

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SPORTS

Aurora asst. GM jumps to Spirit

Silverman joins old friends in Stouffville

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

For the last three Provincial Jr. A Hockey League seasons, Perry Silverman served as assistant general manager for the Aurora Tigers.

When the puck is dropped to start the upcoming season, the 50-year-old Richmond Hill native will serve in the same capacity.

Only this time around, he will do it with the Stouffville Spirit.

While Silverman enjoyed his time with the Tigers, he felt the time was right for a change in scenery.

Especially since the Spirit will be moving into the league's newly-formed pilot project eight-team division placing an emphasis on rigorous operating requirements and development of players for the Ontario Hockey League and Canadian and U.S. university hockey.

NEW DIVISION

"It's exciting and it'll be a new challenge and a great opportunity to be with the new division the Spirit will be playing in," Silverman said.

Employed full-time by the Richmond Hill Arena Association where he handles ice bookings, Silverman said he was first approached by the Spirit near the end of last sea-

son by Spirit co-owners Zeev Werek and Dave Laren.

And when the Spirit officially hired Mark Joslin in to fill the general manager void left when Thomas Milne resigned, it was an easy decision for Silverman.

"I've known Zeev and Dave for a long time," Silverman said. "And I've also known Mark (Joslin, Spirit general manager and associate coach) for a long time, too."

Joslin said Silverman will have more of a prominent role with the Spirit.

PROMINENT ROLE

"He will do a lot of administrative stuff," Joslin said of Silverman's responsibilities. "Perry knows the league executive well along with the rules and regulations and he will help Pat (Pare, Spirit assistant coach) with schooling issues the kids have and I will convene with Perry on any player transactions."

"That will definitely help me focus in on what I have to do. I'm more of a hands on guy on the ice," Joslin said.

Silverman was a convenor in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association and with minor hockey in Richmond Hill.

"I will definitely take that role (administrative capacity) on. I feel it's the most important role to keep the junior team close to the minor hockey association. Right now I feel this group (the Spirit) is going in the right direction," he said.

Mennos hope to play tonight

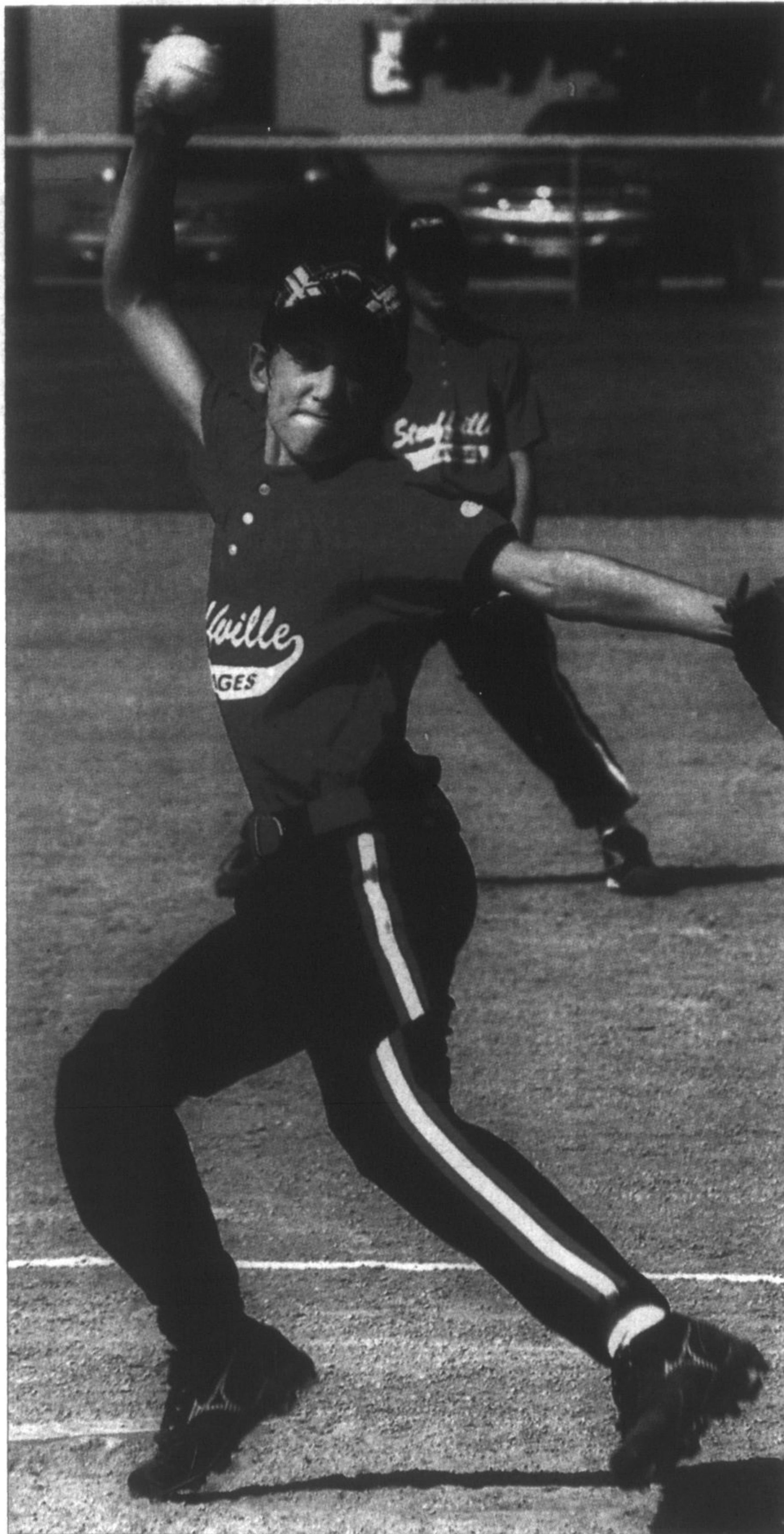
The Stouffville Mennos and Scarborough Wolverines were scheduled to play their Oshawa City and District Fastball League game Tuesday at L'Amoreaux Park in Scarborough.

The weather, however, put a dent in those plans when heavy rains in the afternoon rendered the field unplayable and forced a postponement of the contest.

No make up date has been set yet.

The Mennos are scheduled to resume league play tonight against Toronto in Stouffville Memorial Park at 8:30 p.m.

HERE IT COMES



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Stouffville's Josh Burkholder delivers to a St. Catharines batter in a squirt boys select softball tourney in Memorial Park last weekend. Topham Park (Toronto) won the tournament with an 8-7 win over St. Catharines in final. Stouffville, in its tournament debut, won one game and lost two.

Squirts to provincial finals

The Stouffville Storm squirt boys captured the Ontario Amateur Softball Association west regional qualifier with a 13-2 win over New Hamburg in the championship game last weekend in Waubausheene.

The Storm advances to the OASA championships Aug. 9 and 10 in Kitchener.

The Storm scored the eventual game-winning run in the third inning Sunday when Patrick Henri reached first base on an error and advanced to second on a single by Hunter Davidson. Kerrick Brown had a bunt single that scored Henri. Patrick Fiorino singled in Hunter and Brown to give the Storm a 3-2 lead.

In the fifth inning, the Storm erupted for eight runs, thanks to hits from Henri, Matt Avoleto, Jones, Fiorino and Nathan Cho.

Ryan Jones pitched seven innings and surrendered just five singles while striking out eight batters to earn the win.

Outstanding defensive play in the outfield by Tommy Boyle, Fiorino, Cameron Flemming and Tyler Krabi helped preserve the victory.

To reach the final, the Storm faced a previously undefeated Teeswater team and emerged with a 5-3 win.

The Storm broke the ice with two runs in the third inning when Brown walked, Fiorino singled and Boyle singled to score both runners.

After Teeswater countered with three runs in their half of the third inning to take a 3-2 lead, the Storm scored the game-winning runs in their half of the seventh inning when Henri, Avoleto and Jones each singled and scored on a double by Davidson.

Jones worked seven innings and gave up just six singles to earn the win.

Also contributing to the club's win was some excellent defensive work in the infield by Brown, Avoleto, Luke Simcoe and Davidson.

The Storm began the tournament with a first-round bye and in the second round they defeated Waubausheene 11-9.



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