Murphy's Law rules as Wolfpack suffer lost weekend

It was a very, very long weekend for the George-Ltown Wolfpack.

The local squad encountered its first turbulence along the flight path to a second straight Major Jr. A Roller Hockey championship. The Wolfpack dropped to 3-3 on the season with three straight defeats.

The bumpy ride began with Niagara, last year's finalist, rallying for three goals in the final three minutes and pulling out a 12-11 overtime victory Friday. Things got worse for the rematch at home Saturday. Five Wolfpack players, including goalie Mike Bednarz, missed the game while trying out for the Buffalo Wings of Roller Hockey International, the pro circuit.

Backup goalie Justin Canestrano got caught in the holiday

traffic and couldn't get to the game. Even coach Dave Van Kooten had car trouble and was stranded.

"Basically, everything that could go wrong did go wrong," said Wolfpack GM Paul Mintha.

The Wolfpack attempted to play without a goalie for the first quarter but by the half called for a forfeit.

By Sunday, the Wolfpack

were still undermanned but had goalies for a 12-5 loss to Hamilton. Steve Martin and Darryl Tullio each scored twice for the Wolfpack while Graham Mc-Culloch notched the other goal.

"It never should have happened but it taught us a good lesson— not to play on a long weekend," Mintha said, "That was the time given to us, though, so we had to take it."

To make amends to fans for the weekend's unusual turn of events, Mintha said Saturday's game against Hamilton will be Guaranteed Win Night. If the Pack don't win, fans will get a ticket for another home game.

Mintha also went about guaranteeing the team won't be shorthanded by acquiring goalie Matt Dyer from Oakville for future considerations.



GEORGETOWN WOLF-PACK Major "Jr. A." Roller Hockey

Next Home Games (Gordon Alcott)

May 29 5:30 p.m. vs. HAMILTON June 19 5:30 p.m. vs. OAKVILLE



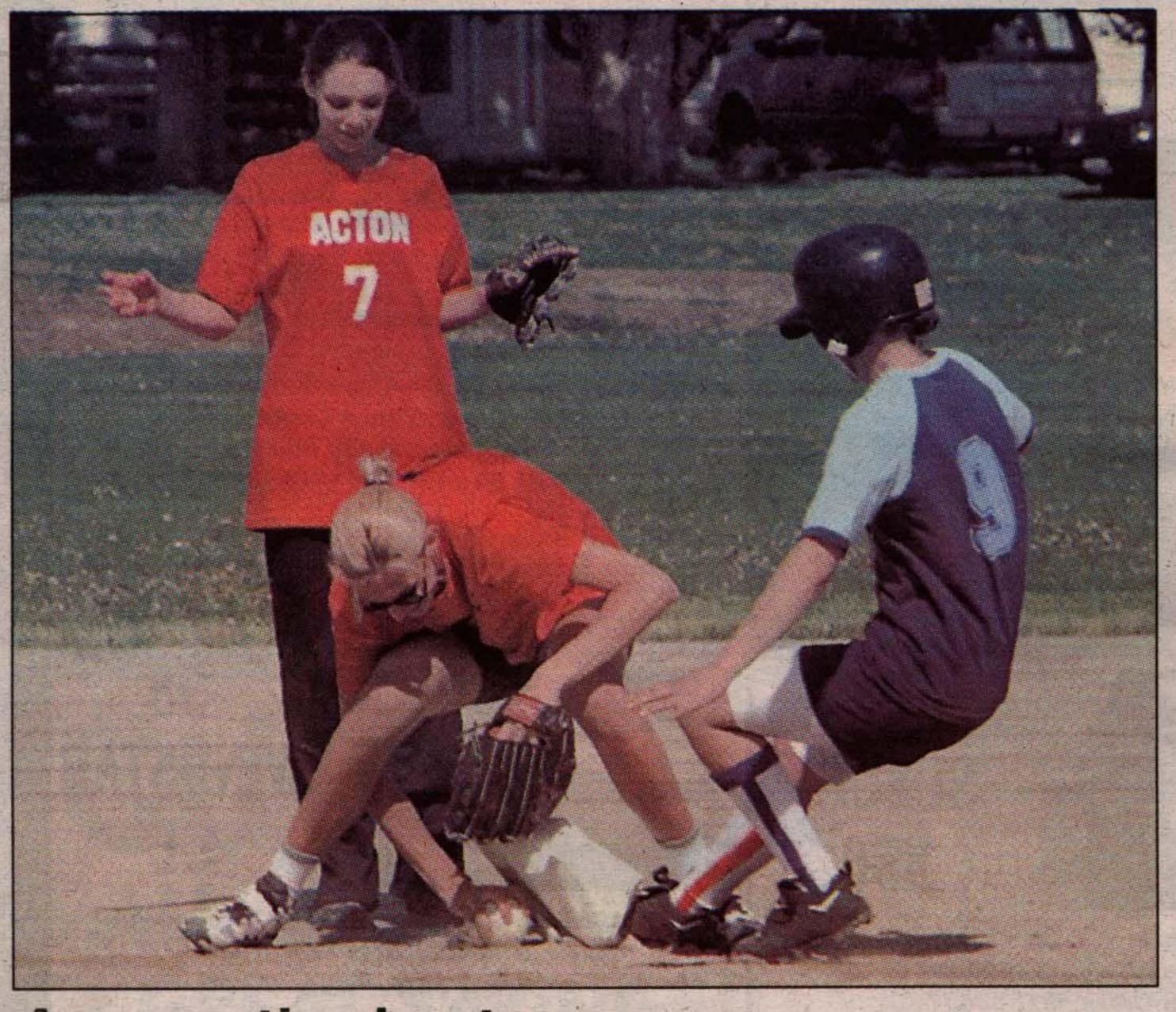




GEORGETOWN **WOLF-PACK** Major "Jr. A." Roller Hockey

Next Home Games (Gordon Alcott)

5:30 p.m. vs. HAMILTON June 19 5:30 p.m. vs. OAKVILLE



An unorthodox tag

Acton's Ashlyn Timukas combines Twister, hide and seek and softball to record the out at second base against the Assumption Crusaders while teammate Shannon DaSilva looks on. Timukas had to go under the base to get the ball for the out. Assumption won Thursday's Halton Secondary School Athletic Association softball game 20-3. Ruth Eddols knocked in two runs with a secondinning single. Laura Barens, Meghan Verheul and Paige Killick scored Acton's Photo by Herb Garbutt runs.

Novice Bulldogs too much for Arthur squad

Michael Cregan earned a shutout and helped out with the offence as well, earning two assists in the Halton Hills Novice Bulldogs' 13-0 win over Arthur.

Nic Grasby and Dan Limina each scored three times and Adam McGourty and Zach Chenier added two apiece. Liam Heelis, Jordan Kuenzig and Brendan Gingras had the

other Bulldog goals. Cody McCulloch set up three goals and Cameron Flint had two assists. Singles went to Grasby, Michael McKeon, Gingras and Kuenzig.

Fergus doubled the Bulldogs 6-3 in their previous game. Grasby, McGourty and Brett Reynolds scored while McCulloch had the only assist.

Rowland's Canadian career to end as gymnast will join Penn State

ike her classmates graduating high school, Katie Rowland had some big decisions to make.

But, in addition to the usual question of "Where should I go to school?", Rowland had to answer, "Should I go to school?" The defending Canadian women's gymnastics champion was being courted by American universities but a commitment to a U.S. school would bring an end to her career representing Canada. That took on even more significance with the Olympics approaching next summer.

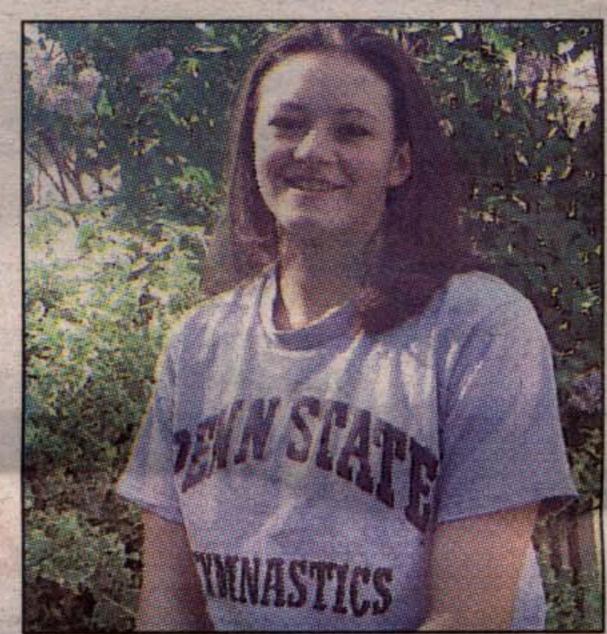
Even if Rowland were to put off school for a year, there would be no guarantee she would make it to Sydney for the 2000 Olympics. Canada would have to qualify by placing in the top-12 at the world championship. The Canadian team delivered one of its best performances ever in 1997 and placed eighth but other countries such as Australia and Great Britain, who both finished ahead of Canada at the Commonwealth Games, have improved since then.

In the end, the decision wasn't that difficult for the 18-year-old.

"When I was younger my major goal was to go to the Olympics but as you get older you start thinking about school and in the last few years that really became the top priority."

Rowland signed a full scholarship with Penn State University two weeks ago and then went out and won her second straight Ontario gymnastics title. She finished first in vault, second on beam and floor and fourth on bars. It was a sweet victory for Rowland, who hadn't competed since December.

"For myself, it showed that I



KATIE ROWLAND

could still come through under pressure," she said.

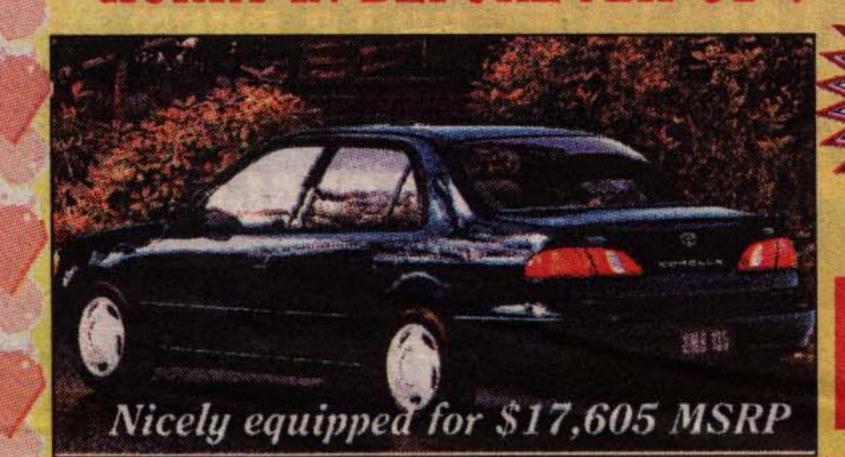
Now as she heads into her final Canadian championships, which begin today in Burnaby, B.C., Rowland said the biggest obstacle to overcome will be putting pressure on herself to finish on a positive note.

No matter how it turns out, she is looking forward to a new beginning next year. She acknowledges she couldn't have done it without the support of her guidance counselor Mavis O'Neil and her teachers at Georgetown District High School, her coaches at the Winstonette Gymnastics Association, Debbie Vidmar and Leonid Grakovsky and her grandparents, Ev and Frank Sheppard.

Of course, Rowland played a big role in her own success as well, balancing her school work with a training schedule that meant she missed half her classes most days.

"It seems like all the hard work has paid off after all the years of training and competition," Rowland said. "This is a reward at the end."

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



no limit financing 48 months

Value Package Includes: • Air Conditioning • Automatic Transmission • Dual Airbags • 1.8 Litre DOHC 120 H.P. Engine • AM/FM Cassette Stereo • Full Wheel Covers • Body Side Moulding

\$281 · tax \$1000 \$257+ tax

GEORGETOWN TOYOTA SALES 15 MOUNTAINVIEW RD. N., - GEORGETOWN 877-2296 Tor. 874-4276

WEBSITE at www.haltonhills.com/toyota or E-MAIL at toyota@aztec-net.com Based on a 48 mos. walkaway lease. First payment + security deposit due on delivery. *Based on 96,000 km. Additional charge of \$0.07 if applicable on Corolla VE