

Sports



Photo: SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Play at the plate

Stouffville Pee Wee Selects first baseman Chris McLean tries to apply the tag, but the ball pops loose, on a Malvern player sliding into the plate while catcher Shaun Boyd looks on. The action took place Saturday during the Stouffville Rowntree Select Tournament at Memorial Park. The Stouffville Squirts and Bantams both reached the finals, with the Squirts winning the championship.

Lack of offence costly for Stingers

The Stouffville Stingers got off to a dazzling start at the Ontario Intermediate Ladies Softball Championships in North Bay on the weekend, but couldn't buy a timely hit as the tourney wore on.

When it was all over, the Stingers had lost two of their three games played, forcing them to settle for fifth place overall at the nine-team event.

The local ladies rode the brilliant pitching performance of Denise Toole to a 2-0 win over Ilerton (Owen Sound) in their opening game Saturday morning. The Stingers bunched singles together to score both their runs in the fourth inning.

In game two against last year's champions, the host North Bay squad, the Stingers fell 9-5, leaving a host of base runners stranded.

The frustration continued to grow against Carlsbad, as the Stouffville ladies collected 17 hits, but failed to have a runner cross the plate in a 7-0

loss. The loss eliminated the Stingers from further play in the double-knockout tourney.

Stingers' coach Cliff Dunkeld said the team had given its best effort, but just couldn't buy a break.

"The girls felt they did the best they could," he said. "But we just couldn't

put the ball in the right holes. We had runners on base, but we just couldn't get the big hits at the right time."

The Stingers return to league play this week, as they finish out their South Lake Simcoe Ladies League schedule tonight in Scarborough, and at home Thursday versus Newmarket.

Merchants face Nova Scotia today

The Ontario Junior champion Stouffville Merchants fastball team takes to the diamond against Nova Scotia today in Pont Rouge, Que. for their third game of the Canadian Junior Fastball Championship.

The Merchants started off the six day competition yesterday with games against Alberta and hosts Quebec. Results of the games were unavailable at press time. The Merchants will meet Newfoundland Thursday, and the playoff round starts Friday.

Merchant's coach Fred Crawford said before leaving for Quebec that he felt his team's success this week would depend on whether or not his team could generate the same explosive offensive power they unleashed at Grimsby.

"We know we're going to be competitive," he said. "The big question is just how good are the other team's pitchers. If our bats get hot, like at the Ontario championships, we could go all the way."

Stouffville Selects play ball

Squirts survive 12-hour marathon to win tournament

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

The Stouffville Squirts took the marathon route to the championship of the Rowntree Select Boys Softball Tournament on the weekend at Memorial Park.

On the brink of elimination, the Squirts bounced back from a narrow defeat Sunday morning, and went on to win their next five games of the day to take the tourney title. The team started the day with a game in the morning and ended it with the final the same night.

The 27-team Rowntree tourney consisted of Mite, Squirt, Pee Wee and Bantam Select house league teams. Despite the threat of inclement weather, the event ran smoothly right through until midnight Sunday.

The Stouffville Bantams also made it as far as the finals, but fell just short, losing to Innisfil in the second game of their two-game final. Stouffville would have had to take both contests to have won the double-knockout tourney since Innisfil went into the championship game undefeated, while Stouffville had lost earlier.

The Stouffville Mite and Pee Wee squads were eliminated before reaching the finals in their divisions.

The Squirts, however, played some courageous ball on their way to the championship.

They had gone undefeated Friday night and Saturday, before suffering their first defeat 6-4 to Malvern Sunday morning.

The loss dropped the Squirts into the loser's side of the tourney, and they had to win three straight to qualify for the championship contest against undefeated Malvern.

Not only did the Squirts win those three games Sunday afternoon, they also beat Malvern twice in a row in the evening to win it all.

First, Stouffville bounced Bradford 18-5 in a match that started at 1 p.m., then went on to crush Innisfil 12-1 at 3 p.m., and followed that up with a 6-3 win over Bramalea at 5 p.m.

Right after that win, the Stouffville Squirts had to take the field against a well-rested Malvern squad at 7 p.m. However, the Squirts refused to look for excuses and won the first game 5-3. They then wound up their 12-hour ordeal with a 17-2 destruction of Malvern in the second and deciding contest.

Doug Frew was the star for the Stouffville Squirts, pitching all 14 innings of the final twin bill, and banging out two home runs in the deciding game. His efforts earned him the tourney's Most Valuable Player honors.

Norm Davis, Nicholas Brown and Kris Van Koughnet also shone for the Squirts.

In the other divisions, Bramalea took home the titles in Mite and Pee Wee.

The tourney was the first of its kind in Stouffville and was a big success, according to co-convenor Murray Fogal, who feels the Select program is winning supporters.

"It was well attended," said Fogal. "The Select concept is catching on. Last year, we only played in one Select tournament, and everyone wanted more. This year, we've played in six tourneys and you can really see the improvement in the players."

Meadowbrook ready for top golfers

Meadowbrook Golf and Country Club, one of several area member-owned courses to sink a small fortune into upgrading their facilities in recent years, has guaranteed itself permanent recognition on the Canadian golf map with its successful bid for the Canadian Players Tournament Championship later this month.

The TPC, with a purse of \$100,000, is considered by some to be the premier event on the Canadian Tour, as it is the player's own tourney.

The Canadian Tour, which has grown from an eight event, \$500,000 affair in 1986, to a 10 date, \$1,000,000 proposition in 1990, has succeeded in its original intention of becoming a proving ground for young Canadian golfers.

Names such as Danny Mijovic and Rick Gibson are starting to pop up near the top of the heap in such prestigious annual chases



sport notes

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as the Asian Tour Order of Merit.

Included in the field competing at the Aug. 23-26 TPC at Meadowbrook will be the winners of all five Canadian Tour events played so far this year.

Jerry Anderson, the winner of last year's TPC tourney held at the Brampton Golf Club, will take time off the U.S. PGA Tour to defend his title.

Dave Barr will also take a recess from the U.S. tour to compete here. The Kelowna, B.C. native won the TPC in 1988 when he sunk a two-foot birdie putt on the fourth extra hole to beat Mark Officer of Australia. The TPC is

one of 12 tournaments Barr has captured on the Canadian Tour, and he has also taken a pair of U.S. PGA events.

Steve Striker and Mississauga's Bruce Bulina, a pair of confident rookies who have each won titles their first year on the Canadian circuit, will be there, as will Brandt Jobe, who, at \$35,619, is at the top of the Canadian Tour money list at this point.

Toronto's Steve Chapman, who with total prize loot of \$20,638 is the leading Canadian money winner on the tour in 1990, will also be at Meadowbrook.

There will be a Pro-Am the day

before the TPC commences, where high rolling amateurs will get the chance to do 18 holes accompanied by one of the pros competing in the TPC.

At the TPC media promotion luncheon last Monday at Meadowbrook, there was the usual hype associated with such an event. A gathering of area dignitaries, press types, both local and a few of Toronto's more notable and notorious, were treated to lunch and a round of golf.

CFRB's sports commentator Ron Hewitt, acting as MC, was credited with the best put down line of the ceremony, when, after Markham's deputy mayor Fred Cox recited a golf joke from the podium, Hewitt thanked Cox, telling him he always laughs when he hears that joke.

Meadowbrook's golf director Mel Taylor gave the audience a history of the course, which, as it turns out, was yet another Art Latham project back in the

beginning.

Purchased by the members in 1970, Taylor told of how two separate financial infusions of a million dollars each had transformed the course and buildings into the high tech golfing and banquet facility it is today.

He also noted that ex-Sleepy Hollow pro Dave Wood had broken the course record recently when he carded a 63.

Bob Beauchemin, commissioner of the Canadian Tour, noted how the upcoming TPC at the local course was being made possible by the efforts of over 300 volunteers.

So mark Aug. 23-26 down on the calendar as your chance to see some of the best golf you are likely to witness this side of the boob tube this summer.

And who knows, maybe the next time the TPC comes to town, our own Ted Stonehouse will be among those chasing after the prize money.