

# Sports

## University scouts keep close watch on ice talent

A prominent university hockey scout from the United States is evaluating three female players, a Whitchurch-Stouffville Girls Hockey Association executive member reports.

John Summerhill, who served as association president last season, told the Tribune recently that Princeton University officials scouted three members of the Stouffville Action Signs bantam Raiders at the Brampton Canadettes Tournament on the Easter weekend.

The players being looked at are Kim Walsweer, Stephanie Summerhill and Laura Winterstein.

"Although each player is still in Grade 10, the university will watch their academic and athletic progress over the next three years," said

Summerhill.

He also said that Stephanie Summerhill was approached earlier in the season by the head coach of the University of Toronto Lady Blues hockey team.

Summerhill said the interest in Stouffville female hockey players stresses the need for more ice time for the association's program.

"With all the opportunities that are opening up for the girls, the increase in numbers of girls wanting to play the game is putting a strain on the ice schedules at the arena.

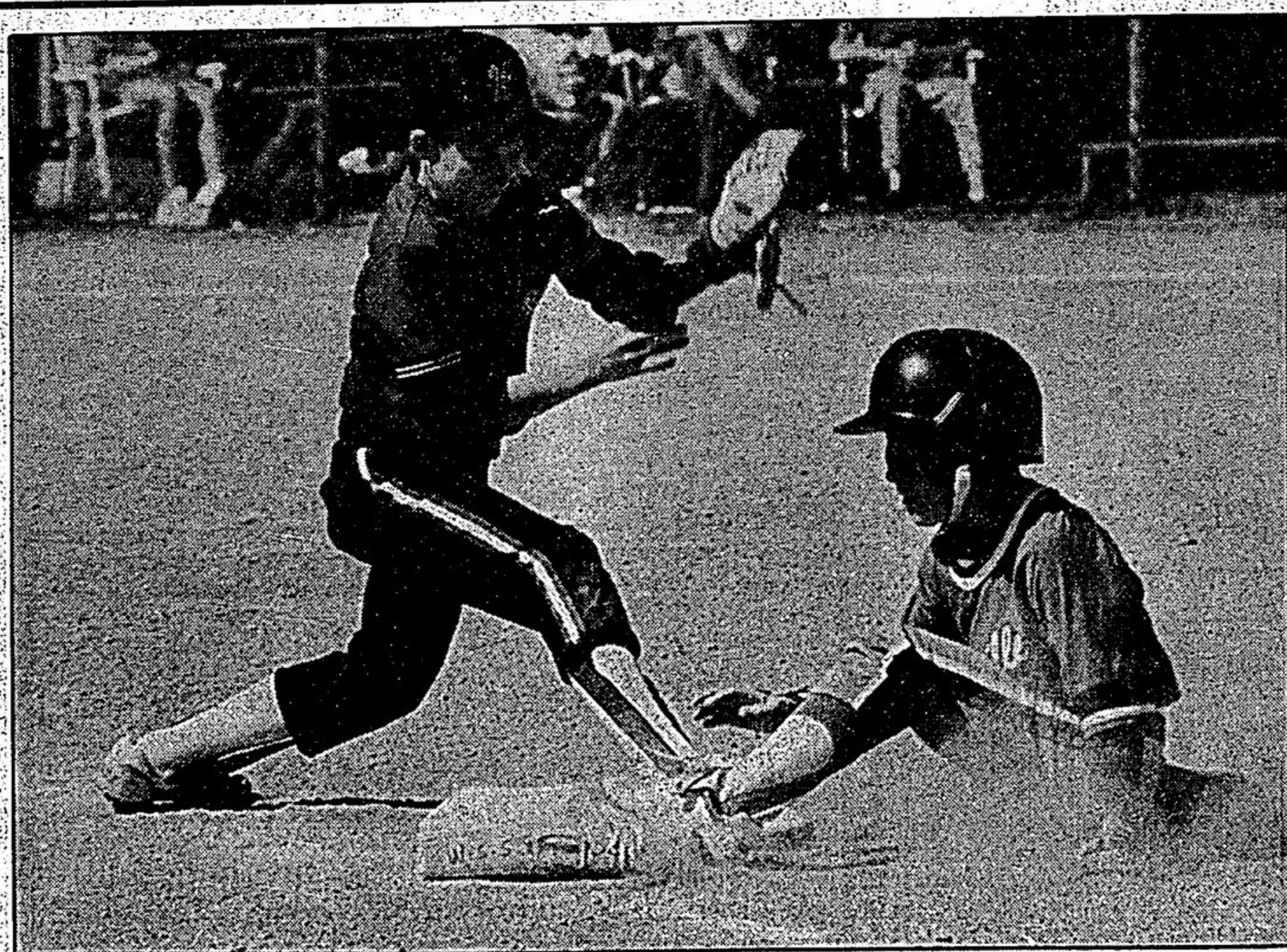
"With this recent recognition of players from the association, one can see the validity of the program and the need for further development."



Photos/LORI EMMERSON

### They're off and running

Matthew Rae (left) and David Giles are off and dash at the recent Summittview Public School running in the Intermediate Boys' 100-metre Track and Field Day.



Photos/LORI EMMERSON

Barrie first baseman David Latour (left), attempts to pick off Stouffville base runner Shawn Burns during action in the Minor Mosquito Baseball Tournament on Saturday.

## No consolation for Indians in local mosquito ball tournament

The Stouffville Indians started strong, but couldn't follow through, at their own minor mosquito tournament held in the town park last weekend.

The Indians got off on the right foot, downing Thornhill 11-3 in their opener Friday night.

Pitcher Jordan VanEsterik recorded five strikeouts in recording the victory for Stouffville, while Dylan Harrison, Andy Gibson, and VanEsterik each contributed a solid offensive performance.

Shawn Burns was impressive in the field for the Indians.

But the Stouffville outfit was victimized for eight runs in one inning in their next outing, resulting in a

9-5 loss to Pickering.

The Indians then fell to Brampton 19-5

In their fourth contest, the Indians received a home run and three hits from Mike Hamilton, but it wasn't enough as they dropped a 10-6 decision to Barrie.

The Indians loaded the bases in each of the last two innings, but couldn't score.

Stouffville was then edged 5-4 by Thornhill in the consolation semi-finals.

North Toronto went on to win the tournament championship, defeating Barrie by a 5-3 count in Sunday afternoon's final.

## Merchants win bronze medal at Kemptville ball tournament

The Stouffville Merchants fought the injury bug as well as the opposition as they battled their way to a third-place finish at the Kemptville Intermediate-Junior Fastball Tournament last weekend.

The Merchants, who had four players get hurt during the tournament, won four of their six games played.

But they couldn't solve the Nepean Glass senior men's squad, which handed the Merchants both its losses, a 5-0 defeat in the Merchants' third outing, and a narrow 7-6 loss in Sunday's semi-final.

The Merchants blanked Gatineau Valley 3-0 in their opener Saturday as hurler Byron Barieneski fired a no hitter. Rich Burkholder keyed the offence with a triple and double.

In game two, the Merchants downed the Ottawa Barneys 3-1, as weekend pitching recruit Jim Chilvers tossed a two hitter while fanning 14 batters. Darren Crawford and Rob Parcels homered for the Merchants.

The Stouffville outfit rebounded from their initial loss to Nepean by edging Cornwall 5-4 on Sunday.

The Merchants came back from a 4-0 deficit to win the game with a three-run seventh inning.

Chilvers socked a home run, while Baranieski, Parcels, and Crawford also helped engineer the comeback.

Crawford, Chris Burkholder and Baranieski banged home runs to

lead the Merchants to a 10-3 win over the Scarborough Royals.

The Merchants then dropped their semi-final match to Nepean, despite getting homers from Crawford and Parcels.

The Merchants led 6-3 going into the seventh, but couldn't hold on. Ryan Burkholder made his second spectacular diving catch of the day in left field in the fifth inning.

The Merchants brought home \$400 for their bronze finish.

Merchants coach Howard Burkholder praised his team's ability to continue on despite injuries to Chilvers (bad back), Keith Piette (hit by a pitch on the ankle), catcher Jamie Showers (hit on the arm by a pitch), and Chris Burkholder (still recovering from an arm injury).

"I'm really proud of them," said Burkholder. "We were short guys, but it seemed the more we got hurt, the better we played."

Burkholder said Chilvers, who once pitched for the now defunct Betz Pools senior men's fastball team, pitched at the Kemptville tournament despite his sore back. He then continued on after being struck by a line drive in the semi-final contest.

"Jim is a gamer and a fine gentleman. He really wanted to put on a Stouffville sweater again."

The Merchants host the Oshawa Waltzing Weasel in an Oshawa City and District Fastball League game on Wednesday at the main diamond starting at 8:30 p.m.