

Taught care of horses

# Pony Club involvement a rich experience

In September, 30 youngsters gather at Esquering Community Centre in Stewartstown for twice monthly meetings. The kids, members of Esquering Pony Club, learn about horses... grooming horses, health of horses, foot care for horses and ponies, feeding them, transporting them, and showing them.

This year is the 10th anniversary of Esquering Pony Club, founded in 1973 by Rick and Nonie Wilcox of Hornby. At its peak, about 50 youngsters attended those twice-monthly meetings and the spring and summer coaching sessions on area farms. Some have gone from back-yard pony owners to the competitive "A" riding circuit. Many more have made horses a part of their lives for keeps.

Current District Commissioner of the club Elizabeth Shepherd and her family joined up when the club was in its heyday. "Many children start at pony club before

they actually have a horse," Mrs. Shepherd explained. "Then they learn how to care for a horse. It's good training in preparing them to own their own pony when they're a bit older."

Membership, she explained, starts at age nine, but many youngsters don't get a horse until they are 12 years old.

Come May, those who do have a horse get involved in coaching sessions in jumping, cross-country trails, and flat work... that's the discipline part.

Then there are events, three day eventing including show ring jumping, dressage and cross-country trails, games, rallies for various levels of riders (D-levels for beginners, C-levels for the members over 12) and B for more advanced.

"The more involved riders go to a lot of other shows besides our own games and rallies," Mrs. Shepherd explained. The Tetrathlon, a four-event competi-

tion designed originally to keep boys interested in pony club activities, consists of swimming, running, target shooting with handguns, and riding a cross-country course.

The club's ninth annual Prince Phillip Games, an event for riders at all pony club levels, comes up July 30, this weekend, at Caledon Hunt Club. Sixteen clubs in the western Ontario region compete at the games.

Winners will go on to the Ontario competition at the Canadian National Exhibition, and those champions will compete at the Royal Winter Fair in November.

"A lot of people don't realize what is going on in competitive riding at this level," Mrs. Shepherd commented. "Most people just follow the stars, the Canadian National team and the world competitions. But there are exciting things happening at this level as well."

Last weekend, for instance, 150 riders from 18 pony clubs in southwestern Ontario competed in a regional Three Day Event held at Mohawk Raceway, and hosted by the Esquering Club.

Like any children's activities, pony club activities take time, and money. "The kids who want to be active have to have their own pony. It would be costly and probably quite inconvenient to attempt to rent a horse or pony to show. Many members are out at shows every weekend."

Trailering, transporting horses and riders to shows all over southwestern Ontario, is also costly. But arrangements can be made.

The riders themselves, from nine to their mid-teens, learn that, unless they are boarding their horse away from home, pony club activities are a seven-day-a-week chore. "They have to look after their horses every day if they keep them at

home. But I think that's what makes the pony club activities such good training for the youngsters, looking after an animal."

By the time the pony club members are ready to go to college, they've had a solid background, sometimes ten years, with horses. Their training in horsemanship stays with them always, and Mrs. Shepherd believes that once they're involved, they're likely to stay involved.

The club also has fund-raising events and membership drives. Every April the club holds its annual auction at Kinglea Farms, Hornby. Riding tack and clothing go on the block for sale.

This year, Mrs. Shepherd said, a special membership drive will be held at Acton Fall Fair and another in conjunction with Halton Hills Recreation Department.

Anyone wanting information about the Pony Club can call incoming commissioner Carol Mould, 853-3817.

# Free Press SPORTS



Villa's Sam Kenji leaps high to head ball in Wednesday's action.

## Villa 'A'

### Committee to decide outcome of contest

League leading Butcher Engineering visited Desmond's Acton Villa "A" last Wednesday night and came off the field with a 1-0 victory. The game was abandoned with a few minutes remaining by referee Brian Stewart because of continuous abuse by the Butcher players on the field as well as on the sidelines. The outcome of the game will be decided by the league committee.

Butcher dominated the first half of play and were leading 1-0 at the half. Acton out-played Butcher in the second half and were unlucky not to score the tying goal. Villa's forward line played well in this game and were passing the ball amongst each other superbly. Reggie McKnight was outstanding at inside forward, sending nice through balls to the wingers. Rod Leech, Richard Kilpatrick and Sam Kenji also played well up front.

Defensively Villa's standouts were Carl Fisker, Bobby Hudson and Jamie Milton who were tackling very hard and

stopped numerous Butcher attacks. Its unfortunate the game ended the way it did, as it was a hard fought, well played game.

The standings are as follows.

Team	P	W	T	L	F	A	Pts.
Butcher	8	6	2	-	37	12	14
Meteor Blue	9	4	2	3	18	13	10
Meteor White	10	4	2	4	20	19	10
Mariners	9	4	1	4	24	22	9
Acton Villa A	8	2	3	3	14	17	7
Brackens	10	2	-	8	17	35	4

\*game not included

This week Acton travels to Georgetown to take on Meteor Blue with an 8.30 kick-off.

Saturday Villa held their annual golf tournament at Hornby Towers. Everybody who attended really enjoyed the day. The winner was Tony Fidler with a 78. Other top scores were Kenji 85, Bill Chalmers 86, and Leech with an 87. Closest to the pin honors went to Fidler on the seventh and Chalmers on the 17th. Longest drive was recorded by Carl Fisker.

### Strong second half earns Villa 'B' a draw

Acton Villa "B" travelled to Milton Thursday night to take on Milton Metal Fab with only 10 eligible players. The result was a hard fought 2-2 draw.

Milton led 2-0 at the half and the score could have been much higher if not for some outstanding goalkeeping by Garry White in the Acton nets.

Villa's 10 men came to life in the second-half and two goals by Greg Maltby earned Acton the draw. Greg's first goal was a great individual effort in which he challenged the goalkeeper and headed the ball into the net. This second goal came as the result of some fine teamwork.

Acton's best player of the night was John Gibson who was outstanding in mid-field.

Villa are at home this Wednesday (tonight) with a 7 p.m. kick-off as they entertain Varian, at McKenzie-Smith.

The league standings are as follows:

Second Division

Team	P	W	T	L	F	A	Pts.
Guelph	8	6	-	2	20	13	12
Milton Metal	9	5	2	2	26	13	12
Milton Rgrs.	9	4	1	4	25	16	9
Varian	9	4	1	4	10	13	9
Eagles	8	3	2	3	16	18	8
Ajax	8	3	0	5	20	23	6
Acton B	9	1	1	7	10	34	3

## Black belts Gold

Black belted Gold, 4-1 in ball hockey action last Tuesday evening.

Rob Evans fired a pair of markers for the winners, with Kent Kentner and Floyd Hillier grabbing singles. Brian Demone contributed three assists in the effort. Tim McIntyre and Jim Trowbridge had the other aids.

For Gold, it was Kevin Farlow netting the lone goal, on a Van Stump pass.

Green defeated Orange, 3-1, in further ball hockey at the Community Centre last week. Stu MacMillan and John Miller pocketed two of the Green goals. The other scorer was not provided. Assists went to Greg Maltby, Denis Kirton, Dave Anderson, and Macmillan.

Don Brouillard knocked in the only Orange goal of the contest. Jim Rowsell picked up the assist.

## That's teamwork

Acton Villa's Tom Manse and Barry Craddock team up to move the ball past a Butcher Engineering player in last Wednesday's action... at McKenzie Smith. The game ended in a 1-0 victory for Butcher.

Photos

By

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## Acton pair is fast

The North Halton Road Huggers have wound up a successful season of running with another string of productive meets.

On July 14, at the Jim Buchanan Memorial Meet at York University, Doreen Uranick placed second overall in the Ladies' 800 Metre event. Her time was 2:10.16.

George Gidman ran in the Men's 800 Metre, running a 1:56.73. His placing was not available.

Two days later, at the Western Track Meet in Kitchener, George won the 800 Metre run with a 1:59.07 clocking.

That same day, in Tillsonburg, Doreen placed fourth in the 800 Metre at another invitational event. She ran a 2:10.54.

Doreen went on to place eighth in the 1500 Metre race at the Variety Village Invitational Meet in Toronto last Tuesday. She clocked a 4:33.8 in this one.

Both runners travelled to Montreal this past weekend to compete in the Canadian Junior Track and Field Championships. The meet was a climax to the previous season's relentless training and competitions.

Doreen placed first in her 800 Metre heat in a personal best time of 2:08.9. The runner proceeded to finish fourth in the race final, recording a time of 2:12.32.

She also placed fourth in the 1500 Metre run, with a personal best time of 4:28.78.

George placed fourth in his 800 Metre heat, running 1:55.3. He then placed third in the "B" final, clocking a 1:58.75. George ran fourth in the "B" division of the 800 Metre, with a 50.69 time.

The meet concluded 17 months of continuous training, according to coach Bruce Andrews. "So they're both due for a rest," he commented.

The two will now take three weeks off to rest, before they resume their workouts for next year's campaign.

## Victory sandwiched between two losses

The Acton Junior A's dropped two out of their three games this week, sandwiching a 7-3 victory over New Dundee between losses to Linwood and Waterloo.

In Linwood last Wednesday evening, the squad was beaten 5-4.

Dave Quinn, Roy Spear, Mark Duval and Don Casselman were the only locals to cross the plate. Dave Wilson took the loss on the mound.

Sunday, the team was at home to New Dundee, and won 7-3.

Gord McArthur and Glenn Scott each had

a pair of runs in this one, while Tim Baker, Wilson and Mark Duval grabbed single scores. Roy Spear went the distance on the mound, for the win.

Scott scored the lone Acton run in a 3-1 loss to Waterloo Monday night at Prospect Park.

Acton's next home match-up will be against New Hamburg Monday at the park. In OASA qualifiers, the A's are awaiting the outcome of New Hamburg's series with Sheffield to see who their opponents will be. The winner of that encounter goes on to the Ontarios in Jordan.

## Boys' soccer

### Can-Am blasts Rockwood

by Sheila Martin

#### MAJOR SQUIRTS

Can-Am blasted Rockwood by a 6-2 score. Ryan Brain scored four and Steven Pontbriand and Matthew Brain one each. Goalie Scott Foster did a good job holding off Rockwood's attack.

Glasvan met Pineview Blizzard and it resulted a 2-2 tie. Trevor Splinter scored both Glasvan goals. Mike Meyers played super in net.

MAJOR SQUIRT STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	T	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Jaxx	8	3	1	4	22	13	7
Rockwood	8	0	0	8	23	14	0
Glasvan	8	3	2	3	21	9	8
Can Am	8	2	2	4	15	9	6
Pineview Eagle	8	1	3	4	13	7	5
Pineview Blizzard	8	1	2	5	12	22	4

#### MINI-SQUIRTS

Bob's Angels defeated T-Birds 2-0. Steve

Holbiski scored the two goals. Doug Frchs played a strong defensive game to help with the win.

#### ATOM

In Atom action last week the Wolves pounded Pineview Tigers 9-0. Since Pineview only had seven players on the field, the Wolves matched them to keep the game fair. Wolves still dominated. Scorers were Jimmy Sale, Jason Piper, Steven Slayney and Philip Williamson with one apiece and Michael Adema five.

Cougars beat Cubs 8-0. Bill Gilles found the net five times. Mark Sears kicked two and Kevin Pettipher one. Squirts Ryan Brain and Steven Pontbriand played well to help the Cougars.

#### MOSQUITO

Hillsburgh downed Acton I by a score of 6-2. Winston Pun scored for the local side.

## First half enough for Leathertown squad

Leathertown Tanners continued their unbeaten record with a 4-0 victory over S.N.A.P.S.

The local team played a strong first half and built up a four goal lead at half-time. Midfield general Dave Banks had another superb game and capped his fine performance with a well-taken header for the opening goal.

Leathertown continued to press and were rewarded with a pair of fine goals from Tony Wright and also pressured the S.N.A.P.S.

defence into giving up an own goal.

In the second half S.N.A.P.S. came out with much more determination and kept the play in the Leathertown end, and were awarded a penalty mid way through the second half. They failed to convert this chance into a goal and Mike Masson in goal for Leathertown, with a lot of support from his defence, recorded the shut-out.

The Tanners next game is August 6 at South Peel versus Atlas Soccer Club, kick-off 12.30 p.m.



The Bears Chris Rowse is caught stealing in industrial ball action Sunday. Desmond's middle-infielders Dave McGiloway, left, and Gord McArthur combine on the tag.