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Wildcats win qualifier The Windsor Wildcats midget girls fastball team won the Interlakes USSSA qualifying tournament in Commerce, Mich. Windsor was 5-0 in the tournament, including a 7-0 victory over Fenton in the final. Sue Verbeem led Windsor with seven hits and eight runs batted in for the tournament.

The win qualifies the Wildcats for the USSSA World Series in Kansas in July.

WILDCATS WIN IN ANN ARBOR

The Windsor Wildcats Midget girls team won the Ann Arbor Summer Classic Tournament, defeating the host team Ann Arbor Gold 9-2 in the championship game.

Leading hitters for the team were
Krista Switzer with a .444 average
and Lindsay Verkoeyen who batted
.364. Pitcher Erin Lambros won
three games.

— Star Staff

WILDCATS IN BIG SHOW

The Windsor Wildcats qualified for the girls fastball World Series after winning the Bantam 1 tournament in Marine City, Mich. Windsor posted a 5-0 record and was led by Amanda Boismier's three shutouts and .500 average.

The World Series will be played in Canton, Ohio, July 29-Aug. 4. — Star Staff

Women's softball Canada split its opening games at the U.S. Cup women's softball tournament, rebounding to beat Australia 3-2 after losing to the host U.S. 7-0 in Honolulu. The Americans, ranked No. 1 in the world, scored runs in five different innings en route to the victory Thursday. The No. 8 Canadians did throw a U.S. runner out at the plate and only a fine catch at the fence denied Sasha Olson of Burnaby, B.C., a home run.

Golden girls win provincial championship



Windsor Wildcat Allison Nolte, top, misses a pitch while teammate Amanda Boismer delivers one at the provincial women's softball championship against Guelph at Mic Mac Park Saturday, Windsor later won gold with a 3-1 win over Oakville Sunday.



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St. Clair College adds to its coaching lineup

BY DAVE WADDELL

STAR SPORTS WRITER

Perhaps St. Clair College should change the school emblem from a Gryphon to a Phoenix.

The athletic department, reduced to near ashes by cutbacks a few short years ago, continued its re-

BIII Smith

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birth Tuesday with the addition of a women's fastball program for this fall.

In what is becoming an annual summer rite under the reign of college president John Strasser, fastball joins men's hockey, women's basketball and men's volleyball as the latest programs to be introduced.

"It's been a dream of mine and of the many athletes here at the school to see this come here," said Bill Smith. who was introduced as the Saints' first fastball coach at a

"We're only one of seven

Smith, who has coached women's fastball locally for a decade with the Windsor Expos and Windsor Wildcats, will literally have to go to summer school to get the program up and running.

Training camp will open in just over a month with the 12game schedule beginning Sept. 6 at Seneca.

"It'll be a huge task putting the team together quickly,"



Brian Martyn, BBA, CIM

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LIGHTHOUSE

RAYMOND JAMES

Tuesday news conference.

schools to offer fastball. It's a national sport and Olympic sport. We're providing another opportunity for female players to continue playing."

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Smith said. "We have a core of a team and we'll see who else walks through the door."

One of those players will be Niki Ouellette.

The student athletic association president helped plant the seed for the program last spring during the OCAA hockey championships.

"Dr. Strasser was open to the idea and we had to provide a list of names to prove the program could fly" Ouellette said. "I know we already have enough players here to have a good team.

"It's very exciting because this provides a place for players to play after the midget level."

Start on the road

The Saints play their first six games plus a tournament on the road before opening at home with a doubleheader Sept. 28 at Windsor Stadium.



Dr. Betty Ann Tarr OPTOMETRIST

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Windsor Fastball The Windsor Regional Fastball Select team finished fifth at the Ontario Men's Intermediate Fastball Championships in Ingersoll.

Windsor went 3-2 in the doubleknockout tournament. Dan Sebben led the team with a .600 average while driving in five runs.

Wildcats win bronze The Windsor Wildcats Bantam I girls fastball team won a bronze medal at the Ontario Summer Games over the weekend. The Wildcats' 2-2 finish qualifies them for the Canadian championships Aug. 7-11 in Quebec.

Championship aspirations



BURNABY BOUND: Windsor Wildcats midget softball team members, from left, Kerri Maurina, 17, Jessica Snelgrove, 19, Krista Banner, 16, Michelle Baggio, 17 and Sue Verbeem, 19 wash a car in Lasalle Sunday. The team was raising money for the Canadian championships in Burnaby, B.C.

Star photo: Kristine Racicot

South Canadians The Windsor South Canadians Major Girls All-stars leave Thursday for the Canadian championships in Victoria, B.C.

The team of 11- and 12-year-olds won the District 5 championship with a perfect 3-0 record and in the process were crowned Ontario champs.

The South Canadians begin play in the fiveteam Canadian Championships Friday.

A victory at that tournament would send them to the World Championships in Portland, Ore.

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Lady Expos golden

Girls advance to provincials

STAR STAFF AND NEWS SERVICES

The Windsor Lady Expos bantam club (for girls ages 16 and under) took gold at a provincial qualifier in London on the weekend. The Expos rolled to a perfect 4-0 record and now advance to the Provincial Grand Championship Aug. 16-18 in St. Catharines. Windsor

SPORTS IN BRIEF

opened the tournament with an 8-7 win over Palmerston and then scored mercy wins of 10-0 over East London and 13-1 over South London. Windsor captured the 12-team tournament with a 5-3 win over East London. Silver lining The Windsor Expos novice team (for girls ages 14 and under) had to settle for the silver medal at a provincial qualifier at Mic Mac Park. Windsor was unbeaten through three games with wins of 9-3 over Stratford, 6-1 over Palmerston and 7-2 over Kitchener. The Expos needed just one more win to take gold but Kitchener came back with wins of 5-4 and 9-1 to claim the double-knockout tournament. The second-place finish still earns the Expos a trip to the Provincial Grand Championship Aug. 9-11 in Kingston.

Squirt tournament The Windsor Expos squirt team (for girls 12 and under) lost both games at a provincial qualifier at Mic Mac Park on the weekend. The Expos fell 8-6 to Guelph and 5-4 to Chatham and were eliminated from the double-knockout tournament.



TIME OUT: Australia's Natalie Ward takes a break at the women's world softball finals in Saskatoon. CP photo



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Ontario baseball fever



Jen Daley, 18, of the Windsor Lady Expos (18 and under), practises with coach Gary Archer Friday at Mic Mac Park during the Ontario Midget Provincial Qualifying tournament.



SHORT SHOT: Windsor Wildcat Becky Hudson, 18, bunts against the Teeswater Titans during baseball action Friday at Mic Mac Park during the Ontario Midget Provincial Qualifying tournament. Star photo: Simon Haster

Windsor wins Windsor defeated the top ranked B.C. Richmond Islanders 3-0 at the Canadian Midget girls fastball championships in Burnaby, B.C. Windsor is now 4-0 in the tournament and will play Calgary today at 8:30 a.m.

Softball plea The head of softball's world governing body met Monday with IOC president Jacques Rogge to try to keep the sport from being dropped from the Olympics starting in 2008.



Turtle Club wins crown

Team advances to World Series

STAR STAFF AND NEWS SERVICES

LaSalle Turtle Club won the Canadian Little League junior girls softball championship in Victoria, B.C. Monday.

BASEBALL NOTES

Kim Micaleff singled in the winning the run in the sixth inning of a 3-2 win over B.C. Nationals. Micaleff had two hits and two RBIs on the game.

The Turtles had to rally from an early 2-0 deficit, finally tying it with a two-run fourth inning rally.

Krista Robinson had a solid game defensively at second base. Carolyn Nelson came on in the second inning in relief of starter Kayla Robinson and the two combined for a three-hitter.

The Turtles advance to the World Series in Seattle, Washington. They open Monday at 3 p.m. against the U.S. Southwest region.

Local teams to play in provincial finals

The Windsor Wildcats jumped to a 4-0 lead after two innings and held on for a 4-3 win over the Windsor Lady Expos in the final of the Midget Provincial Qualifying Fastball Tournament held

BASEBALL NOTES

at Mic Mac Park over the weekend. The Wildcats qualify for the provincial finals Aug. 16-18 in Sarnia. Joining them will the Expos along with the bronze medallists from Sarnia.

Windsor South claims title The Windsor South Canadians came from behind twice Monday to edge Lakehill, B.C. 4-3 in 10 innings to win the Canadian Little League Softball Championship in Victoria, B.C. After forcing extra innings with a run in the bottom of the sixth inning, the Canadians watched previously unbeaten Lakehill take a 3-2 lead in the top of the 10th inning. In the bottom of the inning, Kelly Carr's RBI single scored Alex Passa to tie the game before Kaitlyn Bailey's base hit scored Melissa Mendler with two outs to complete the rally. Carr, who pitched the first nine innings, was

relieved by Kelsey Schincariol to become the pitcher of record. Windsor now travels to Port-

land, Ore. to compete in the Little League Soft-

ball World Series beginning Wednesday.

Midgets win three The Windsor Wildcats Midget I team improved to 3-0 in pool play with a pair of wins Monday at the Canadian Midget Girls Fastball Championships in Burnaby, B.C. Windsor, which opened the tournament Sunday with a 2-0 win over Surrey, downed Red Deer 11-4

and Regina 8-1 Monday. The Wildcats face top-

seeded B.C. I in today's action.

Aug. 11.

Fourth inning blitz The Windsor South Canadians used an eight-run fourth inning to down the Thunder Bay Mudhens 15-5 as the Canadian Senior and Big League Softball Championships opened Monday at Mic Mac Park. In the day's other game, Layritz, B.C. edged Sunridge (Prairies) 11-10. Leading the Canadians' attack with a pair of hits each were Tiffany Richard and Shelby Galamb.

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TURTLE CLUB IN THE HUNT: The LaSalle Turtle Club is vying for a national title at the Canadian Little League Softball Junior Championships in Victoria, B.C. The team of 13- and 14-year-old girls finished round-robin play tied for first at 3-1. The Turtle Club faces the B.C. National team in a best-ofthree final which ends today. The winner moves on to the Little League Worlds Series in Kirkland, Wash, beginning - Star News Services

Slow start The St. Clair College Saints women's fastball team opened its regular season with a pair of road losses on the weekend. Seneca downed the Saints 10-0 Friday and 7-2 Saturday.



Bronze medal The Windsor Wildcats Bantam I team cap-

tured the bronze medal at the Canadian Bantam Softball Championship in Iberville, Que. on the weekend.

The Wildcats went 6-3 in the tournament and beat the Winnipeg Lightning 2-1 in eight innings to secure the medal.

Wildcats' left-fielder Rhiana Tessier, centre-fielder Shelby Aldous and third baseman Cindy Kavanaugh were named all-Canadian for the tournament.

Tessier led the tournament in batting

with a .588 average (10-for-17) while Aldous hit .579 and Kavanaugh .412 for the Wildcats, who won bronze at the USSSA World Series in Canton, Mich. last week.

Saints fastball The St. Clair Saints women's fastball team finished sixth at the Durham Invitational on the weekend.

The Saints finished the tournament with a 1-4 mark.

Leading hitters for St. Clair were Mandy Grummit (.529), Tara Cariere (.467) and Sarah Neve (.357).

CANADIANS LOSE TIGHT CONTEST

Windsor South Canadians
Caroline Nelson, Kayla Robinson
and Natalie Towsley pitched 16
innings of shutout baseball before
losing a 1-0 heartbreaker to Texas
Monday at the Under-13 Little
League Softball World Series in
Portland, Ore.

Texas won on an unearned run after an error in the bottom of the 16th.

The Canadians play the
Netherlands today.
The championship game is
Wednesday.

— Star Staff

Metro Catering wins Metro Catering won the Windsor Men's Regional Fastball League championship Monday four games to two against Windsor Body at Mic Mac Park. Metro Catering, which finished first overall in the regular season, swept a pair of games by scores of 3-2 and 5-2. LaSalle evens record The LaSalle Turtle Club evened its record at 1-1 Tuesday with a 7-6 win in extra innings over Team Europe at the Junior League Softball World Series in Kirkland, Wash.

Natalie Towsley went three-for-four and drove in Rene Maurice with the winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning for LaSalle, which won the Canadian title last week in B.C.

LaSalle is now 1-1 in the tournament after a 1-0 loss to Texas Monday when Towsley, Caroline Nelson and Kayla Robinson pitched 16 innings of shutout baseball before losing a heartbreaker.

The Turtle Club plays the host team today.

Wildcats capture bronze The Windsor Wildcats Midget 2 team captured the bronze medal this past weekend in Sarnia at the Provincial Grand Championship with a 5-2 win over the Kars Aces from Ottawa.

In the semifinal game, Windsor lost 6-5 to Mississauga in nine innings. Seven Wildcats batted over .300 for the tournament, including Krystal Banfill with a .323 average. Pitcher Sarah Ytsma allowed only four runs in 27 innings.

Wildcats capture bronze The Windsor Wildcats captured a bronze medal at the midget girls national fastball championships in Burnaby, B.C. last weekend.

After going 6-1 in round robin, the Wildcats lost 4-2 to Richmond, B.C. in semi-final action.

Pitcher Jordan Sinclair and shortstop Sue Verbeem were named to the tournament all-star team while catcher Sarah Kish and secondbaseman Michelle Baggio were invited to stay on in B.C. for a national junior team evaluation camp.

Saints fastball The St. Clair College women's fastball team won three of four on a weekend road trip, splitting a pair with Connestoga, 6-7 and 15-5, and sweeping a doubleheader against Canadore in North Bay 3-2, 3-0. The team is 3-3.

Award winner Infielder/outfielder Danielle Bissonnette was named the first winner of the Renee Duguay Memorial Award at Windsor South's banquet on the weekend.

The award is named in memory of the former Windsor South player, who died last year from an enlarged heart.

The 18-year-old Bissonnette had been a teammate of Duguay on the Windsor South Big League team.

Windsor Men's Fastball

Monday's Result Metro Catering beat Windsor Body 3-2 and 5-2 (Metro Catering win best-of-seven series

FASTBALL

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	WOMEN			
	W	L	T	P
Seneca	4	2	0	8
St. Clair	3	3	0	6
Durham	2	1	0	4
Cambrian	2	3	0	4
Canadore	2	3	Ō	4
Mohawk	1	0	Ö	2
Conestoga	1	3	0	2
Saturday Game	Cambrian a	t St. C	Jair, 1	1
am 3nm				

Oct. 1 Game

Mohawk vs. St. Clair at Windsor Stadium, 5 p.m., 7 p.m.

Oct. 5 Durham at St. Clair, 2 p.m., 4 p.m.











Team of the Week

The Windsor South Little League Tigers minor girls softball team were District Five champions. Front row, from left; Becky Lazarus, Brooke Horrobin, Shannon Morrison, Ann-Marie Greaves, Sharon Chan and Amanda Bourque. Middle row, from left; Vanessa Hoffmann, Bethann Alexander, Samantha Joyce, Jenny Baillargeon, Brianna Balzer, Jessica Lemmon and Andrea Zongaro. Back row, from left; coach Derek Balzer, coach Barry Horrobin, coach Mike Baillargeon, and manager Gord Lemmon.

Team of the Week



The Windsor South Canadian Major girls won the Canadian National Softball Championship. Front row, from left; Melennie Trevail, Jenna LaMantia, Morgan Belanger. Middle row, from left; Kaitlin Bailey, Jessica Kipping, Kim Petrozzi, Rachel Legaspi, Kelly Carr, Melissa Mendler, Kelsey Schincariol, Alex Passa, Stephanie Magri. Back row, from left; coach Tom Bailey, manager Kevin Carr, coach Mike Schincariol.







C2. Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Saints turn around season



TAKING A RIP: Tara Carrier of the St. Clair Saints takes a swing against Mohawk College in women's fastball action at Mic Mac Park Tuesday evening. The Saints split the doubleheader. Star pricto: Ted Rhodes

Pitchers propel fledgling fastball team

BY GARY RENNIE STAR SPORTS WRITTER

They've come a long way in just a month against teams with programs two decades old.

St. Clair College's fledgling women's fastball team was drubbed at the start of their first season by Seneca College.

But with pitchers Sara Smith and Niki Ouellette giving them a chance to win against anyone, the Saints have rebounded to play .500 ball and guarantee themselves a playoff spot.

In their first home stand Tuesday, they split a doubleheader at Mic Mac Park with second-place Mohawk College - taking the first 7-4 and dropping the second 14-5.

With a 5-5 record, they'll host firstplace Durham next Saturday at the college in a doubleheader starting at . OCAA standings, C5

2 p.m., then have a week off before the OCAA playoffs.

Tuesday's games showed the team's strengths and weaknesses.

Smith pitched an outstanding first game, taking a 7-1 lead into the final in-

A mini-rally by Mohawk fizzled when Smith went back to her changeup to strike out Jackie Rizzo.

On their way

And when Mohawk pitcher Teresa Duffy struggled at the start of the second game, giving up three straight walks and ultimately three runs, the Saints seemed on their way.

But Ouellette didn't have her usual control and shaky defence didn't help

as the Saints gave up six runs in the first and never recovered.

Smith finished the game but Mohawk squelched any attempts to rally with great defence from shortstop Tory Holub and third baseman Kelly Fazekas, a LaSalle native.

A fine running catch in the outfield by Rizzo was the game's defensive highlight

Smith came off the field with a right arm that was a little sore after almost two full games, but she was happy with the team's first season.

"It's so much fun," Smith said.

"We came together as a team in the first week in September." Ouellette

Shortstop Mandy Grummit agreed that a little better defence to go with already great pitching could give them a shot against anyone.































Durham outguns St. Clair



St. Clair College catcher Mandy Grumitt is in position to apply the tag but the ball arrives too late as Durham baserunner Barb Courtney (8) scores during women's baseball play Saturday at St. Clair College. Durham won both games, 11-0 and 5-2 respectively. Sara Smith went the distance on the mound for the Saints in their 5-2 loss while adding a pair of hits along with teammate Cori Recker, April Lounsbury had two hits in the 11-0 loss. Niki Quellette was the losing pitcher. Durham sits in first place at 10-1 while the Saints slipped to 5-7 and await their final seeding for the OCAA championship tournament Oct. 18-19. Star photo: Ted Rhodes





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