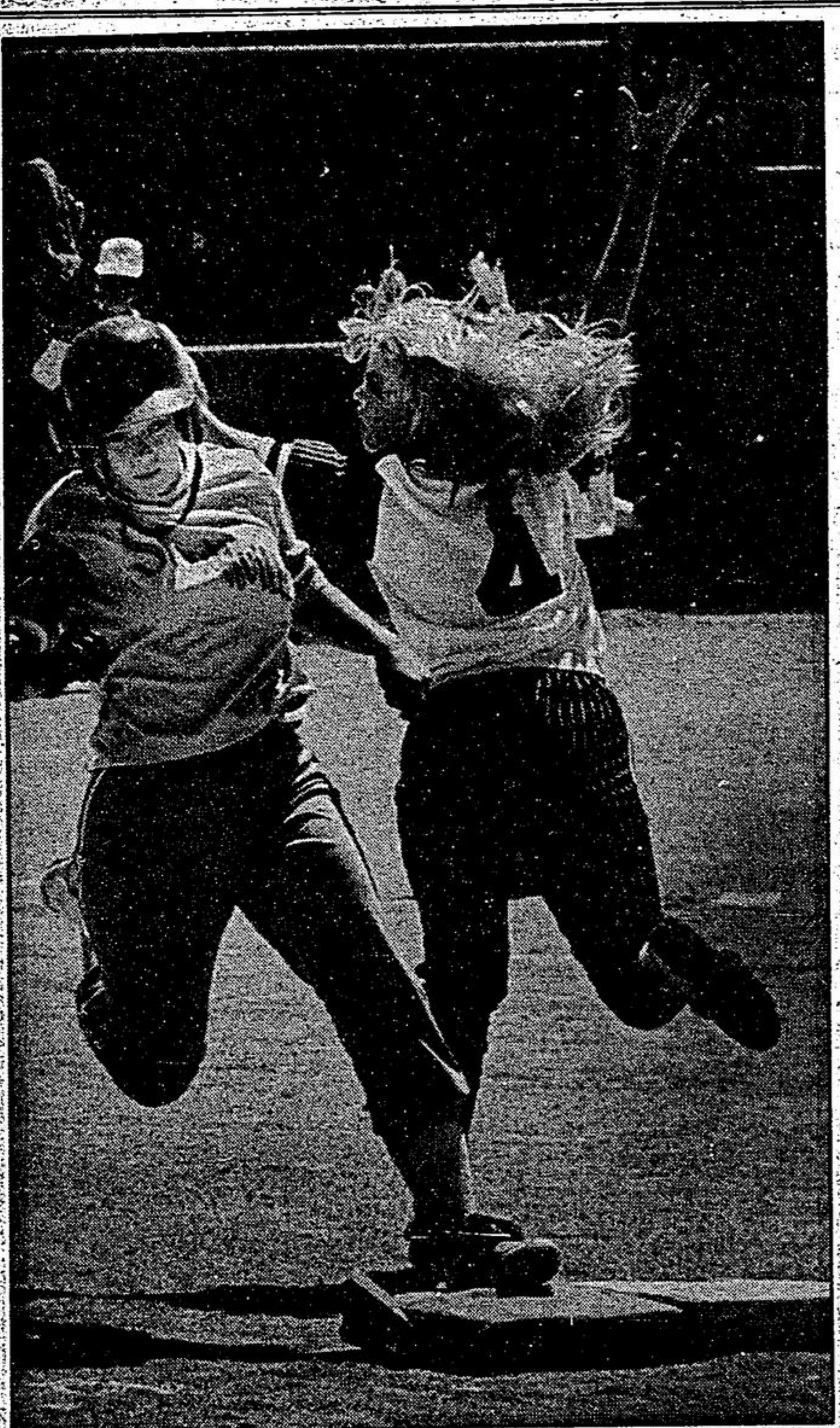


SPORTS

Merchants win Ontario title

Stouffville Juniors advance to Canadian championships



Photo/ANNETTE BUCHKOWSKI

Michelle Chouinard of the Stouffville Angles Sophomore squad crosses first base during action at the South Lake Simcoe League Tournament on the weekend in Stouffville. Angles lost both their games in the tourney. Lindsay took top honors with a 7-3 win over the Stouffville Stingers in the championship game.

Stingers second at league tourney

CARRIE SWAIN
Correspondent

The Stouffville Stingers Intermediate ladies softball team put in an outstanding performance at the South Lake Simcoe League tournament over the weekend in Memorial Park.

The Stingers took second place overall at the tourney, as they were beaten 7-3 by Lindsay in the championship game.

The loss to Lindsay was the first defeat for the Stingers after 11 wins.

The Stouffville girls had only 11 players in the line-up for the final, and had to face some baffling pitching from Lindsay.

Stouffville runs were scored by Candy Brown, Allison Lowery and Denise Tool. On defence, Pam and Deanna Evans, Julie Stephenson and Barb Thompson all played well.

The Stingers won the first two games they played in the tourney by an identical scores of 8-1 over Uxbridge and Aurora.

Kim McConnell went all the way on the mound in both wins.

Lisa Arsenaault paced the Stingers Friday against Aurora with two home runs, while Debbie Gold added three doubles.

Against Uxbridge Saturday morning, the Stingers started slowly but scored three runs in the third inning to take control. Gold had a homer, while Tanya Brown had a double and a single.

Stinger's coach Cliff Dinkeld said they team relies on its powerful hitting to dominate opponents. "We don't rely to much on strike outs," he said. "Rather, we sting them with the bat."

The Stingers next game is Thursday night in Stouffville, and this weekend they will participate in the provincial playdowns in Brockville.

The Stouffville Angles Sophomore squad also competed in the the tourney on the weekend. They lost both games they played, being beaten 12-3 by Aurora and 11-8 by Uxbridge.

CARRIE SWAIN
Correspondent

The Stouffville Merchants Junior men's fastball team swept their way to the Ontario Championship in Grimsby on the weekend.

The Provincial Eliminations ran Friday through Sunday, and with 28 participating teams, Stouffville smoked them all after playing eight games in the double-knockout format.

The Merchants took the provincial crown with a pair of wins over Caledonia Sunday. Since the tourney was double-knockout and Stouffville had lost a game earlier in the event, they had to beat Caledonia two times to take the title.

And they did. The Merchants won the first game 11-3, and then took the second deciding contest 10-3.

Stouffville dominated the final game from the start as they scored three runs in the first inning. Jason Yoshida came in from second on Scott Evan's homer, followed by John Batten who smacked a triple and stole home. One run in the second by Chris Burkholder and two runs in the third were scored by Evans and Batten making the score 6-1 for Stouffville.

Again in the fourth, consecutive singles hit by Byron Baranieski, Chris Burkholder, Jason Yoshida and Tim Evans scored two runs followed with a double belted by Scott Evans. Byron Baranieski pitched the game facing 27 batters, striking out nine and walking two.

In the 11-3 win, Stouffville had 13 hits with runs in the first, fourth, fifth and sixth innings. Outstanding back to back homers were thrown in the fifth by John Batten and Ryan McIntyre.

The Merchants pitching tandem of Scott Evans and Baranieski was near awesome over the weekend. They had a combined ERA of 0.18. On offence, Stouffville had six players batting over .300, and the total team batting average for the tournament was .352.

The Merchants will now go on to represent Ontario at the National Championships in Quebec.

Stouffville was solid throughout the tournament, winning their first contest easily over Manotick on Friday. The Merchants mercied the opposition 8-1 after six innings of play.

Jamie Showers belted an opposite field home run over the fence scoring himself and John Batten who lead off with a single. Jason Yoshida, Byron Baranieski and Chris Burkholder also had runs for Stouffville.

In game two Saturday, Stouffville thumped Cal-machie 7-0. Scott Evans struck out seven, walked one and faced 16 batters in a no-hit outing. The Merchants racked up 11 hits.

Three runs were scored in the third by Yoshida, Evans and Batten with two more runs in the fourth and fifth innings by Chris Burkholder, Norm Depta, Ryan McIntyre and Paul Sinclair.

Game three sizzled when Stouffville faced the 1989 defending champions North Fredricksberg, and came away with a 9-5 victory. Yoshida scored from third off Batten's single, followed by two more runs by Evans and Batten making a total of three runs in the third. Tim Evans then lead off on a triple and scored when Byron Baranieski smashed a single. Other runs came from Scott Evans, John Batten and Jamie Showers.

The Merchants played Bradford on Saturday and again swept up with a 5-1 win scoring two runs in the third and fifth innings with another in the fourth. Scott Evans pitched the game facing 23 batters striking out six with no walks.

Stouffville's first loss came Sunday morning against Caledonia with a final score of 2-1 after nine innings. The Merchants had seven hits, Norm Depta scored the only run.

Stouffville won game six 4-0 over Beamsville with all the runs coming in the first inning by Burkholder, Yoshida, Batten and McIntyre.

Midgets fall short at Provincial's

The Stouffville Midget boys softball team played in the Ontario Midget Eliminations in Owen Sound on the weekend, but failed to win a game.

The Stouffville boys faced some tough competition against Fergus and St. Catharines, losing 7-3 and 9-8 respectively.

The tourney was a double-knockout and the two losses eliminated Stouffville.

In game one against Fergus,

Stouffville manager Gary Fraser said, "We just had trouble batting and a few errors held us back."

Game two ended almost neck and neck but began very differently as St. Catharines had Stouffville down 8-2.

However, the Stouffville boys fought back valiantly with critical hits at crucial times by Jason Underwood, Matt McKnight, Eiler Fraser, Basil Luciano and Greg Spytz placing the squad 8-8 in the

bottom of the seventh.

St. Catharines managed to take the win, however, as they converted an overthrow for the deciding run.

"Overall they played a good game considering game schedule changes held us off from playing for two weeks," said Fraser of the Stouffville boys.

Squirts take Bramalea championship

The Stouffville Chocko Design Squirts kept the wins rolling as they earned a league victory and yet another tournament championship.

In Bramalea on the weekend, the Squirts sizzled as they captured the tournament championship with a 7-1 win over Guelph in the final game.

The Stouffville boys went through the tourney's preliminary round with a record of two wins and a tie as they beat Bramalea 11-4, Napanee 7-4 and tied Guelph 5-5.

In the championship game against the same Guelph squad they had earlier tied, the Squirts quickly scored five runs in the first three innings. Rob Spytz belted a solo homer, while Dan Tardella had two doubles. Leadoff hitter Evan Boyd racked up three singles and pitcher Paul Koert struck a season high of 16 strikeouts. The win gave Chocko their third tournament championship in four tries. The Squirts next tournament is in Niagara Falls on July 21.

The first match against Bramalea was a curfew shortened three inning game with Evan Boyd, Jeff Hassard, Adam Crowder and Tim Smart all scoring two runs apiece. Robbie Spytz was the big RBI man smacking in a total of three, and altogether Chocko sent 13 men to the plate in the third inning.

In game two, Stouffville got their chance to avenge an early season loss to Napanee and their pitcher the Napanee Bear, Paul Koert's strong left arm matched the bear and ended the game with 12 strikeouts. Although Stouffville had a late start when Napanee scored two runs in the first inning, they ended them with two RBI singles from Scott Assinck, a triple by Sonny Acosta followed by a single and double by Dan Tardella and Rob Spytz.

Game three against Guelph was headed up by Paul Koert with nine strikeouts and Scott Assinck and Evan Boyd who scored

Correction

A story in last Wednesday's Stouffville Tribune on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new running track contained a number of errors concerning the Whitechurch-Stouffville Soccer Club (WSSC).

Alfons Rubbens was named as a representative of the club when in fact he no longer has any official association with the WSSC.

Also, a WSSC trust fund that was reported to contain \$20,000 does not contain that much money.

The trust fund exists, and there is money in it, but \$20,000 is the total amount of the donation the club intends to make — not the amount presently in the fund.

The Tribune apologizes for the errors.