

# stouffville sports



Photo/LORI EMMERSON

## Foiled again

Former National Hockey League great Bobby Hull (left) holds up the pucks he directed at 83-year-old goaltender Eleanor Crossen during

Saturday's all-star celebrity hockey game at the Stouffville Rec Centre. Crossen had Hull's number as she stopped both of his shots.

# Spring sports program unveiled at Stouffville District Secondary

It's cross over time at Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) as the athletes put away the winter equipment and get set for the spring sports season.

The school unveiled its spring programs lineup Friday, with badminton, softball, and track and field leading the list.

SDSS first-year teachers Walter Hadden and Colleen Atkins will coach the co-ed junior badminton team. With returnees including Don Patten, Lindsey Haylow, Chris Lightfoot, Michelle Gilroy, Nicole Bardell, Laura Holder, and Matt Brabander, the crew is expected to do well at the regional level.

The juniors will contest the York North finals April 5.

Teacher Denis Fortier and former Ontario ranked player and current town Recreation Programmer Peter Arnott will coach the Senior bird bashers.

This highly touted team will once again include Tim Lavell, who was a member of the SDSS junior mixed doubles duo which won the York title in 1991. Also back are Brian Snooks, Trevor Bardell, Kevin Cargill, Jon Barnes, Michelle Osborne, Stacey Patten, and Jen McGowan.

The seniors will host Uxbridge Secondary School in an exhibition match April 5 in preparation for the York North playdowns April 8.

Al Piette is back as coach of the school's girls' slo-pitch team. The 1992 finalists boast 22 returning players, with several rookies trying out as well.

Bill McKnight, Doug McCammon, and former provincial level softball player Tami Waters will try to lead the SDSS Spartans boys' softball team back to the York title they last won in 1990.

The perennial contender Spartans, who were finalists in 1992, will have Ryan Burkholder, Ian Ellis, Jason Cowan, Stuart Pegg, Jeff Tabor, Lawrence Bingham, and Dave Caramanico back for another season.

The girls' soccer team will be resurrected after a two year hiatus. Ron Dempster and volunteer Karla Warnholtz are to coach the outfit, which was revived

when a delegation of students showed interest in bringing back the program.

The SDSS track and field team is being headed up by veteran coaches Scott Croucher (jumping) and Rick Dewell (throwing). Tami Waters (throwing), Sandy Appleby (sprinting), and Larry Bobbett (long distance running) will fill out the coaching crew as the SDSS team tries to take advantage of the track and field facility built in 1991.

The coaches report that large numbers of students have been practicing to date. The team will compete in the York Region Indoor Meet at York University April 15.

The school will host the second annual Spartan Relay Meet on May 6, with Pickering H.S. coming back to defend its title.

The York Region Outdoor Championships are also slated for May 14-17 at York.

The Durham-York Secondary School Athletic Association finals will be held at the Oshawa Civic Stadium May 26-27.

The Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association championship meet will also take place at the Civic Stadium on June 4-5.

Several meets have been booked for the SDSS track facility, including the Summitview and Orchard Park P.S. field days, the Area F elementary school championships, and two Royal Canadian Legion zone meets. The Stouffville Track Club is also holding its All Comers Meet at the track May 1.

In intra-mural action, the lunch time badminton league playoffs are underway, with 104 players and 52 teams competing in six leagues based on the talent level. Students Kelly and Jamie Sheridan are league organizers.

Morning hockey league playoffs get underway this week, with five weeks of round robin play leading to the championship game May 7.

The lunch time co-ed basketball league will be organized beginning after the Easter weekend.

# Students ready to hit the track and field

SPORT NOTES



bruce stapley

Dave Connell, the Stouffville District Secondary School boys' physical education chief who is committed to the concept of sound minds in sound bodies, held his annual early spring press conference Friday.

Connell outlined the list of athletic pursuits which comprise the home stretch of the school's sporting year. With the usual array of volleyball triumphs and basketball near misses behind us, it's time to focus on the outside sports.

And what better way for a vital young teen to finish out the school year than to lace up the Reeboks and head across the SDSS driveway to the dazzlingly new track and field complex. The same facility that former SDSS student council president Julian Franklin, armed with three or four hundred letters of support from his fellow students, lobbied the school board into funding some three years back.

A perusal of the success enjoyed by last year's SDSS track and field team reveals there is still some room for improvement. After all, with all those students pleading for the board to come up with the goods, it's now up to them to show what they can do with their costly toy.

Last spring, SDSS sent 12 athletes to the Durham-York Secondary School Athletic Association finals. Laura Holder shattered the York Region midget girls' shot put mark, while Kelly Forsyth, Andrea Crothers, and Phil DeRoo all went on to the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association regional finals. Forsyth placed fourth at the regional meet, sending her to the OFSAA finals.

In the interests of awakening that good old competitive spirit the school has always been known for, it should be pointed out that Uxbridge Secondary School, with a student population similar to SDSS, took no less than 11 gold medals at the Durham finals last year. The Uxbridge school sent a total of 27 athletes to the DYSSAA

meet, out of which seven went on to OFSAA in June. One girl even won a bronze medal at the All Ontario high school show down. And all they've got at the Uxbridge school is an old cinder track plunked out there beside a farmer's field!

Are we motivated yet?

Now surely if former Stouffvillite and all around nice guy Ged Stonehouse can earn himself a Citizen of the Year honour for pouring his heart and soul into the track project in 1991, the SDSS student body can apply itself to the task of adding a few medals to the school's trophy case.

With coaches Scott Croucher, Rick Dewell, Tami Waters, Sandy Appleby, and Larry Bobbett out there offering their expertise, all that's needed is some committed athletes.

And with poised runner Andrea Crothers off to Germany for the rest of the school year, there's some slack to be taken up on the SDSS track and field team for sure.

There are signs that the kids might just be ready for the challenge. Lukas Anderson, who ran with the York and DYSSAA championship SDSS midget boys' cross country team last fall, finishing second in the individual standings, is said to be setting his sights on the 1,500-metre run this spring.

Sarah Cliff, who also ran well in cross country last fall, is looking to make some noise in the 1,500 m and 3,000 m events.

Kelly Forsyth will be throwing the javelin again, and hopefully won't be hampered by a rib injury this time around.

Grade 9 student Kyle Osborne is out to stir things up in the throwing events. In the midget girls category, Amy Sled will be working on sprints and hurdles, while Nicole Bardell hopes to become a force to be reckoned with in the sprints as well.

Connell also said there are some students anxiously awaiting the finishing off of the steeplechase jumping pit this fall.

So let's go out there and make some noise, kids. If this burned out reporter can go through the ordeal of training for, and completing the annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Triathlon last summer, surely you can apply your youthful energy to bring back SDSS's former track and field glory.