

stouffville sports

Skullys take journey

It was a fatigued band of Skullys who walked off the main diamond at Stouffville's Memorial Park as the sun began to go down Sunday night.

But along with the weariness, aches and pains picked up by playing six games in one day, the pink-shirted Skullys got to take home the \$600 in first-place prize money as champions of the fourth annual McAsphalt Tarbabies Slo-Pitch Tournament.

The iron man victory helped erase the team's memories of how they let the championship elude their grasp in this year's Butter-makers Canada Day tournament, when the Skullys dropped their last two games to the Mississauga Rebels.

The never-say-die Skullys performed a weekend-long tightrope act en route to the title in the 24-team DD recreational event.

They started off with an 11-10 squeaker over the Bouwmeister As, then snuck past the Spring Lakes Tigers 5-4.

But a 16-15 loss to the Claremont Classics Sunday morning put the Skullys in the position of having to win five in a row to claim their crown.

They flipped the As once more by a 6-4 count, before airing it out in an 18-3 rout of Fenway.

The Skullys emerged victorious against Stouffville's Telxon outfit, qualifying them for a run at the previously undefeated Ajax Beermen.

Needing to dump the Beermen twice to take it all, the Skullys pulled another rabbit out of the hat in the first match, claiming a 13-11 extra-inning win.

In game two, the Skullys doubled up the Beermen 10-5 to complete their amazing run.

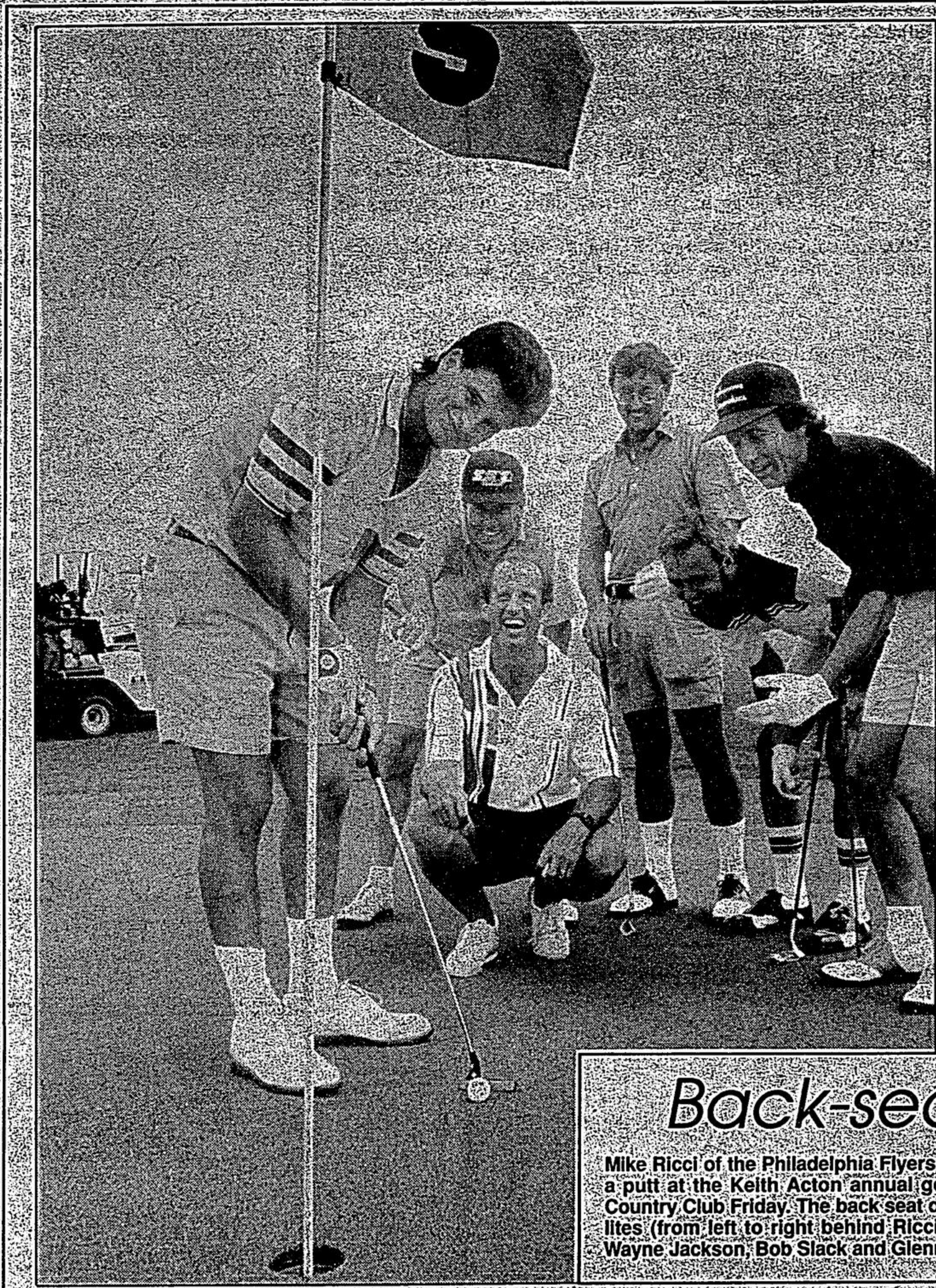
The Skullys made up primarily of Stouffville area junior hockey players, were, without the services of Buffalo Sabres prospect Brad May.

May's car was broken into several days prior to the tournament, with his knee brace being pilfered. The ex-Niagara Falls Thunder star is required to use the brace when he plays ball to ensure against the possibility of reinjuring a knee he hurt last fall.

Other local teams to make strong showings at the sun-drenched competition were the Claremont Classics and the host Tarbabies.

Both teams were still in the running going into Sunday afternoon's deciding contests.

In the four-team co-ed competition, it was the Munsters, a Goodwood area squad, downing the Nesters, a Stouffville crew, in the final. The winners claimed \$500 in prize money.



Stingers defeat Uxbridge

The Stouffville Stingers scored six times in the second inning, at the town park last Thursday night to provide the decisive margin in a 10-4 victory over Uxbridge's Precision Auto ladies softball team.

Allison Lowery's triple with the bases loaded proved the key blow in the Stingers' second-inning uprising.

Wendy Williams had a pair of singles and crossed the plate three times for the winners. Tammy Grove also contributed two singles, and scored twice.

Nicole Ellis banged out a pair of safeties as well.

Grove pitched the first four innings for the Stingers, with Sheila Fockler coming on to finish the game on the pitching rubber.

Stingers coach Cliff Dunkeld was pleased with the way his hitters were able to make contact in the game. "We played a good game," said Dunkeld. "We've got batters who rarely strike out, so the ball is always being put into play."

The win enabled the Stouffville squad to maintain its hold on second place in the South Lake Simcoe Ladies League standings.

The Stingers host Mt. Albert tonight. Game time is 8:30 at Memorial Park's diamond two.

Back-seat drivers

Mike Ricci of the Philadelphia Flyers gets lots of advice on how to line up a putt at the Keith Acton annual golf tournament at Mill Run Golf and Country Club Friday. The back-seat drivers (and putters) include Stouffville's (from left to right behind Ricci): Dave Wood, Keith Acton himself, Wayne Jackson, Bob Slack and Glenn Jackson.

Photo: STEVE SOMERVILLE

Limber up that bicep - it's arm wrestling time

Time for all the muscular macho men and women out there to limber up the old arm and show just what you can do.

For this Saturday has been slated for the first annual Frank's Pizza Place Arm Wrestling Championships.

Frank Spataro, the proprietor of the Hwy. 48 and Fletcher Blvd. Ballantrae establishment, tells us he's put together quite an afternoon of science and skill.

A fourth place finisher in the 1988 Canadian Men's Arm Wrestling competition, Frank has given his event instant credibility by inviting the mighty Bouwmeister family of fine arm wrestlers to participate.

This co-ed collection of wrist wrenchers hold their own yearly competition, and have a truck load full of trophies to commemorate their many victories throughout the years.

Just the thought of sitting at a table and locking grips with behemoth-sized Gary Bouwmeister is



enough to make most men cringe! Not to mention the humiliating prospect, which has become a reality with some ego-deflated males, of having Marilyn Bouwmeister drag your arm crashing to the table.

Saturday's competition will pit right handers against right handers, and lefties against lefties, in the various male categories.

There will be an open class for the ladies, and Frank is hoping to stage a kiddie contest for youngsters over 12.

Frank has assembled trophies for all the winners and promises a first class afternoon of entertainment. Anyone wanting to get in on the fun should call Frank at 642-2500.

The weigh-in is scheduled for 11 a.m. with the first match scheduled

to get underway at 1:30 p.m.

Saturday is also the day members of the men's and women's Canadian National Softball teams come to town to put on a clinic for local young players.

The players, who have been selected by a draw held by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Softball Association, will be shown the ins and outs of the fundamentals of softball by the visiting hot shots.

The clinic is to run from 7 to 9 p.m. at diamonds one and two of the Stouffville town park.

The instructors will then rejoin their teams and head off to the Pan Am Games in Havana, Cuba next week.

The clinic has been arranged by Siloam's Bob Abbot, a director of Softball Canada who also finds the time to help coach the Stouffville Stingers Intermediate Girls' rep team.

Speaking of Siloam, Stouffville's Keith Acton held his annual

celebrity golf tournament for the Children's Wish Foundation at the Mill Run Golf and Country Club, just outside Siloam last Friday.

The 185-golfer function included the likes of Buffalo Sabres-bound Brad May, who is spending the summer at his mother and step father's Markham home.

Also present were Hockey Night in Canada's Ron McLean, along with Global's wild and crazy sports commentator Mark Hebscher.

Acton has signed a one-year contract, with a one-year option, with the Philadelphia Flyers, with whom he has played for the past two seasons.

The former Montreal Canadien/Minnesota North Star/Edmonton Oiler player reports he's happy to still be able to cut it in the NHL, and hopes he can continue on in the bigs for as long as possible.

He says he still might consider playing in Switzerland when his NHL days are done, but that he won't consider that option until the time comes.