"We're off to a great start," he said. "But there's still a lot of work to be done."

Huge homer paces Merchants

It's all coming together for the Stouffville Merchants Junior men's fastball team.

The Merchants, who are gearing up for this weekend's Provincial Eliminations in Grimsby, thumped the Oshawa Juniors 13-0 in front of a large Strawberry Festival crowd Wednesday night at Memorial Park.

Tim Evans was masterful in his first ever pitching start for Stouffville as he allowed only six hits while striking out nine. The Merchants had back-to-back home runs from Jamie Showers and Ryan McIntyre in the fourth inning. McIntyre's blast was a tape measure job which soared over the white pickets in left centre field, and was said by some fans to be the longest ball they had seen hit in a fastball game at the park.

Brothers take top spots at Stouffville Triathlon

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

The mail came on time at the third annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Triathlon on Canada Day morning.

Gary Manders, a postman from Stratford, was first to cross the finish line in the rain dampened competition, which started with a one kilometre swim across Shadow Lake, and was rounded out with a 19-km bike ride and 7.5-km run to Stouffville's Memorial Park.

Manders, 36, clocked a time of one hour, four minutes and 18 seconds to give him the Triathlon's overall championship along with top spot in the Men's 30-39 category.

Rick Manders of Oshawa, Gary's 35-year-old brother, was a close second, coming in a scant 20 seconds after his older brother. Rick was overall champ at last year's Stouffville Triathlon.

"I told Gary to come on down to this year's triathlon," said Rick, just after the race. "But he wasn't supposed to win it," he added with a smile.

The Manders brothers, who placed third and fourth respectively in a triathlon in Stratford the previous weekend, both plan to participate in the gruelling 140-mile Ironman Triathlon slated for August in Penticton, B.C.

Sharon Wong of Don Mills was the top female in Sunday's event with a time of one hour, 17 minutes, and four seconds. She also won the Women's 20-29 division.

Loren Patterson was the top placing Stouffville female resident as she took the Women's 30-39 category with a time of one hour, 18 minutes and 54 seconds.

Ron Hamann had the best time of all Stouffville males. Susan Shaver of Stouffville was second in the Women's 40-49 division.

Other winners at the Triathlon were Brad Shepherd in Men's Under-20 with a time of one hour, seven minutes and 28 seconds; Jeffrey Locke in the Men's 20-29 group with a time of one hour, six minutes and 46 seconds; Robert Chenux in Men's 40-49 with a time of one hour, 14 minutes and 20 seconds; Dave Watts in Men's Over-50 with a time of one hour, 20 minutes and 21 seconds; and Tina Brown in Women's 40-49 with a time of one hour, 25 minutes and seven seconds.



Stratford's Gary Manders was first across the finish line at the Stouffville Triathlon Sunday morning.