

Ottawa Valley Juniors End Era

Ottawa Valley Junior girls fastball team faded out of existence Saturday night when the team completed its final function - a closing banquet and roast.

The team which came into being in 1975 operated for the final summer and concluded its brief history with a banquet and roast at the Marlboro Community Hall Saturday evening.

Coach Lorraine Ford reviewed the five year history of her distinguished club pointing proudly to three Ontario Junior A championships in those five seasons. The Valley girls took provincial honours in 1977, '78 and '79.



LORI BOYCE

In 1977 they represented Ontario at the Canada Games in Newfoundland returning with a bronze medal.

During the past season the girls once again represented this province. This time at the Canadian championships in Edmonton completing the tournament with a fifth place ranking.

During the roast coach Ford was reminded of the strong representation on the team from the Mountain Ladies softball team. Members of the Valley team have included Winchester's Kathy Walker, Anita Kotlar-chuck from Kemptville and Joanne Hyndman, Colleen Gibson, Marilyn McLean, Linda Murdock and Lori Boyce, all of Mountain.

Lori Boyce had the distinction of being the last Ottawa Valley Junior player to be named both top batter and Most Valuable Player.

The last previous local winner of the MVP award was Marilyn Hyndman (Williams) in 1969.



Kemptonville Advances Sept. 1985

Mountain's Lori Boyce pitches at national level

ST. CLEMENTS — Mountain's Lori Boyce is no stranger to the highest level of softball offered in this country.

While residing at Mountain with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Harold Boyce, Lori played both Midget and Intermediate softball on the Mountain ladies teams. She later joined the Ottawa

the Ontario Senior A league. In 1981 she joined the Agincourt team and was part of the club which went on to capture the gold medal at the national championship that year.

Boyce joined the St. Clements Suns the next season and this year was with the Suns as they qualified automatically for the

over Quebec. The game drew over 1,000 fans and set the stage for the home team's journey to a silver medal. St. Clements lost out in the championship game to the '85 champs from British Columbia, a traditional ladies Senior powerhouse.

Boyce got into action in the Suns' game against Manitoba when she fired a one hit 7-0 decision at the westerners.

St. Clements dropped a 2-1 decision to Saskatchewan and Boyce was back in action in the playoff round, tossing a 1-0 eight-inning victory over Quebec.

That 1-0 10-inning loss to Saskatchewan forced St. Clements to win three games in a row. Their winning string set up an appearance in the final game.

The championship showdown was scoreless for five innings before B.C. exploded for the game's only two runs. Patty Poley held St. Clements' lineup scoreless over the remainder of the contest, enabling B.C. to grab the national gold.

Some observers felt Suns' coach Mary Skillings opting to go with Kelly Barnes instead of Lori Boyce was an unexpected move.

Lori Boyce and the St. Clements Suns had to be satisfied with the silver medal and the title of 1985 Canadian Senior Ladies Softball finalists.

Mountain, Ont. native Lori Boyce made three trips to the Canadian championship softball finals as a junior-aged player. As a senior, Lori was a member of the National championship gold medal winning Agincourt club. This year she pitched a pair of shutout victories for the St. Clements Suns, 1985 Canadian National Senior Women's Softball silver medalists.

Valley Juniors, a club based in North Gower. That squad featured talent from all over the Ottawa Valley. During the off season at this point in her career Lori also played hockey with the team in Kemptville.

During her Junior eligibility Boyce competed in the Canadian national competition and made three trips to the finals. She was also on the bronze medal winning Ottawa Valley Juniors during this time.

Following her junior career she moved on to play one season for the Kitchener Kieswetters in

Canadian tournament. In '84 the Suns were finalists in the Ontario playdown where they were eliminated in the final round by the eventual Canadian champions.

As this year's host team St. Clements automatically qualified for the National and had legitimized their presence by capturing the 1985 Ontario Provincial Championship in an impressive four-game sweep.

At the nationals (Aug. 20-25) the host Suns kicked off opening night with a 10-inning 2-1 victory



Winchester Press Sept. 4/85

Boyce tourney MVP

Former Mountain resident Lori Boyce was named the most valuable player in the annual Ontario Senior Ladies Fastball Tournament held last weekend in Belleville. She pitched for the tournament champion Toronto VMP (Vaughn Metal Products) in the event, winning her team's five games with an overall ERA of .08. Boyce also contributed to her team's offence, batting .489 in tournament play.

The Weekly Advance, Wednesday, July 25, 1990

At the York Ladies tournament in June Lori was winner of the M.V.P. and most Valuable Pitcher E.R.A. 1-8 and her batting average was 356.

She pitched six games and four innings before leaving the final game when she was spiked while sliding in at home plate.

The Winchester Press Wed., July 25, 1990

