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1930- 2000's



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2000 Ontario Summer Games Gold Medal Champions
WINDSOR WILDCATS

Front Row: L-R Kerri Maurina, Krista Banner, Jenna White, Erin Lambros, Laura Lauzon.

Back Row: L-R John Maurina, Francine Stadler, Ken Lebert, Leanne Ghent, Jackelyn Desjardins, Krystal Banfill, Ashley LeClaire, Rebecca, Hudson, Shannon MacFarlane, Jen Marie Dowdell, Ken Lauzon, Mark Desjardins.



METRO CATERING TEAM PICTURE SEPTEMBER 11, 2000. LEAGUE AND PLAYOFF CHAMPS.
FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: DAN SEBEN, BOB GIRARD, GREG GUY, BRANDON GODDARD,
DEAN DOHERTY, HENRY JEDLINSKI, ROB OTTERMAN.
BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: DON ING, BILL KASCHAK, BRIAN RICHIE, WES KIVININ, .
MARK MILLARD, BRUNO FLAMMIA, MANAGER BILL KASCHAK SR.

Young Wildcats Back for a second year, the Windsor Wildcats are hoping to continue its Mite Fastball Program.

"We had four teams last year and most of the girls have moved up to older divisions," convener Wayne Bondy said.

The program is designed for girls born in 1990-92 and stresses the fundamentals of girls fastball. The program also features a provincial travel team.

"We wanted to get the younger kids involved in fastball," Bondy said of the origins of the program.

"We'd like to see it continue to grow in Windsor"

For parents, the most attractive part of the program is that there is no cost to register a player.

"We'd just like to see the kids more involved," Bondy said.

Anyone seeking further information on the program can contact Bondy at 966-1429.

Rodriques honoured Wildcat alumnist Dayna Rodriques, a Villanova graduate, has been named the Midwestern Collegiate Conference player-of-the-week.

The first baseman for the University of Detroit-Mercy hit .455 in four games with a home run and five RBI.

FASTBALL

Windsor Regional League

	W	L
Buck or Two	2	0
Forest Glade	2	1
Metro Catering	1	1
Windsor Body	1	1
South Windsor	0	3

Tonight's Games Buck or Two vs. Metro, 6:30 p.m.
Windsor Body vs. Forest Glade, 8:15 p.m.
(Both games at Windsor Stadium)

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Dayna Rodriques
...player of the week

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Villanova takes fastball title The Villanova Wildcats won the Detroit Catholic Girls A/B Fastball League championship with a 4-2 victory over Farmington Hills Mercy Monday. Kelly Bondy drove in three runs off a two-run, second-inning single and a ground out and Diane St. Germain had a double, triple and one RBI. Leadoff hitter Amanda Deneau hit a pair of triples and scored a run. Erin Lambros was the winning pitcher. The Wildcats, who went 19-3 overall, have been in the league for five years but this marked their first championship.

Lady Wildcats Not to be outdone, Villanova's girls' fastball team also reaped several individual honours after taking its first Detroit Catholic League AA Fastball League title in five years.

Four Wildcats earned all-league honours and three went on to be named all-catholic.

"We've got a Grade 9 and Grade 10 pitcher and a Grade 9 catcher," manager Kirk Hayes said. "This team will be strong for another three years."

Pitcher Dianne St. Germain was named all-league after posting a 7-1 record with three saves and a 2.25 ERA. She also led the team with a .480 batting average and a .527 on-base percentage.

Joining her on the all-league team and also named all-catholic was first baseman Sara LeBlanc, centre-fielder Kelly Bondy and left-fielder Krista Dunn.

LeBlanc hit .353 and led the team with 11 steals. Bondy hit .283 and Dunn .408.

Shortstop Heather Owen, who hit .378, was named to the all-academic team while third baseman Kelly Fazekas and pitcher Erin Lambros earned all-league honorable mention.

Consolation title Katherine Weinz allowed just six hits over two complete games in the medal round as the Windsor Lady Expos novice II fastball team won the consolation championship of the Richmond, Mich. tournament on the weekend.

Wildcats roll The Windsor Wildcats Midget I team has qualified for the USSSA World Series in North Carolina next month.

The Wildcats earned that trip by taking the Little Caesar's Summer Fastball Classic in Canton, Mich.

Windsor went 4-0 in pool play before defeating the Fort Wayne, Ind., Fire 3-1 in extra innings in the championship.

Natalie Taylor was outstanding on the mound, allowing just one earned run in 38 innings and striking out 45. She also led the team with a .333 average in the tournament with Alexis Rehman hitting .316.

Softball championships Canada split its two round robin games at the Men's ISF World Fast Pitch Softball Championships in East London, South Africa Tuesday. In the first game Canada defeated Taiwan 10-0, but in the following match, suffering its first loss, 3-2 to Australia. Canada's record at the world championships is 4-1. Against Australia, Colin Abbott, of Portugal Cove, Nfld., had an RBI triple.

FASTBALL

Windsor Regional League

	W	L	T	P
Metro Catering	5	2	0	10
Buck or Two	4	2	0	8
Windsor Body	3	3	0	6
Forest Glade	2	4	1	5
South Windsor	1	4	1	3

Tonight's Games Metro vs. Forest Glade, 6:30 p.m.

Buck or Two vs. South Windsor, 8:30 p.m.

FASTBALL

WINDSOR REGIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	T	P
Metro Catering	8	5	0	16
Forest Glade	6	5	1	13
Buck or Two	5	5	0	10
Windsor Body	5	5	0	10
South Windsor	3	7	1	7

Thursday Games Windsor Body vs. South Windsor, 6:30 p.m.

Buck or Two vs. Forest Glade, 8:30 p.m.
(Doubleheader at Windsor Stadium)

FASTBALL

Windsor Recreational League

	W	L	T	P
Metro Catering	10	5	0	20
Forest Glade	7	6	1	15
Windsor Body	7	6	0	14
South Windsor	5	9	1	11
Buck or Two	5	8	0	10

Tonight's Games Metro vs. Buck or Two, 6:30 p.m.

Forest Glade vs. Windsor Body, 8:30 p.m.
(Doubleheader at Windsor Stadium)

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FASTBALL

WINDSOR REGIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	T	P
Metro Catering	11	5	0	22
Forest Glade	7	7	1	15
Windsor Body	7	6	0	14
South Windsor	5	9	1	11
Buck or Two	5	8	0	10

Monday Result Metro Catering 3 Forest Glade 1

Thursday Games Metro vs. Buck or Two, 6:30 p.m.

Forest Glade vs. Windsor Body, 8:30 p.m.
(Doubleheader at Windsor Stadium)

SOFTBALL

■ **Women's - 5 a.m. (CBC) and 5:45 a.m. (TSN):** After tough games against the U.S., New Zealand and Australia, Canada squares off against Japan, a team touted as one of the medal contenders on the diamond at the Sydney Games.

FASTBALL

WINDSOR REGIONAL LEAGUE

Playoffs

Monday Results Metro Catering 5 South Windsor 2, (Metro Catering wins best-of-five series 3-0)

Forest Glade 3 Windsor Body 2 (Forest Glade wins best-of-five series 3-0)

Thursday Games Forest Glade vs. Metro Catering, 8 p.m. at Windsor Stadium

SOFTBALL

■ **Women's - 7:30 p.m.:** Canada, led by the pitching of the Newsham sisters, takes on the United States, which features the hard-throwing Lisa Fernandez. The Canada-U.S. game is followed by China vs. Italy, Cuba vs. Japan, and Australia vs. New Zealand.



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Team of the Week



The Windsor Wildcat bantam Tier I girls fastpitch softball team won gold at the Ontario Summer Games. Front row, from left; Kerri Maurina and Laura Lauzon. Second row, from left; Krista Banner, Jenna White and Erin Lambros. Third row, from left; Leanne Ghent, Jackelyn Desjardins, Krystal Banfill, Ashley Leclair, Becky Hudson, Shannon MacFarlane and Jeanne-Marie Dowdell. Back row, from left; manager Francine Stadler, coaches John Maurina, Ken Lebert, Ken Lauzon and Mark Desjardins.

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Therapeutic pursuit

Canadian softball team counts on Meloche at Summer Games

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of profiles of local athletes, coaches and officials who are going to Sydney, Australia, for the Olympics Sept. 15-Oct. 1 and the Paralympics Oct. 18-29.

By MARY CATON
STAR SPORTS WRITER

Tracy Meloche had the TV on, watching women's softball at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

As the camera panned the dugout of the Canadian team, Meloche spied her friend and colleague, serving as their athletic therapist.

"I knew he worked with the national team but I didn't really think about it when I put on the TV," Meloche said.

"It was the first year softball was at the Olympics and I thought to myself, I'd love to be there with the sport that I love."

She'll get that chance as the therapist for the women's national team competing at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

A 30-year-old Essex native, Meloche can hardly wait to leave.

Exactly what to take is proving to be one of her biggest challenges.

Requests for Olympic souvenirs have been pouring in from family and friends since Meloche found out she was going.

"I'm trying to keep my suitcase pretty empty on the way over," she said, with a laugh.

She's already brought one load of memorabilia back from a pre-Olympic tournament held by the host country last April.

A graduate of Essex District Secondary School, Meloche played soccer, volleyball and badminton for the Red Raiders. She used to be an infielder in

the Windsor/Essex County fastball league.

Meloche went on to get her diploma in sport injury management from Sheridan Community College.

She's been working as an athletic therapist since 1991, most recently on staff at York University.

A friend and former classmate hooked up with the national softball program years ago and offered Meloche's name when the junior team needed a therapist.

"I had one week's notice to make a trip with them to Taiwan," Meloche said.

Upon return, she was offered the chance at several assignments with the senior team, which was interested in adding a second therapist to its program. She was part of a competition in San Diego last fall and the Australian tournament this spring.

Finally, in May, Softball Canada extended an Olympic invitation.

"It's speeding up on me but I'm feeling pretty darn good about it," Meloche said.

"I've been told it's typically 16-hour days. I'm basically the first one up and the last one to bed."

The health of 15 players is her domain. She gets everything ready before the team arrives at the diamond for a morning practice, does all the taping of ankles, fingers or wrists and she hangs around the back stop in case of injury and follows up with treatments afterwards.

"This group has been relatively injury free so far," she said.

"These players are older and they know their bodies better than I know their bodies. Basically, when it comes to playing or not, it's a three-way decision between me, the coach and the player, but I have the ultimate say."



Thirty-year-old Essex native Tracy Meloche is leaving for Australia with the women's national softball team for the 2000 Summer Olympic Games. Star photo: Tim Fraser

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Australia 1 Canada 0 Brooke Wilkins pitched a one-hitter and the Australians scored a controversial run in the sixth inning to beat Canada 1-0 Tuesday in Olympic softball.

Australia (3-0) broke a scoreless tie in the sixth when Sue Fairhurst singled and advanced to second on an error. Pinch-runner Selina Follas took third on Sally McCreedy's single.

Peta Edebone hit a grounder to third base. The throw went to first, getting Edebone and then the relay went home.

Catcher Lesley Attwell, standing over homeplate, applied the tag, but the umpire called the play safe. Replays showed Follas' foot had not touched the plate.

McCreedy went 2-for-3 for Australia.

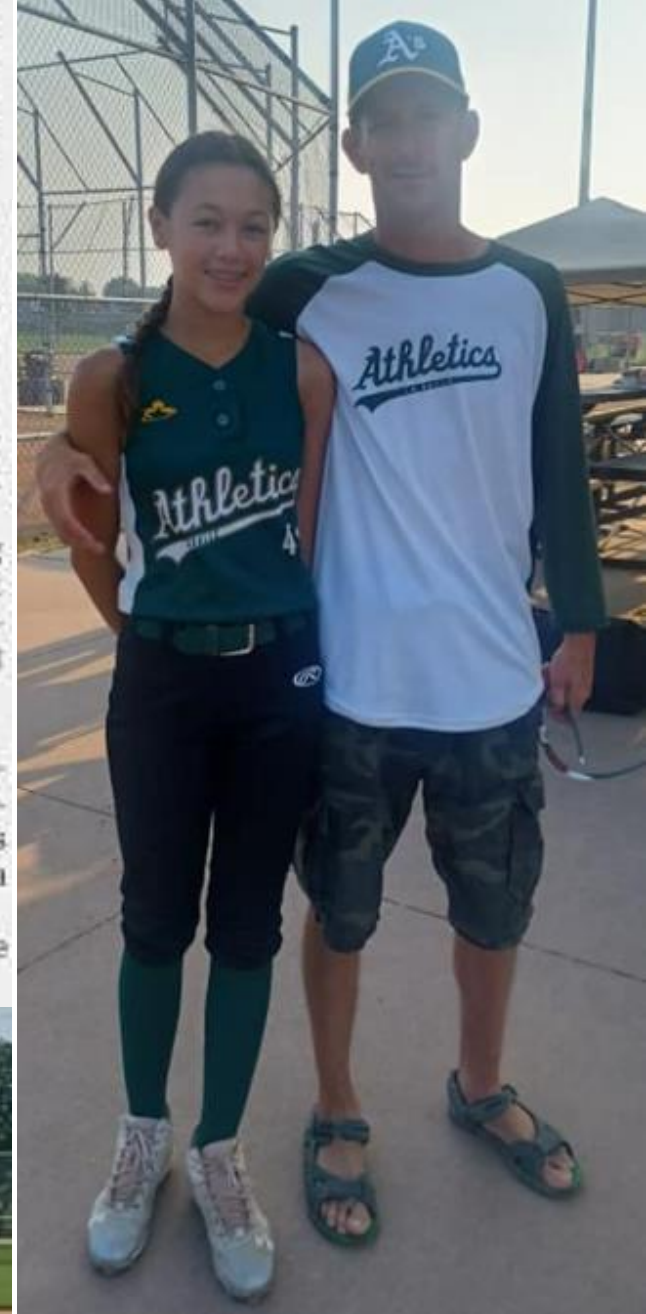
Wilkins, who pitched the last two innings of a combined no-hitter the previous night, extended her hitless streak to six innings before giving up a single to West to lead off the fifth.

She struck out 11 and walked three as Canada dropped to 0-3.



Saskatoon's Jacki Nichol, the starting pitcher for the Canadian women's softball team, winds up for a fast ball pitch Tuesday during the game against Australia in Sydney. Canada lost 1-0.

AP photo: J. Pat. Carr



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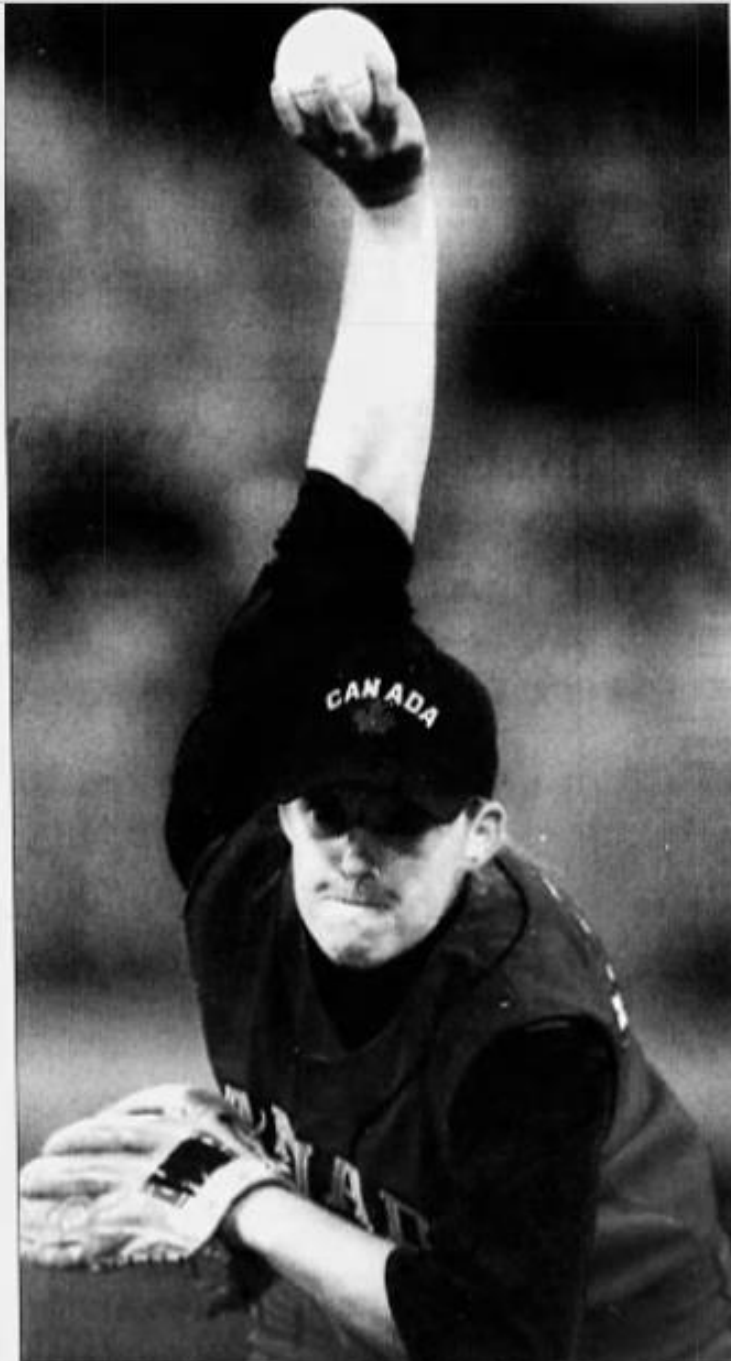
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Saskatoon's Jackie Nichol, the starting pitcher for the Canadian women's softball team, winds up for a fast ball pitch Tuesday during the game against Australia in Sydney. Canada lost 1-0. AP photo: J. Phil Carr

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