

Friday
Aug. 28, 2009



TODAY'S
Sport Fest Windsor
FORECAST
Sunny & High 25C



Serving Windsor
& Essex County



Liver transplant recipient
Tom Awad, healthy &
running again in
WRACE events.

SPORTS

Bulldogs beat Maroons
4 games to 3 for
OHA Sr. "A" Championship

ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS EVENT
"Gift of Life" walk from London to Windsor
Sept. 23rd. by Tom & Roger Awad

SPORT FEST WINDSOR NEWS

Inspirational Story!!!!!!

"I refuse to use my arm as a crutch, instead, I consider it a gift".

Rob Snively

As I was complaining about my legs and my dislocated finger, I quickly realized that I have nothing to complain about. I witnessed a person playing slo pitch that simply amazed me.



Watching Rob Snively pitch for his team was unbelievable. He speared hard ground balls, quickly placed his glove under his right half arm, which by the way was missing from a birth defect, retrieved the ball with his left hand and through out players with relative ease.

What followed next was truly remarkable, he hit the ball as hard as I've seen two arm players hit. I wasn't counting, but I didn't see him make an out. The other thing I found remarkable, was all of his team mates and opponents who have known him for years didn't think anything of it. They've seen him perform for so long they know how good a ball player he is and nothing else needs to be said.

He was born in Windsor Aug. 31, 1961. The first part of his life he spent a lot of time travelling back and forth to the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. There he went through extensive therapy, both physically and mentally. "After seeing all the other children and their defects, I considered myself very fortunate only to have been born missing my right hand and forearm," says Rob. He was fitted with an artificial limb, only to realize that it got in the way of his sports.

"Coming from a family of 9 children it's safe to say that sports played a huge part of my youth. It wasn't until I started playing organized team sports (baseball, hockey, and soccer) that my birth defect became an issue, especially baseball, where the powers to be, didn't want me to pitch for fear of my safety. If it hadn't been for the efforts of my coach Roger Seguin and the support of my mother, I wouldn't have been allowed," comments Rob. As fate would have it, he went on to pitch for years. After overcoming many hurdles, he became very passionate about ball.

"You see, outside of ball there were and still are discriminating and judgmental people, but on the diamond it was a level playing field especially after people saw me play. I refuse to use my arm as a crutch, instead, I consider it a gift, adds Rob. With my gift I hope to open a few eye's, and inspire people, because you never know, it just may open a few doors for those who come after me... it inspired you Rog to write this article," says Rob.

Written by: Roger Awad Editor Sport Fest Windsor Newsletter

Did you know that?

Anyone at any age can become an organ and tissue donor. The oldest organ donor on record was over 90 years of age and the oldest corneal donor was 102 years old.

Only patients who have suffered brain death in hospital can become organ donors because vital organs must be maintained artificially by a ventilator so they can be transplanted. However, only those whose hearts have stopped and cannot, therefore, be artificially supported by a ventilator (the heart and lungs have stopped working), can become tissue donors.

Most religions support organ donation as an act of kindness.

Organ donation does not preclude an open-casket funeral. When clothed, the body shows no outward sign of surgery.

Transplants can save health care costs: the cost of a kidney transplant averages \$20,000 plus \$6,000 per year thereafter (\$50,000 over five years). Maintaining a kidney patient on dialysis costs \$50,000 per year (\$250,000 over five years).

To find out more about registering your consent, please contact the Ontario transplant program:

Organ Donation Ontario
1-800-263-2833 (416) 351-7328



www.sport-fest.ca