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FASTBALL

Windsor Regional League

Standings

Team	W	L	T
River Downs	6	3	2
Windsor Reds	7	6	0
Main Flame	6	7	1
Merlin	5	5	1
Forest Glade	4	7	0

Thursday Results Merlin 11 Forest Glade 1

Main Flame 6 Windsor Reds 5

River Downs 13 Windsor Reds 3

Monday Results Forest Glade vs. Main Flame, N

Merlin vs. River Downs, N

Thursday Games River Downs vs. Forest Glade, 6:15 p.m.

Main Flame vs. Windsor Reds, 8:30 p.m.

Monday, July 10 Forest Glade vs. Windsor Reds, 6:15 p.m.

Merlin vs. Main Flame, 8:30 p.m.

Softball World Series The LaSalle Turtle Club, representing Canada, lost 16-4 to Germany Ramstein-American at the 2006 Junior Softball World Series in Kirkland, Wash. Turtle Club will play the undefeated West Point team today. The Windsor District 5 softball team, also representing Canada, lost 9-1 to the Southwest team Texas Hallettsville at the Big League Softball World Series in Kalamazoo, Mich. Windsor plays two games today against Latin America and the Central representative from Grand Rapids.

Expos perfect The Windsor Lady Expos squirt division team went 6-0 at the Provincial Women's Softball Association tournament in Chatham, defeating the Turtle Club of LaSalle in the final.

The Lady Expos head to Ohio next week for the USSSA World Series.

Lady Hawks win The Walker Homesites Lady Hawks defeated the Windsor South Canadians 8-5 to capture the District 5 junior girls fastball title. Erica Ruccolo pitched seven strong innings, striking out seven. She also hit a triple and had three RBIs. Aubrae Kehoe had two hits and three RBIs.

Wildcats capture gold The Windsor Wildcats under-12 novice girls baseball team captured gold at the Fastpitch Classic in Toledo, Ohio. Allison Telfer pitched a perfect game and recorded all five wins for the Wildcats (5-1). The top hitters were Maddy Lucas, Nikki Bergeron and Sarah Meeke.

Lady Expos take bronze The Windsor Lady Expos bantam team captured bronze on the weekend. They were defeated by Palmerston (C) 8-7.

The Lady Expos also qualified for the Provincial Grand Championship Aug. 11-13, which they will host, at Jackson Park.

FASTBALL

Windsor Regional League

Team	W	L	T
Windsor Reds	8	7	0
Main Flame	7	8	1
River Downs	6	5	2
Merlin	6	5	1
Forest Glade	6	8	0

Thursday Games Main Flame vs. River Downs, 6:15 p.m.

Forest Glade vs. River Downs, 8:30 p.m.

Windsor Reds vs. Merlin, 7:30 p.m. in Merlin

Monday, July 17 River Downs vs. Windsor Reds, 6:15 p.m.

Merlin vs. Forest Glade, 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 20 Main Flame vs. Forest Glade

River Downs vs. Merlin, 7:30 p.m. in Merlin

FASTBALL

Windsor Regional League

	W	L	T
Windsor Reds	12	7	0
Merlin	8	8	1
Main Flame	8	11	1
Forest Glade	8	9	0
River Downs	7	8	2

Friday Results River Downs vs. Forest Glade, ppd due to rain

Windsor Reds vs. Forest Glade, ppd due to rain

Main Flame vs. Merlin, PPD due to rain

Monday Games Main Flame vs. Windsor Reds, 6:15 p.m.

Merlin vs. River Downs, 8:30 p.m.

Thursday Games Forest Glade vs. Main Flame, 6:15 p.m.

Windsor Reds vs. River Downs, 8:30 p.m.

Team of the Week



The Windsor Lady Expos girls squirt baseball team won a provincial qualifying event and a tournament in Chatham. Front row, from left: Justene Tolton, Rian Debiens, Sarah Bondy, Erica McFadden; second row, from left: Amy Lucas, Madison Wallace, Melissa Mayrand, Karleah Freeland; back row, from left: manager Greg Freeland, coach Lisa Diesbourg, Danielle Vandervecht, coach Paul Georgiou, Paige Butt, Alexa Georgiou, coach Brian Tolton.

District 5 loses The Windsor District 5 girls softball team, representing Canada, lost 15-0 to the West team from Antelope Valley California Thursday at the 2006 Big League World Series in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Windsor plays two games today against the host team from Michigan at 9:30 a.m. and the Asia Pacific representatives from Manila Philippines at 2 p.m.



INTO THE TAG: Windsor Wildcat Karly Bryson, top right, attempts to tag London's Nikki Bergeron Saturday at Jackson Park. Sunday, the Wildcats' under-12 novice girls softball team rallied from two runs down with three hits in the final inning to defeat Stratford 4-3 and capture gold at the provincial qualifier. Tournament MVP was Jordan Beauchesne. The Wildcats, who finished 4-0, advanced to the Ontario championships in Cambridge Aug. 11.

Star photo: Jason Kryk

Team of the Week



The Windsor Lady Expos won a silver medal at the midget provincial qualifier in St. Marys. Front row, from left: Randi Leslie, Melissa Mendler, Andrea Bosnyak, Rachel Legaspi, Sara Leslie, Andrea Ruys; back row, from left: Ron Leslie, Pat Liffiton, Katie Masse, Jacqueline Liffiton, Michelle Maynard, Jill Peters, Melissa Bowyer, Ashley Vincent, Lyndsay Schincariol, Tara Maxim, Hillary Irwin, Stephanie Mordus; absent: Judy Johnson-Doyle.

Turtle Club loses The Turtle Club lost 13-1 to West Point of Greensburg, PA at the Junior Softball World Series Thursday in Kirkland, Washington. Standing 0-4, they will not participate in the semifinals.

Canadians unbeaten Calgary's Sheena Lawrick homered in the bottom of the fourth inning Monday to help Canada beat Britain 5-1 at the women's world softball championships in Beijing, China. The victory raised Canada's record to 2-0. Canada needs a top-four finish to secure a berth at the Beijing Olympics.

Canada 12 South Africa 0 Kaila Holtz of North Vancouver threw a no-hitter and Alison Bradley of Pinkerton added a two-run homer in Canada's 12-0 mercy-rule win over South Africa at the women's softball world championship Friday in Beijing.

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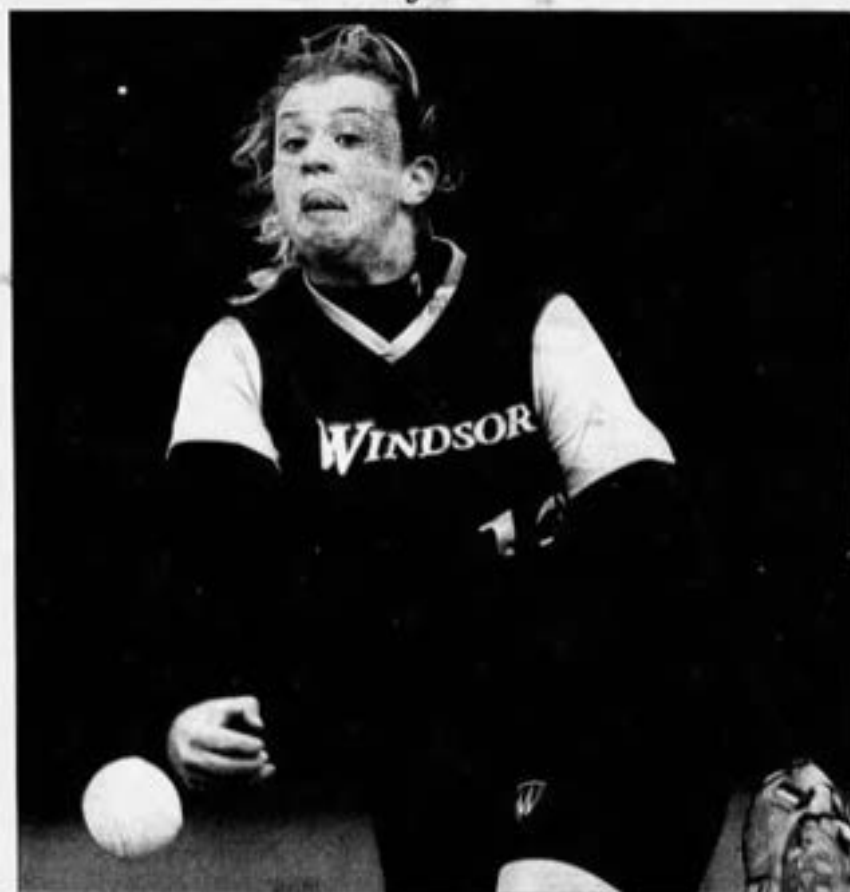
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Team of the Week



The Windsor Wildcats under-12 novice baseball team won their league title and four gold medals in tournament play. Front row, from left: Kendra Chappus Sikich, Sam Bondy, Kim Moroun, Sarah Meeke, Nikki Bergeron, Jordan Beauchesne, Hailey Stewart, Allison Telfer; middle row, from left: Felicia Theroux, Jillian McFadden, Maddy Lucas, Bailey Butler-Cantin; back row, from left: coach Bill Butler, manager Rod Drouillard, coach Bill Meeke, coach Ken Lauzon, coach Sara LeBlanc; absent: Kelsey Waller.

Saints beat fastball rivals



University of Windsor pitcher Ashley Steeves delivers a pitch during exhibition fastpitch action against St. Clair College Tuesday at Jackson Park. The Saints defeated the Lancers 12-2.

Saints photo: Jason King

Saints fastball win The St. Clair women's fastball team defeated Cambrian 9-1 Saturday then defeated them again 14-1 Sunday in Windsor.

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Saints remain unbeaten



St. Clair's Candice Gatecliffe pitches during a 2-1 win over Mohawk Tuesday at St. Clair College. Lindsay Verkooyen scored the winning run on a bunt by Ashley Vincent. St. Clair (7-0) hosts Durham for a double-header Saturday in a battle of unbeaten teams.

Star photo: Scott Webster



BUNT ATTEMPT: Trisha Whaley of the St. Clair Saints attempts to bunt during Tuesday's OCAA women's fastball game against the Mohawk Mountaineers at St. Clair College.

Star photo: Scott Webster

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Out of sight



St. Clair's Ashley Vincent connects for a single to drive in a run in OCAA fastball action Saturday against Durham in Windsor. The Saints defeated the Lords 8-5 in the first game of a double header. Durham won the second game 2-1. St. Clair, with an 8-1 record, stands at the top of the OCAA. The Saints travel to Hamilton Thursday for their next game.

Star photo: Nick Brancaccio

Fastballers split Windsor lost 8-7 to Queens in a university fast pitch double-header Saturday in Kingston. Windsor took the second game 6-3.



STARTER: St. Clair's Melissa Galamb delivers a pitch against Durham during OCAA fastpitch action in Windsor this year.

Star photo: Nick Brancaccio

Saints eye OCAA title

St. Clair to host fastball tourney starting Friday

By DAVE WADDELL
STAR SPORTS WRITER

A late-season swoon cost them first place, but they're hoping to rediscover that magic in the playoffs that made them the best team in the league until the final two weeks of the schedule.

This isn't the tale of the World Series-bound Detroit Tigers, but the St. Clair Saints women's fastball team.

And they would be more than happy to follow their lead this weekend when they host the OCAA Fastball Championship Tournament, which begins Friday.

"Every team has its ups and downs," said Saints first baseman Jackie Desjardins, who leads the team with a .486 batting average. "We're quite confident. The strong est team always comes out on top in the end."



Jackie Desjardins

In addition to the second-seeded Saints and third-ranked Mohawk, the top-seeded Durham Lords and fourth-ranked Seneca Braves round out the field in the double-knockout tourney.

The Saints open against the Mohawk Mountaineers Friday at 2 p.m. at Mic Mac Park.

With seven returnees, including five starters, from last year's OCAA championship club, Desjardins is confident the Saints can recover the form that saw them win their first eight games.

With seven returnees, including five starters, from last year's OCAA championship club, Desjardins is confident the Saints can recover the form that saw them win their first eight games.

"That experience is nice to have, especially with the tournament here in Windsor," Desjardins said. "We feel like we're defending our home turf, not just our championship."

Such talk will no doubt be a comfort to head coach Bill Smith's ears. The only skipper the Saints' fastball program has ever known feels his team simply had an emotional letdown near the end of the season.

"I think emotion will be the key for us," Smith said.

"If they have that emotion and intensity, their bats will work for them. We just didn't have the big innings we usually get in the games we lost."

One-run decisions

The Saints will need to have the sticks sizzling right out of the gate when they expect to face Mohawk ace Jenny Koschanow in their opener. The teams split a pair of one-run decisions during the season.

"She's very fast and she's got good control," Smith said.

The Saints will send Melissa Galamb (3-0, 2.22 ERA) to the mound Friday. Galamb is one of four Saints pitchers ranked in the top 10 in the league in ERA.

However, the Saints also have plenty of pop in their lineup to go with a deep pitching staff.

Smith is hoping that balance, led by Desjardins, Maggie Gray (.400 average) and Trish Whaley (.432 average) will be enough to carry the Saints through the weekend.

The title game is Saturday at Mic Mac Park (5 p.m.).

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St. Clair College is hosting the OCAA Women's Provincial Fastball Championships Oct. 20-21 @ Mic Mac Park

Friday, October 20, 2006

2:00 p.m. Game # 1 St. Clair vs. Mohawk
4:00p.m. Game # 2 Durham vs. Seneca

Saturday, October 21, 2006

10:00 a.m. Game # 3 Runner up Game #1 vs. Runner up Game #2
12:00 p.m. Game # 4 Winner Game #1 vs. Winner Game #2

Bronze Medal Game

2:00 p.m. Game #5 Winner Game #3 vs. Runner up Game #4

Gold/Silver Medal Game

5:00 p.m. Game #6 Winner Game #4 vs. Winner Game #5
7:00 p.m. Game # 7 If necessary

SAINTS TAKE SILVER

The St. Clair Saints had to settle for silver at this weekend's OCAA women's fastball championships held at Mic Mac Park.

The Saints dropped a pair of tight decisions to the eventual champion Durham Lords to be eliminated in the double-knock-out tournament Saturday.

In their first meeting, the Saints lost 4-3 in extra innings forcing them to beat the Lords twice in the gold-medal round. However, the Lords finished off the Saints with a 5-3 decision to wrest the OCAA crown away from the defending champions.

The Saints ensured themselves the silver medal by downing the Mohawk Mountaineers 3-1 in the game to decide the final two medals.

St. Clair's Natalie Taylor did snare the tournament's biggest consolation prize by earning the most valuable player honours. Durham's Danielle Smith was named the tournament's top pitcher.

— Dave Waddell



We may be Saints,
but we're no Angels!



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WINNERS: St. Clair's Jackelyn Desjardins, left, congratulates Maggie Gray Friday after she scored a run in the fifth inning against Mohawk at Mic Mac Park. St. Clair won 7-1.

Star photo: Nick Brancaccio

"We're going to be the champions again."

NATALIE TAYLOR

Saints silence the naysayers

St. Clair dominates Mohawk

By DAVE WADDELL
STARSPORTS WRITER

Expectations of the St. Clair Saints' imminent demise appear to have been greatly exaggerated.

After losing three of their final four games to end the regular season, the whispers began to circulate the defending OCAA women's softball champs were mere shadows of their former selves.

The second-ranked Saints silenced such talk with a near flawless 7-1 hammering of the third-seeded Mohawk Mountaineers in the opening game of the double-knockout OCAA championship tournament at Mic Mac Park.

"It's been a little extra motivator for us," said leadoff hitter Natalie Taylor of the perception the Saints were vulnerable.

"We're not seeded No. 1, but we came here to show that we are No. 1. We're going to be the champions again."

With Taylor back in the lineup for the first time since injuring her knee in late September, the Saints re-ignited their offence.

Taylor had a pair of hits in three at bats, was walked, scored three times and stole a base.

"Nat's but we can always rely on," said Saints pitcher Melissa Galamb,

who scattered five Mohawk hits over seven innings while striking out four.

Taylor, who still requires surgery on her knee, got the Saints off to a good start by drawing a walk in the bottom of the first.

She then surprised everyone by going all the way to third on Candace Gatecliffe's sacrifice bunt. Maggie Gray cashed Taylor with a sacrifice fly to left.

"We want to be as aggressive as we can all the time," Taylor said.

St. Clair stole five bases, including home, to make the most of their nine hits against losing pitcher Katie Westoby.

The Mountaineers tied it at 1-1 in the top of the second and could've had a second run, but left fielder Rebecca Prince gunned down Danielle Cook at the plate to end the inning.

Three runs

In the third inning, Taylor scored on an error. Gatecliffe came in on Rhiana Tessier's base hit and Trisha Whaley stole home.

St. Clair added two in the fifth on RHH doubles by Whaley and Lindsay Verkoeyen and completed the scoring in the sixth when Gatecliffe's two-bagger scored Taylor from first.

The other game Friday saw the top-ranked Durham Lords beat fourth-seeded Seneca 5-0.

The Saints face Durham at noon today at Mic Mac Park. The gold-medal round gets underway at 5 p.m.

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Windsor wins fastball title



Windsor Regional Fastball League pitcher Lee Hopkins delivers a pitch against the River Downs in the final game of the playoffs Monday at Windsor Stadium. Windsor beat River Downs 4-0 to win the league title.

Star photo: Jason Kish



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