

SPORTS

Geiger, Canada eighth in relay at world jrs.

Natalie Geiger helped the women's 4 x 400-metre relay team advance to Sunday's final of the 12th IAAF Junior World Championships in Bydgoszcz, Poland where they finished eighth.

The Stouffville resident was part of a team that was rounded out by Sarah Wells of Unionville, Alyssa Johnson of Winnipeg and Jessica Parry of London.

The foursome finished the race in a time of 3:39.27.

The United States took the gold medal in a time of 3:30.19 while the Ukraine was second and Australia, third.

Geiger, who graduated from Stouffville District Secondary School last month and trains with the University of Toronto Track and Field Club, will attend Notre Dame University in September.

For more on the championships, log on to: www.iaaf.org

Brown second on Niagara links

Wesley Brown carded an 11-over par 83 to finish in a two-way tie for second in the Canadian Junior Golf Association's Kaneff Junior Series event at the Royal Niagara Golf Club near Niagara-on-the-Lake Monday.

Entered in the boys 14-16 division, the 15-year-old Gormley resident was tied with Truman Tai, 14, of Markham and finished two shots behind winner James Rim of Ajax in the one-day event.

For more on the CJGA, log on to: www.cjga.com

Softball silver for Stouffville boys

Four Stouffville residents played a key role as the Goodwood-Stouffville midget selects won silver at the Georgian Bay Minor Softball League tournament in Victoria Harbour. They lost 18-6 to Georgian Bay in the final.

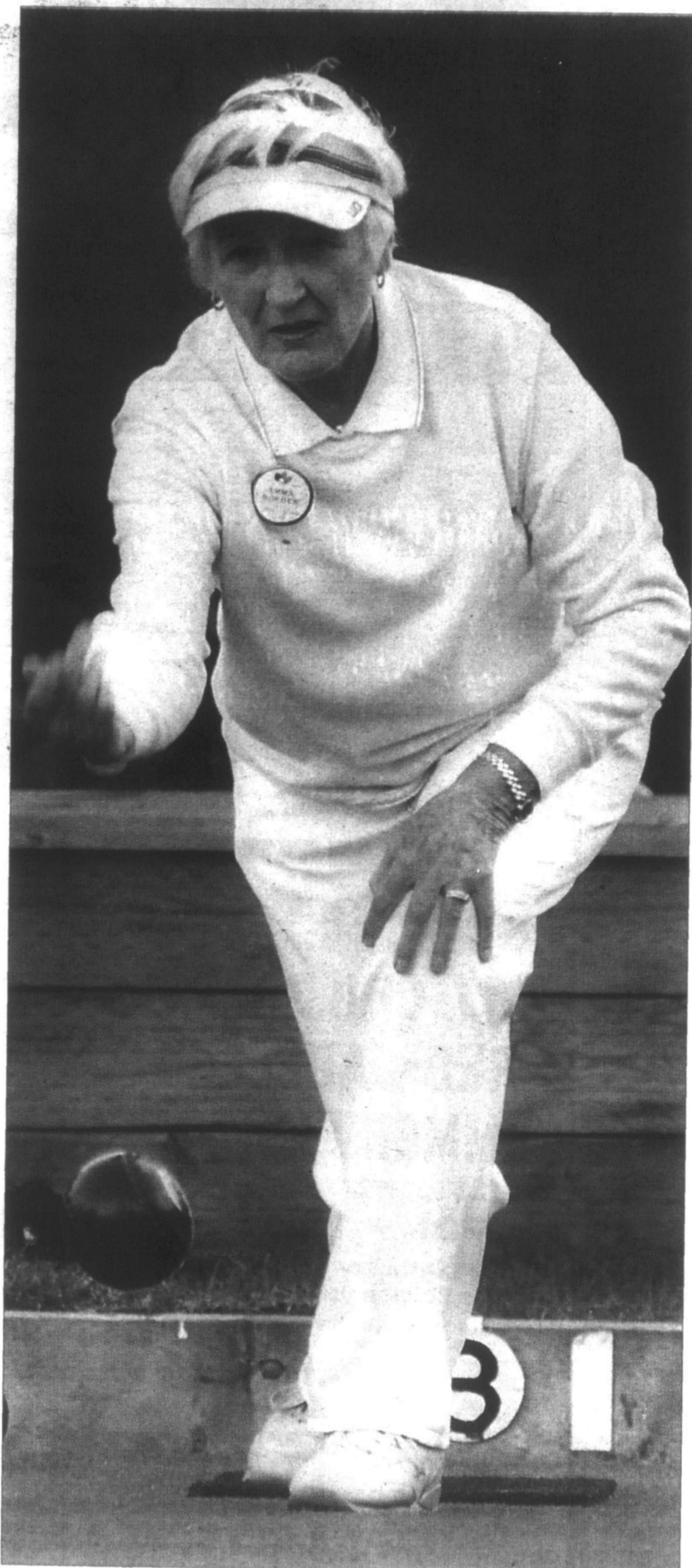
Tyler Hodges, Mike Finn, Peter Wideman and Connor McDonald helped the defending Ontario Amateur Softball Association provincial champions in the first tournament of the season. The defeated Georgian Bay 4-3, Orangeville Wildcats 8-6 and Pickering Prowlers 11-1.

Hodges earned the club's MVP award during the tournament.

The selects' next tournament is scheduled for Saturday in Unionville.

This year's OASA Provincial Select Championships will take place in Victoria Harbour Aug. 23.

EVENING OF GREENS



STAFF PHOTO/MIKE BARRETT

Erma Roeder bowls during house league play at Stouffville Lawn Bowling Club Monday night. The first-year bowler loves the social nature of the evening. Newcomers are welcome.

Break-out season for Harris on B.C. school ball team

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

When Jessie Harris entered her sophomore campaign with the Simon Fraser University Clan women's softball team this year, she didn't have high expectations.

The 20-year-old Stouffville native, who plays centre field for the Clan, thought it would be a season in which she would just gain another year of experience and roll with the punches.

But such wasn't the case for the Stouffville District Secondary School graduate.

In fact, Harris was a vital cog with the Clan, as they received an at-large bid to compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national championship.

While winning their first three games, the Clan lost their last three that included a 6-1 loss to Dickinson State May 19 to end their season.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Inserted as their lead-off hitter and sporting the fourth-best batting average on the team in 30 games played at .408, Harris led the Clan in several offensive categories including RBIs with 33, total bases 79, runs scored 33 and hits 42.

"Other than getting more playing experience this year, I didn't really think that I would have the kind of year I'm having," she said.

She played behind senior national team members Erin McLean and Melanie Matthews during her freshman season.

"Last year, because I was a rookie and playing behind so many great hitters, I didn't get that many opportunities to hit. Now I'm getting those opportunities and it has allowed me to work on my hitting and slapping," she said.



JESSIE HARRIS: Stouffville native leads Simon Fraser on offence as lead-off hitter.

Her arrival at the Burnaby, B.C., campus came via her appearance at a junior national camp.

"My sister played with Erin McLean and she ran the junior national camp that I attended. Erin told our coach (Mike Renney) about me and he scouted me at the Canada Cup," she said.

After entertaining offers from universities south of the border, Harris eventually felt the opportunity to remain in Canada was best.

Not just for an education, but in the calibre of ball she would face since at the NAIA level as the Clan compete against U.S.-based schools.

EUROPE AFTER SCHOOL?

"Canada has a better education system, and playing at Simon Fraser allowed me to remain in Canada and play top-calibre competition," she said.

While Harris is enjoying a vintage season, she hasn't given much thought as to where her career in the game might take her in Canada.

"But a number of former players have gone on to play in Europe or overseas, and that could be something I would enjoy following university," she said.

VENDORS WANTED

for the

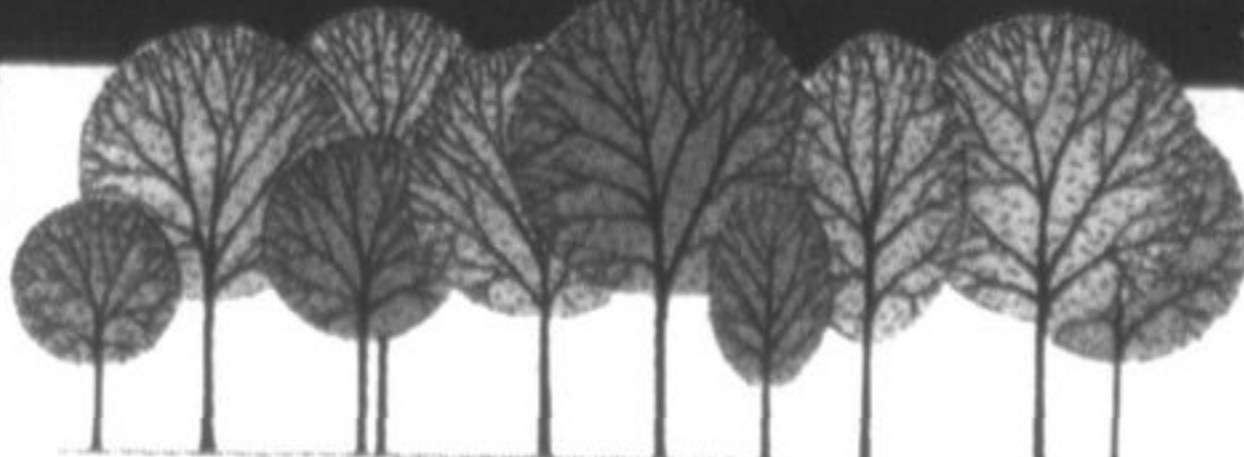


MARKHAM FALL
HOMESHOW

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at the Markham Fairgrounds

ARTISTS/ANTIQUES WANTED

for the



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For more information call
Susan, Judy or Linda at 905.294.2200

