

# stouffville sports

## Merchants win key victory

The Stouffville Merchants Junior men's fastball team exploded for five runs in the second inning last Wednesday to key a 7-2 victory over Port Perry in a game played at the town park.

The Merchants got a seven strikeout performance from pitcher Hubie Basilio, while Chris Burkholder, Ryan MacIntyre and Rob Gray all stroked doubles to lead the offence.

Keith Piette started and finished the big second inning rally, walking to lead off the frame, then singling to drive in the fifth run.

MacIntyre's double drove in a pair of runs in the inning.

Gray doubled, then scored on Rob Parcells' single in the fifth.

The Merchants are in Port Perry Tuesday night, then play the Oshawa Merchants Wednesday. With the Oshawa and District Men's Fastball League's Brooklin entry having folded, the schedule will have to be redone, said Merchants coach Howard Burkholder.

The Stouffville squad travels to St. Catharines for a men's tournament this weekend. Burkholder said he is hopeful his team will start putting it all together so as to be ready for the Ontario Junior Eliminations in Stouffville July 10 to 12.

"We need to get something going," said Burkholder. "Our hitting has been a little spasmodic, although our pitching is coming along. Hopefully, we can get on a roll."

Burkholder said that Basilio has signed with the team. The Pickering resident has been sought after by the Oshawa Juniors.



Winning athlete of the year awards (in photo at left) at the SDSS annual athletic banquet were: (front, left to right) Nicole Ellis, Andrea Crothers, (back) Derek Sheahan, Jason Reesor. Special



awards (photo above right) went to: (front) Kelly Sheridan, Scott Ferris, Nicole Ellis, (back) Michelle Hofstee, Fred Klein, and Carrie Swain.

PHOTO/BRUCE STAPLEY

## SDSS pays tribute to athletes at annual banquet

Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) paid tribute to its athletes and school teams at the annual Athletic Banquet held at the school last Wednesday night.

Eight teams were honored for bringing home titles, as the championship banners which hang on the school's

gymnasium walls were pulled down to reveal the team names and championships won.

Top achieving individuals were also recognized, with Nicole Ellis and Derek Sheahan named top Senior female and male athletes respectively.

Jason Reesor and Andrea Crothers were given the Junior top athlete awards.

The Homestead Trophy for greatest contribution to the school's athletic program went to Kelly Sheridan. Carrie Swain and Fred Klein took the Moral and Physical Improvement Awards.

Michele Hofstee was presented with the Jim Rehill Sportsmanship award.

Andrea Crothers and teacher Ken Coulter were given plaques for being SDSS fitness champions.

Banquet organizers Nicole (Please see page 22)

## Athletic banquet a display of school spirit and terrific attitudes

They returned to the scene of their greatest triumphs - some for the very last time - as the top athletes of Stouffville District Secondary School were feted in the school gymnasium last Wednesday night.

Once again, SDSS showed off its enviable school spirit and overall support for those with the talent and the desire to achieve in the athletic arena.

The annual Athletic Banquet at SDSS is always a much anticipated social event, attended by students and parents alike.

The caring shown by teachers and students is very real, and is often demonstrated by displays of emotion. When girls phys ed chief Sheila Coleman bestowed the girls' Moral and Physical Improvement Award upon graduating Grade 13 student Carrie Swain, she finished her introduction of her valued student friend with a sincere "Congratulations Carrie" and goodbye.



Swain, along with Kelly Sheridan, Julie Coleman and Michele Hofstee were among several cherished long time SDSS athletic fixtures receiving their final awards at the function.

Sue LeRoy, returning to the school this year on a part time basis after a maternity leave was almost giddy with joy to be back.

While introducing the Midget girls volleyball team she co-coached (at this school, even part timers get in on the act) she recalled the "highlights" of a tournament in Collingwood. Players and teachers alike were embarrassed with her accounts of such episodes as a girls' pizza

eating capacity and a coach's famous last words.

But she also knew when to be serious. She urged the graduating students to take the values learned from team sports with them into their post secondary school years, and into the workplace as they become adults. And don't ever stop playing sports at one level or other she pleaded.

First year SDSS teacher coach Louis Blizzard related his feelings upon his discovery of just what the famous SDSS volleyball "Boom Boom Boom" was all about.

He told how he was on the verge of tears as he watched the intensity shown by the school's Senior boys team as it captured yet another DYSSA championship last fall.

Coaches heralded the Herculean efforts of players who put out more than could ever be expected of them. Rusty Hick, who coached the school's York champion Midget girls basket-

ball team, recalled what had to be one of the gutsiest performances ever by an SDSS athlete when he reminded the audience of Andrea Crothers domination of both the semifinal and title contests despite playing with a crippling fever.

And as always, there were some priceless put downs of teachers by both peers and students.

Senior volleyball coach and maestro Jim Fletcher was given a tape by his team - so you won't have to kill next year's team with your singing in the van.

Hick was given a new whistle by his charges, who felt his must have worn out after all the use it got during the strenuous practices.

Junior girls basketball coach Sheila Coleman was given a box of Tide to use on those stubborn stains on the girls' game shirts after a tough game.

LeRoy in explaining the name behind the Jim Rehill Sports-

manship Award, noted that Rehill's 34 years the school were "just one more than Dave Connell's (long time boys phys ed head) age - not!"

Teacher Ken Coulter couldn't resist a zinger making jest of the height of multi sport coach Bill McKnight. "Bill coaches so many teams that his legs get tired - and they're not very long!"

Yes, it was a fine evening indeed. A celebration of what is truly admirable about high school education in Stouffville.

With out of control youth causing such anxiety in our society today, it was reassuring to know these kids have learned the positive satisfaction of being team players and good friends.

And if you should ever encounter any of them on Toronto's Centre Island, you can be sure they'll have gloves, balls and a terrific attitude to go with their baseball bats.