

THE TRIBUNE

# Sports & Leisure

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**GETTING A FOOT UP ON THE ACTION:** Stouffville District Secondary School's Mandy vanden Berg (far left), battles Middlefield Collegiate's Helen Ma for this ball while an injured Stouffville player Sherry Hartnett (far right), lies on the ground during action in Thursday's YRAA girls' soccer game at Middlefield Collegiate. Hartnett was all right and Stouffville won the game 3-0. Scoring for Stouffville were Lillian Boyd with two goals and vanden Berg with one. Logan Anderson recorded the shutout.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## Track team gears up for regionals

Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) athletes were in high gear at a pair of recent track and field meets.

The Stouffville school sent a contingent of athletes to compete at the Cardinal Carter C.H.S. Meet held last Friday and Saturday at Etobicoke Centennial Stadium.

Tracy Hocher led the way as she shattered the SDSS midget girls' 300-metre hurdles while setting a personal best in the 400m race.

Hocher was first in her heat in the 400m event, then was fifth overall in the final with her own best ever time of 68.89 seconds.

She ran a new school record of 55.0 seconds in the 300m hurdles, placing her second out of all York Region midget girls' runners. Her time was a full 13 seconds ahead of the time she clocked last year.

Samantha Metcalfe was second in her heat in the 100m race with a time of 14.81 seconds.

Charlene Guimane came 12th in the midget girls' long jump with an effort of 3.82m.

Rachel Shanahan managed a height of 1.45m, just short of the 1.5m qualifying height, to take seventh place in the junior girls' high jump.

She moved up to the senior girls' triple jump the following day, placing eighth with a jump of 9.11m.

Travis McMaster came two places short in his goal to finish in the top eight in the midget boys' long jump, coming in 10th with an effort of 4.86m.

The next day he cracked the top eight in the triple jump when he placed seventh with a jump of 10.71m.

At the Markham-Stouffville Invitational Midget Track Meet at the SDSS track Tuesday, SDSS took to the track along with 18 other York Region schools.

Josh Sherriff captured the shot put event with a toss of 12.77m.

Erin Hamilton placed sixth in the 80m hurdles with a personal best time of 15.9 seconds.

Guimane posted an effort of 4.01m in the long jump.

The girls' relay team of Hocher, Metcalfe, Guimane and Hamilton was fourth in their event with a time of 57.65 seconds.

## Local fastball trio to play in Napanee



### Sports Notes

Bruce Stapley

It's off to Napanee for a trio of prominent Stouffville fastball personalities.

Paul Koert, Evan Boyd and his father and Dave Boyd have all signed on with the Napanee Juniors for the coming season.

Paul and Evan will be offering their considerable talent to the Napanee squad for weekend tournaments, while the elder Boyd is to be an assistant coach for tourneys.

The threesome might have ended up in Stouffville.

But Dave Boyd and company decided not to field a junior outfit due to the high cost of financing such a program.

"We almost had a team in Stouffville," said Dave. "But it's just too much money."

Dave, a veteran Stouffville fastball coach, was at the helm of the local midgets the past two seasons, with Betz Pools acting as team sponsor.

But with the well-heeled Napanee midgets and juniors funded by an ongoing program of bingos and Nevada tickets, it's difficult to come up with the kind of sponsorship money needed to pay the many bills that go with running a junior team.

#### PLAYERS FEES WAIVED IN NAPANEE

So rich is the pot in Napanee that registration fees for midget and junior players are waived.

Paul, an overpowering left-handed

pitcher, and Evan, a gifted shortstop with a potent bat, made names for themselves across Canada last season.

The pair helped the Betz midgets to a third place finish at the 1997 Ontario Amateur Softball Association midget eliminations in Napanee, with Koert named the competition's best pitcher.

The two were then picked up for the second year in a row by the championship host Napanee team for the Eastern Canadian Midget Championships.

They then went off to Brandon, Man. as members of the Ontario Youth team, which captured the Canada Games fastball title.

Boyd batted a dazzling .700 to help lead the way. It was off to the World Junior Championships in Newfoundland for Koert later in the summer as the southpaw played a key role in the team's bronze medal finish.

Part of the appeal in playing for the Napanee Juniors lies in the fact that 10 or 11 of the Summer Games championship Team Ontario squad will be on the roster.

A half dozen or so were already on the team, while Paul, Evan and two or three others have joined the club from points around Southern Ontario.

"They wanted to stay together," Dave Boyd said.

#### KOERT, BOYD HOPE TO PLAY WITH A SECOND TEAM

Paul and Evan will be looking to hook on with a men's fast ball team in the area to allow them to stay sharp on weekdays between tournaments. They'd consider playing with the Claremont Rebels if the Rebels are interested.

One of the highlights of the season for Paul and Evan will come on July 1 when

they are reunited with the entire 1997 Team Ontario Summer games squad.

The team will play an exhibition match in Port Perry against members of the 1986 and 1991 Team Ontario outfits that won Canada Games titles.

Scott Evans, the Stouffville minor softball product who has gone on to achieve national fame as well as prominence south of the border, will be there as a member of the 1991 Team Ontario crew.

Dave, Paul and Evan are hoping to make another trip west this summer. Grand Prairie, Alta. is to be the site of this year's Canadian Junior Men's Championships in August, and the Napanee team is sure to be in the running.

But first they'll have to prevail at the OASA Eliminations in Owen Sound in July.

It should be another eventful summer for Paul and Evan, along with Dave, despite all the driving time they're going to log.

"We've been down to Napanee once already," he told me recently. "And on the way home Evan said he thinks it's going to be a really exciting season."

And as always, if the boys are having fun, Dave will be right there.

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