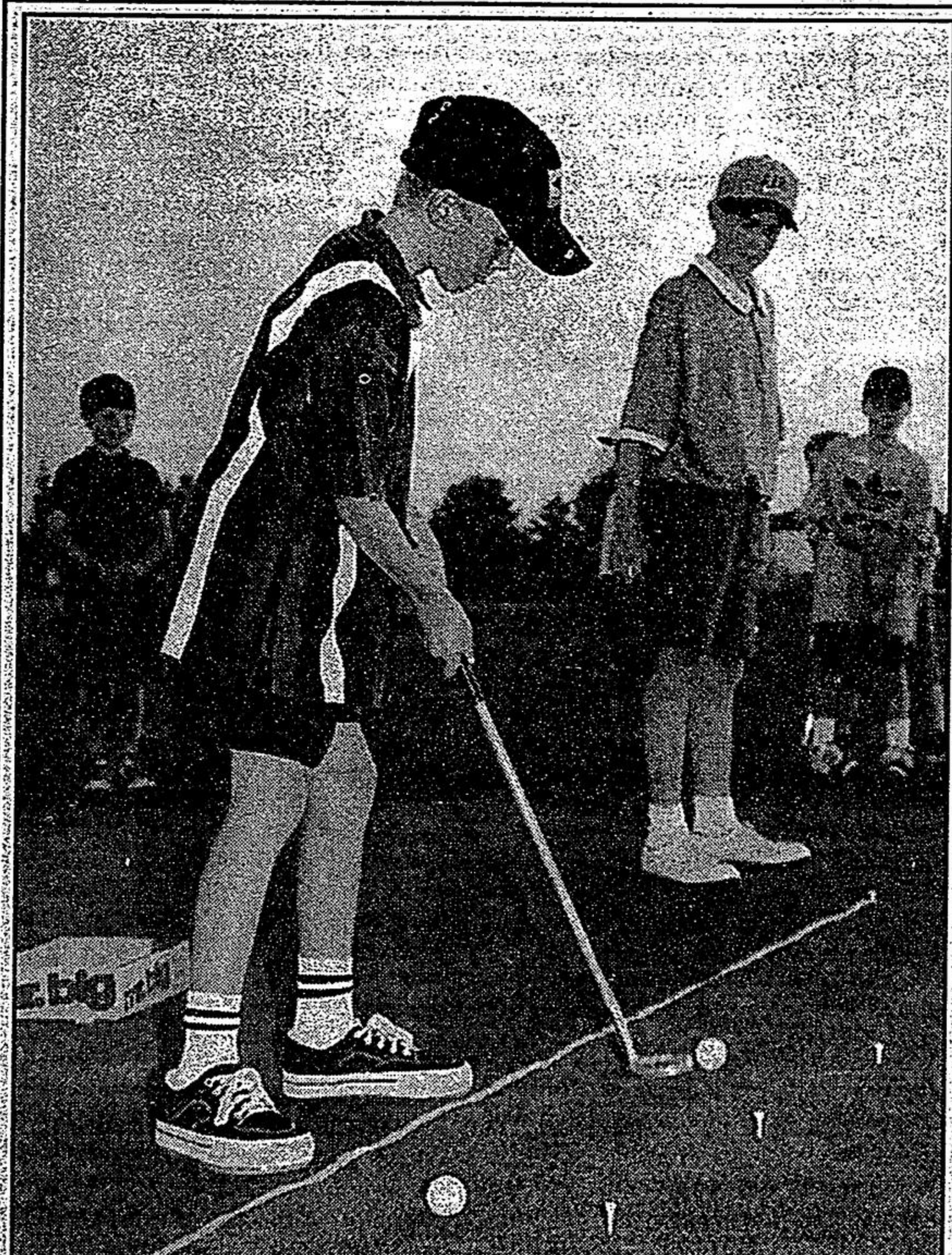


THE TRIBUNE

Sports & Leisure

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EASY DOES IT: Taylor Horton applied his putting skills to the test recently when he took part in a season-ending junior clinic competition conducted at the Foxbridge Golf Club.

Photo by LORI EMMERSON.

Stingers stung in league playoff final

The Angie's Eatery/Weston Produce bantam girls' Stingers battled their way to the finals at their league championship playoff tournament in Milliken Mills over the Aug. 23 weekend.

The Stingers, who placed third in the league standings, were able to handle all comers except Peterborough, which finished in first place.

The Kawartha crew handed the Stouffville girls their first loss of the double knockout tournament, then repeated the feat in the championship round.

The Stingers started off with a 9-1 victory over Newmarket, before being mercied 12-1 by Peterborough.

The loss forced the Stouffville squad to take the long route in order to make it to the finals, and they proved equal to the task.

They dumped Cobourg 9-4 in game three, then defeated Oshawa 10-6.

The Stingers then downed Whitby 8-6, avenging the defeat which eliminated the Stouffville crew from the Provincial Women's Softball Association (PWSA) finals the previous weekend in Sarnia.

In the title showdown against Peterborough, the Stingers kept it close through six innings, but finally fell 8-3.

The Stingers got outstanding pitching from Tegan Bennett and Erin Wickware throughout the tourney.

All players contributed offensively, with Michelle Dulude and Emma Wilkinson leading the way at the plate.

Candace Eng was strong in the catcher's position, while Renee Ansell shone at first base.

Lisa Relf made several impressive catches in the outfield and at third base. Hannah Smith and Jen Davis also stood out in the outfield for Stouffville.

"It was a nice way to finish the year," said Stingers coach Bill Johnson of his first-year bantam outfit. The team took the PWSA novice championship in 1996.

The Stingers, who were to begin preparations for the 1998 season by playing an exhibition game in Port Perry Wednesday, will travel to Clearwater, Fla. for a tournament during March Break next year.

Colborne sees Baranieski as a valuable performer

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

Chalk up another fastball milestone for Byron Baranieski.

The 26-year-old Stouffville area resident and Uxbridge Bandits pitcher was named MVP with helping Colborne to the AA crown at the North American Fastball Association (NAFA) championships in Fargo, North Dakota from Aug. 20-24.

Baranieski was picked up by the Cobourg area squad after his performance at the OASA Intermediate Men's Eliminations in Owen Sound last month. Baranieski and the Bandits took the title at the competition, advancing to this weekend's Eastern

Canadian Intermediate A Fastball Championships in Nova Scotia.

Baranieski pitched two complete games for Colborne, picking up victories of 15-1 and 9-0. He came on in the third inning to complete the game which guaranteed his team a berth in Sunday's championship match. He also pitched four innings in another contest.

Baranieski also contributed five hits in nine at bats, socking three home runs. The 64-team event included top squads from across Canada and the United States.

Baranieski said he's hoping to cap off the season with a big weekend in Nova Scotia with the Bandits.

"There's one more big one to win and that would top off a perfect season," he said.

Walker's hit slams Fullerton's to win

Fullertons went on a home run rampage to defeat White Rogers 27-14 in Tuesday Night Ladies Fun Softball League play Aug. 19 at the town park.

Michelle Walker blasted a grand slam to lead the way, with Ingrid Hutton, Gina Geuzebroek and Brittany Ineson also socking round trippers. Kim Patterson had a triple for White Rogers.

Kim Esposito and Sue Williamson had home runs for Pizza Pizza, but they weren't enough as Canguard rode a two homer effort by Rhonda Barrett to a 22-17 win.

Homers by Susan Peel and Sue Rousseau led Fairgate Homes to a 17-5 victory over Colley, Borland and Vale.

In Aug. 12 play, Fullerton's got home runs from Ingrid Hutton and Brittany Ineson in a 30-8 win over Pizza Pizza. Joyce Conlon and Stephanie Gainsbrook homered for Fairgate in a 22-15 loss to Canguard.

White Rogers won by forfeit over Colley, Borland and Vale.

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Stallions saddle up to semi-final effort in playoffs

The Stouffville Stallions squirt boys' fastball team finished off the 1997 season by making it to the semi-finals at the 12-team York-Durham League championship last weekend in Pickering.

Pitcher Jay McNeil provided the highlight of the game for the Stallions by twirling a no-hitter.

The Stallions lost their first game 6-4 to Bramalea as Colin Rainford's home run and Mike Dambrosio's triple were the big hits for the Stouffville crew.

The Stallions bounced back to whip Oshawa 10-0 in their next contest as Kevin Hayward pitched the shutout. Mike Root had two hits, including a three-run homer for Stouffville, while Matt Fowles and Taylor Lougheed each knocked in two runs. Hayward also had two safeties.

McNeil was masterful as he no-hit Newmarket 11-1 while striking out

10 batters. Norm Fretz and Dambrosio each tripled. Josh Spang doubled and Root had three hits.

In the quarter final, McNeil struck out the last two batters with runners on second and third in a dramatic 5-4 comeback win over Peterborough.

Rainford tripled and Chad Wilson and Fretz each banged doubles. Lougheed had two key hits.

Stouffville was stopped 6-0 by Aurora in the semi-finals.

Triples by Hayward and Rainford were the only hits the Stallions could manage. Scarborough defeated Aurora to take the title.

The strong showing capped a season which saw the Stallions show consistent improvement after starting the season with six players making the jump from house league level.

The team won its OASA qualifier, and also advanced as far as the semi-finals at the provincial finals.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



DERMONT GILDERDALE

Clinging to the belief that it's never too late to make a name for yourself in amateur sport, Dermont travelled to Lake Placid, New York this past weekend to participate in a three day, six round golf exhibition with several of his associates. Dermont is better known to Tribune readers as the Mr. Wallethead character. In his wife Kate's witty column sit-com, Kate's Corner:

Way to drain it, Dermont (your putt, that is!)

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