

Dunleavy living out a sports enthusiasts dream

By PAUL FERRIERA

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Dan Dunleavy says he's "just one of the guys." Well, Dunleavy is living out the dream of many of them.

The 28-year-old Georgetown native is an on-air personality at Toronto's, and Canada's only, all-sports radio station, The Fan 1430.

"I go to work and I get to talk about what happened in game seven of the Stanley Cup playoffs and what I think of it and why I think such a thing happened," he says.

His description is enough to send the heart of every armchair quarterback between Georgetown and Georgia fluttering.

However, giving opinions is just one small part of Dunleavy's duties at the Fan. In baseball parlance, you'd call him the station's pinch-hitter or, if you're defensively inclined, its utility man.

From doing traffic on the morning show to reading sports updates to hosting phone-in segments to conducting interviews to cover-

ing Blue Jay games, Dunleavy does it all. "Versatile" could very well be his nickname.

It's a possible moniker that can be traced all the way back to 1986.

At the time, Dunleavy was a radio and television arts student at Niagara College in Welland.

Once he graduated from the three year program at Niagara, he went to work at Orangeville's DC 103, a 50,000 watt station which had gone on the air just a month before he arrived.

His initial duties consisted of taking news from the weekend papers and rewriting it for the weekday newscasters. Those in journalism call it scalping.

"I got paid 20 bucks a day. So I got basically gas money to go all the way up to Orangeville. I was still living in Georgetown at the time," he recalls.

From that humble behind the scenes beginning, Dunleavy worked his way to sports

director and newscaster.

"It was great a great experience and nice to work in a small town like that. I'm not in the business to be well-known — far from it.

I'm just happy to be paid doing what I'm doing, but it was kind of neat to have people know who you were. It made you feel good," he says.

The name recognition has only increased since Dunleavy made the switch to the Fan more than a year ago. His anonymity, what little he has left, could be forever lost if Dunleavy decides to pursue a career in television journalism.

"I'm not out looking for one right now. Maybe when it comes time for a new challenge to present itself, but right now I've got my hands full with becoming even more comfortable with what I'm doing at the Fan."

The comfort factor is important to Dunleavy. After all, he used the same reason-



DAN DUNLEAVY

ing to postpone his entry into the Toronto media jungle.

He decided he was ready in early 1993 and, as it turned out, Hogtown was more than ready for him. In fact, two stations, the Fan and 680 News, both wanted his services.

After weighing the options, Dunleavy decided he'd rather gab about South Korean soccer results than North Korean nuclear threats. It was all-sports over all-news.

"My goal was to get paid to talk about sports and to get paid well enough."

Now that he's met that goal, Dunleavy has his eyes set on another. He'd love to get the opportunity to do some play-by-play.

But if the opportunity doesn't materialize, Dunleavy won't consider it a setback. He'll still be having a good time doing what he's doing now.

As a post-script, Dunleavy, a very experienced soccer player, says he's looking to get a few kicks with an inter-county team. Interested teams should contact the former Georgetown Falcon at the radio station.

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Mitchell out early

Mike Mitchell's stay at the SunLife Nationals tennis tournament was a short one. The Georgetown resident, who is ranked 31st in Canada, lost his first round match to Stephane Bonneau of Laval, Quebec in straight sets 6-2, 6-0.

Plenty of runs

Runs were plenty in two recent senior t-ball games. In the first, TD Bank outscored Timax 34-28. Ryan Gray, Colin Irwin (2) Steven Kerr (2), Brent LaPlante and Adam Latimer all hit doubles. Gray also added a triple and home run. Good defence was turned in by David Oesch.

The second game went to Shaw Trophies, 23-21 winners over Outdoor Power Equipment. Paul Esteireiro hit a home run to lead the way for Shaw. He was helped by the fine defence of teammates Michael Camble, who was the game's MVP, Danny Desmond and Kevin Greer. For Outdoor Power Equipment, it was Ryan Kemsheed and Kelly Quinn hitting doubles, and Daniel Poulos, Andrew Jones, Michael McNeilly and Kemsheed providing good defence.

Waterdown wins

Limehouse Anthony Acres battled Waterdown "2" in a titanic peewee baseball clash June 28. In the end, Anthony Acres went down to an 8-5 defeat.

Boat rentals

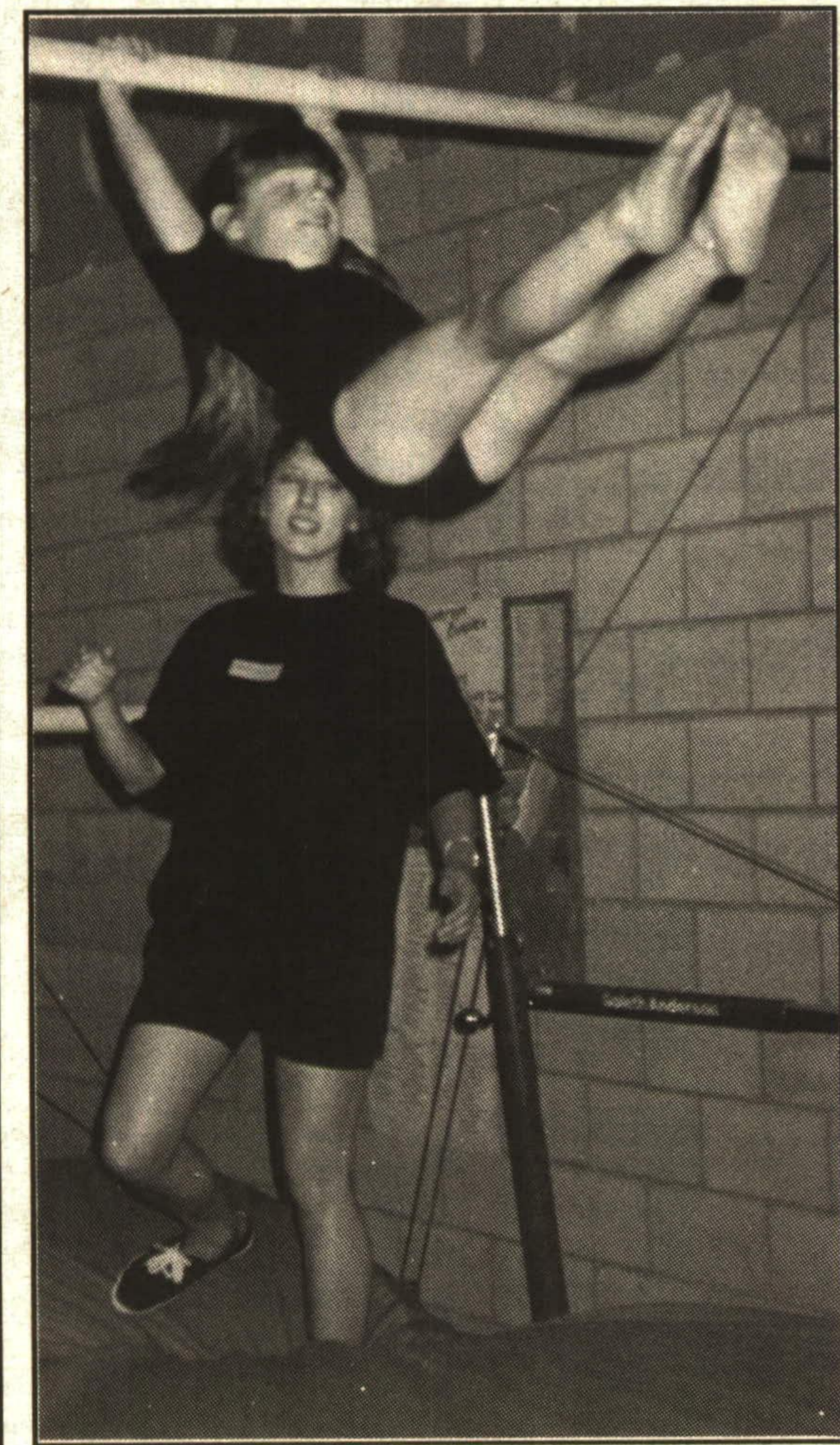
Fun for the entire family! Enjoy Fairy Lake in Acton's Prospect Park by renting a canoe or paddle boat. Lifejackets are provided. Sat & Sun, July 4 to August 28, 12 noon to 4 p.m. Call the Recreation & Parks Department at 873-2600, ext. 276 for more information.

U.S. tourney

Despite the best efforts of Georgetown's Melissa Watts, the Brams United Brita Braves had a tough time at the recent 17th annual Pittsford, N.Y. soccer tournament.

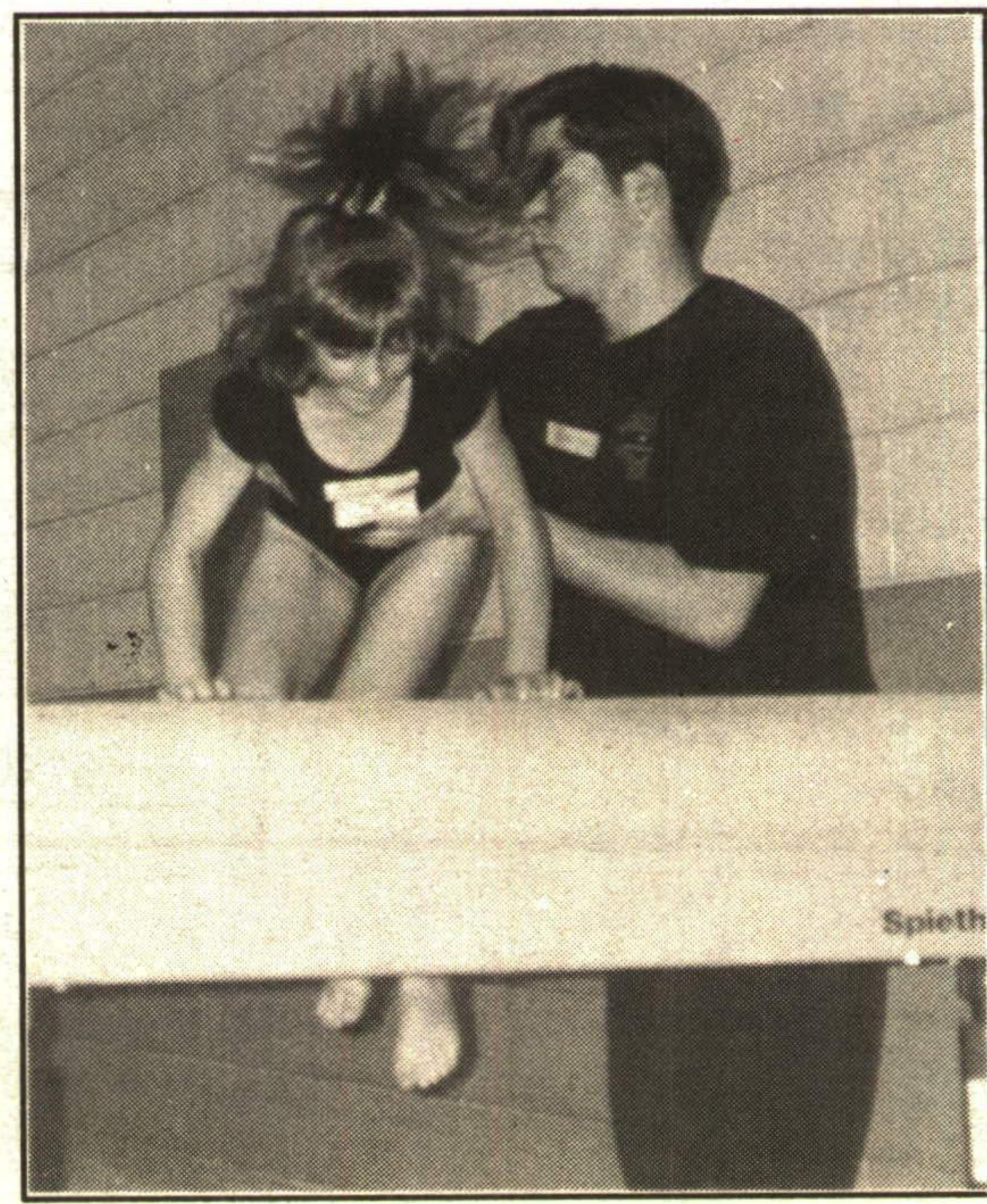
Watts, who played goal, and her Brampton teammates won their first game 6-1 over Amherst, N.Y., but then lost 5-0 to Germania, another team from Amherst, and 3-0 to Nepean, Ont.

Two other Georgetown residents, Katie Blyth and Marci Roy, play for Brampton.



A helping hand

The Halton Hills Gymnastics Club held their Gym Jammin' '94 at their Armstrong Ave. location recently. The event marks the end of another successful gym season for the local club. While the competitive gymnasts get the spotlight at a number of events around town throughout the year, the Recreational Gymnasts got the chance to demonstrate what they have learned during the winter and spring sessions for friends and relatives at the wrap up. Photos by SHELLI HARRISON



Limehouse bantams unbeaten

The Limehouse Bantam Girls traveled to Brookville on June 30 with first place on the line in Halton Rural softball action. Both teams were undefeated at the halfway point of the season.

But after the dust settled, Limehouse had edged Brookville 5-0 to take over sole possession of first place.

The game star was Limehouse pitcher Robin Zander who pitched her finest game of the year, going 7 complete innings, striking out a season high 17 Brookville batters, while allowing only 2 hits and walking 6. Zander and the defense came up with key plays on several occasions with runners in scoring position, only to close the door on the Brookville attack.

The first inning saw Limehouse jump into an early 3-0 lead. Karen Newman's single drove in Sheri Buker while Mary Ann Brown's bases loaded double scored Jackie Jahn and Alissa Goodkey. In the third inning, Sharon Kearsy's sacrifice hit scored Newman, and Robin Zander's single drove in Brown, for 2 runs, which was all the scoring Limehouse needed in this exciting, well-played contest. Limehouse's record now stands at 10 wins and one tie.

No fireworks

There were no fireworks for the Georgetown Minor/Major Peewee Eagles on the fourth of July. Instead it was Erin Mills celebrating a 6-2 win over the Eagles.

Erin Mills got off to good start in the top of the first inning, scoring two runs off Eagle starter Brent McClung.

The Eagles managed to get one of those runs back in their half of the second when Ryan Bobar homered.

The visitors regained their two run lead in the third on a single that was booted around by Eagle fielders.

In the bottom of the fourth, Miersma tripled into left field. Bobar then drove him home with a sacrifice fly to once again narrow the gap to one run.

However, Erin Mills would pull away with three more runs off two Eagle relievers late in the game.

Other Georgetown base hits, all of them singles, were by Richie Kovacs, Jason Campbell (2), Randy Hodder, Bart Balanowski, Bobar, Miersma and Rudichuk. Stolen bases were credited to Kovacs (2), Campbell, McClung, Miersma and Bobar.