

Storm mites claim bronze

The Stouffville Storm mite softball team captured the bronze medal from the recent Oshawa tournament with a dramatic 10-7 come-from-behind win over Napanee.

Bruce Cringan keyed the Storm offence with a three-run hit while Philip Wood smashed a homer.

Kevin Mackay's great pitching stymied the Napanee offence.

After losing its first game to Newmarket One 11-1, the Storm suffered a heartbreaking 8-7 extra-inning loss to Napanee and were doubled 10-5 by Vaughan.

The Storm, however, rebounded to rout Newmarket Two 30-2 and qualify for the bronze-medal game.



SPORTS DIGEST

Fowler 24th at Mosport

Chris Fowler steered his Team 3 Red's Snap on Tools/Canadian Forces Monte Carlo to a 24th-place finish at the CAS-CAR National Fast Freight/Exide Batteries race at Mosport International Raceway last Saturday.

Qualifying in the 17th starting position for the 250-lap feature event on the oval, the Stouffville-based team developed a problem with the rear axle on the 176th lap and were forced to pit.

After the Team 3 Red pit crew fixed the problem, Fowler worked his way through the pack and finished 24th having completed 236 laps.

The next race of the season will be at Mosport International Raceway Road Course June 22 and 23.

Losing week for Rebels, Menos

The Claremont Rebels lost its second Oshawa City and District Fastball League game on Wednesday when they dropped a 5-3 decision to the visiting Oshawa Juniors.

Evan Boyd, Terry Challice, Lance Abbot, Scott McKinley, Tom Watson and Rob Watson each had one hit for the Rebels, who fell to 5-2 on the season.

John Sharpe worked the first six innings and was the losing pitcher.

The Rebels will host Mount Albert next Wednesday and play in Bradford on Thursday.

The Menos played two games during the week and suffered losses to the host Oshawa Juniors 6-2 on Monday and Bradford 9-7 at home on Wednesday.

Stapleton was a born leader in field of athletics

From a Grade 9 student at Stouffville District Secondary School who, by her own admission stumbled over her own feet at her first attempt at basketball to the Manager of Athletics and Recreation at three Seneca College campuses.

That is the amazing achievement of Linda (Moffatt) Stapleton, now of Scarborough.

"It was physical education at SDSS that definitely paved the way," the 47-year-old mother of two recalls, "it gave me the confidence I needed."

Stapleton says she'll never forget the conclusion to one basketball game when staff teacher Jim Rehill took her aside and said he'd selected her as one of three stars.

"I replied, 'you're kidding,' I couldn't believe it."

It was that kind of support, she remembers, that encouraged greater things including president of the girls' athletic council.

And it was this position that won her the athletic leadership post at Seneca, an occupation she's held since 1979.

"I really believe it," she says, "it gave me an edge."

Other athletic endeavours back then included volleyball and field hockey. She holds a



Jim Thomas

excellent softball and soccer player.

Only recently, Linda and David returned from an exciting two-week tour of China, accompanied by a team of 21 Seneca College soccer students.

"We were treated like kings and queens," she said, "our hosts were extremely cordial and generous."

In a five-game series, Seneca won two, lost two and tied one.

Stapleton says the experience was something she'll never forget. She's hopeful the "breakthrough" will lead to future exchanges.

Despite these and other successes, Stapleton's Stouffville roots go deep.

"I'll never forget Larry (Bacon) and I organizing the high school's winter carnival. We were on cable tv and everything. It was really something back then."

Her fondest memory relates to one of the first Stouffville women's slo-pitch games.

"I coaxed my mother into playing. She pitched and I caught. It was wonderful."

Wonderful too are her own academic (and athletic) achievements.

"I love my work," she concludes.

coveted school letter.

Among other outstanding athletes of that era she remembers were: Marcia Wagg, Erica DeBruyn, Jean Sanderson and Larry Bacon.

Following graduation, Stapleton went on to McMaster University in Hamilton where she obtained combined BA and BPhysEd degrees plus a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Toronto.

The position at Seneca was her first full-time job.

"It's been tremendously challenging and very rewarding," she says. Responsibilities include the Newman, King and York campuses.

It was at Stouffville District Secondary School she met and later married David Stapleton.

They have one son, Jeffrey, 17, a hockey and baseball star, and one daughter, Joanna, 14, an

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