

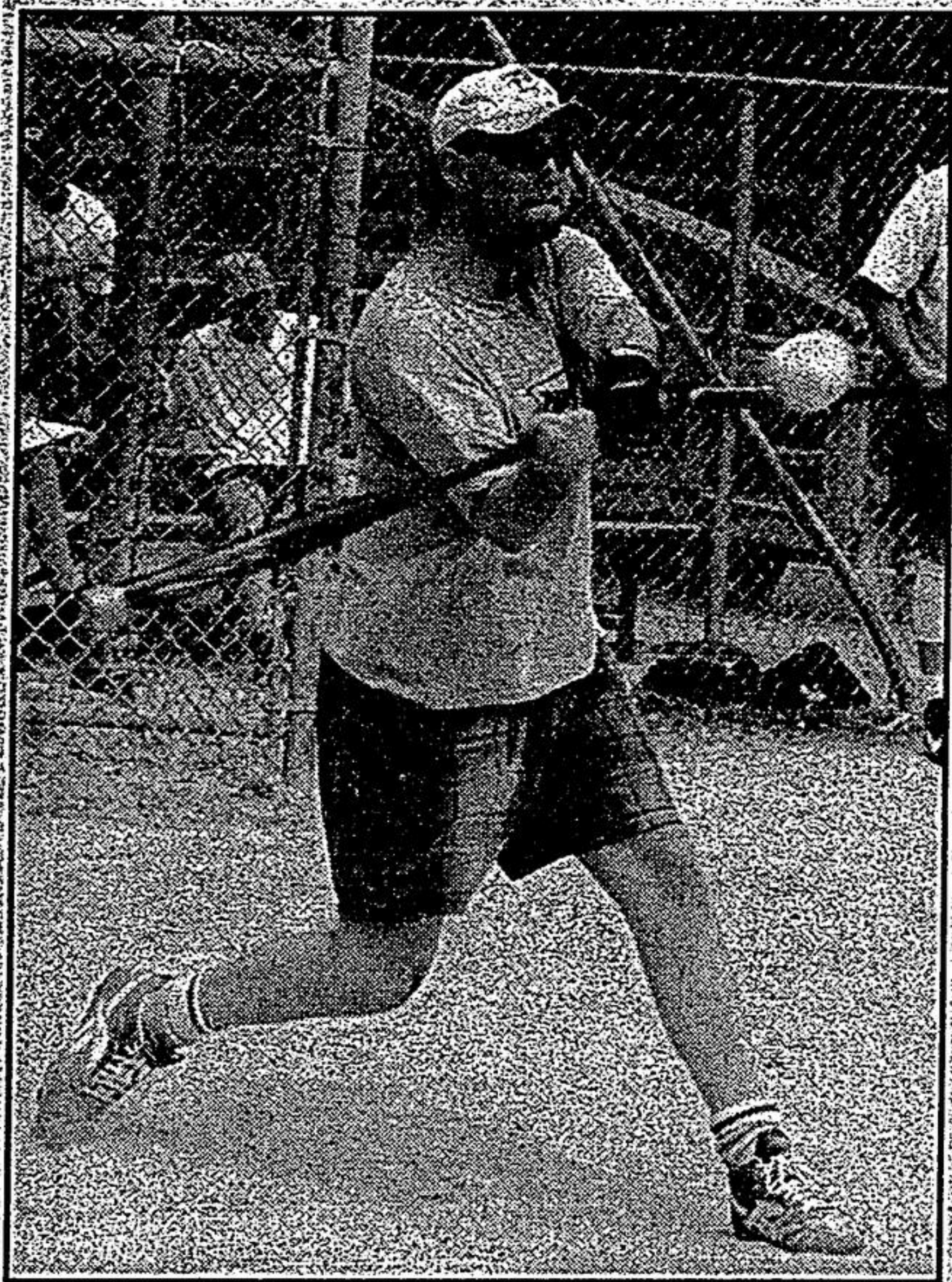
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Peterborough teams take two tournament titles



A BIG HIT: Stouffville Tigers batter Ryan McIntyre gets set to put all of his weight behind this offering during action Saturday in the annual A and S Raiders Slo-Pitch Tournament at the Town Park diamonds.

Photo by CHERYL JOHNSON

They came and they conquered. The 16th Annual A & S Raiders Slo-Pitch Tournament saw all four championship prize packages awarded to out of town teams.

Peterborough-area squads left town toting two of the four first-place titles, with the other two going to outfits hailing from Uxbridge and Markham.

The 18-team competition, held under mid-summer conditions over the Victoria Day weekend, saw Stouffville based crews advance as far as the final in only one division. The Stouffville Tigers were bounced by Peterborough's Kawartha crew in the Men's D championship Sunday afternoon. For the Tigers, it was their second appearance in the D championship in two years.

Kawartha was awarded the \$300 first-place prize. The Peterborough platoon advanced to the final round after posting a record of two wins and one loss in the round robin, then defeating the Gorgons of Uxbridge in the semi-finals.

The Tigers handed Kawartha its only loss of the tourney when they prevailed

8-5 in the round robin.

The Tigers were a perfect three wins and no losses in the preliminaries, downing the Gorgons and Vachon, a team including several Stouffville players, as well. The Tigers bested Vachon in the semis before finally tasting defeat in the final. The Stouffville outfit was awarded \$175 for its second-place showing.

Markham Sports handled the Royals of Ajax in the Men's C final. The win put the cap on a perfect weekend for the Markham unit. The champs won all three round robin games, then advanced with a victory over the Stouffville-Buttermakers in the semi-finals.

The winners received \$400 in prize money, with the Royals taking home \$200.

In the Men's E finals, it was The Boys Are Back coming back to defeat Heads Up in the final. The victory helped avenge a one-sided loss to Heads Up in the round robin. The Boys Are Back, a collection of old friends and former college buddies based in the Uxbridge

area, won two of three in the round robin, then downed the Tribe in the semis.

Heads Up, a Newmarket team, were handed their only defeat of the round robin by Ballantrae's Imagers. The Imagers were finalists in last year's Raiders event. Heads Up came back to avenge the loss to the Imagers by knocking off the Ballantrae bunch in the semis.

The Boys Are Back donated their \$275 winnings to the Children's Wish Foundation. Heads Up received the \$150 second-place prize package.

Kawartha downed the Splash of Ajax in the Ladies D final. Kawartha won all three round robin matches, including a triumph over the Splash. The Peterborough team prevailed over the A & S ladies squad in the semis. The Splash defeated Uxbridge's Mickey Rat's crew in their semi-final.

The top two teams in each division earned spots in September's Slow Pitch National (SPN) Ontario championships in Niagara Falls.

Spirit to conduct tryout camp at Rec Centre this weekend

Upwards of 85 players will take to the Rec Centre ice surface this weekend as the Spirit of Stouffville hold their spring tryout camp.

The Provincial Junior A Hockey League club will be sizing up talent for the 1998-99 season during the

two-day tryout session, which runs Saturday and Sunday from noon til 4 p.m.

Roughly 10 Stouffville area players are expected to be among those showing off their skills, said new Spirit head coach Brian Perrin.

Players will be coming from such distant destinations as Manitoba and Sudbury to try out for the team.

Invitations were sent to this spring to players from bantam, midget and Junior C teams.

Perrin said the emphasis will be on fleetness as he begins to piece together the team that will take to the ice for its fourth Provincial League season this fall.

"We're looking to strengthen the overall speed of the team, said Perrin. "Not necessarily with size but I think speed is important."

The coach said he's looking to weed out well over half of those attending the weekend camp.

"We expect to take about 30 of these players to our August camp with our veterans and pick our team from there."

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