

Yvonne Saunders, track star

'Outstanding athlete' nine times

By Janet Braida
Yvonne Saunders of 139 Main St. Milton is well known all over the world. The type of celebrity many see on TV, the pretty 19-year-old has been named most outstanding athlete in nine of the 11 sports competitions she's entered. Yvonne's victories include 400 meter, high jump, long jump and pentathlon events.

Born in Jamaica in 1951 she moved to England at a tender age and developed her keen interest in sports there. Her father had been an active track and cricket star and it wasn't long before Yvonne stepped into his shoes.

Developed talent
In public and high school she placed first in track and field

events in inter-school competition. Seeing a natural talent in Yvonne, her gym teacher Miss Christine Walker urged her to train at least three times a week at a track near her school. Training and practice brought her many awards and top mention to her Gorse Park County Secondary School.

Her career in track first started in 1966 when she joined the Stratford Athletic Club in England. While with the club she competed in many county competitions in Europe and captured top awards.

During the summer of 1967 her family moved to Montreal and it was then Yvonne had to make the choice between school and track. A tough decision for a 16-year old, and she chose her first love—TRACK.

Wins in Canada
She remained in England and was chosen to compete for England in the Centennial International Track and Field Meet in Ottawa and Toronto in September of that year. Competition was between England, France and Canada and Yvonne took a first and second title.

Back in England she lived with relatives and competed in numerous more championships. In 1968 she moved to Montreal to be with her family. In Canada she competed in many indoor meets, but herself prefers the outdoor atmosphere.

Since her arrival here she has competed in games in Ireland, Halifax, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Victoria, Vancouver and the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, Scotland. In the inter-country meet held in Victoria, British Columbia this summer she competed against Norway and Sweden. In Winnipeg she competed against athletes from Norway and placed first in long jump. Against Sweden in Edmonton she took second in the 400

meter and third in the long jump. In the final match at Victoria, where the three countries combined, she placed second in the 400 meter and broke the open Canadian record of 54.3 seconds. Her time was 54 seconds flat.

Canadian record
Yvonne holds the junior Canadian record for long jump with 20 feet 5 1/4 inches and her high jump is the third best in Canada at 5 feet 8 inches.

The athlete admits she enjoys travelling but is presently at home for a rest. She bruised her ankle in a competition during the summer and was told to rest before indoor training resumes. Yvonne will return to Quebec on Oct. 24 where she has been offered a job with CP railways. During her spare time (after practices) she plans to attend night school to further her education and job qualifications.

She is setting her goal on the 1972 Olympics and plans to work hard and improve her performance gradually. "I don't know how I do it now," she laughed. "I hardly ever do any training. In England I trained at least three times a week."

Better outdoors
As far as indoor or outdoor competitions go, Yvonne prefers those outdoors. "The pressure and atmosphere are lighter," she said. "I prefer a tartan track to any other type," she added. "But tartan tracks are most expensive."

Yvonne likes Canadian people and competitions, but "in England track is a major sport next to soccer. Here in Canada, people concentrate on hockey and football and not enough on track events," she said.

And how does her mother like the oldest daughter travelling so much? "I want only the best for her," said Mrs. Saunders, "but we never see enough of her any more. She is terribly missed."



19-YEAR-OLD YVONNE SAUNDERS is well known all over the world. The pretty teenager has competed in track meets all over North America and Europe. In 11 competitions she's entered, she won a trophy for being the best female athlete nine times. Yvonne lives with her family at 139 Main St. but is leaving for Quebec on Oct. 24.—(Staff Photo)

Record attendance at Steam-Era show

Reports presented to the October meeting of the Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers Assoc. indicate a record 21,800 people paid admission to the 1970 Steam-Era reunion in Milton.

President Gordon Rayner of Milton told the crowd of 100 members at Aberfoyle on Thursday the 1970 show had broken all previous records for attendance and gate receipts. When the show ended on Labor Day, officials had estimated total attendance at the three-day reunion at 28,000.

Ideas for 1971
During Thursday's meeting several committee chairmen expressed their thanks to co-workers for making the reunion such a success. Ideas for next year's show included more entertainment or activities involving the children. The program included some slide pictures of the Steam-Era and steam trains shown by Al Kinsman of Galt.

The club is planning its annual ladies night at Galt on Oct. 23.

Cyclist dies of injuries

An American motorcyclist seriously injured in an accident on Highway 401 near Milton a month earlier died at Milton District Hospital last week.

Richard Kolem, 25, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin suffered serious injuries when his motorcycle collided with another vehicle near the Milton cloverleaf on Sept. 3. He was hospitalized then and died last week.

Queen helps open fair

Halton's 4-H Homemaking Queen Miss Dianne Pell of Palermo was present for the opening ceremonies of Georgetown Fair.

Mrs. Keith Webb, president of the ladies division of the fair presented Miss Pell, Miss Susan Nixon, Halton County Dairy Princess; Mrs. Mary Pickett, Halton Furrow Queen and Miss Norma Leslie, Shorthorn Lassie with a beautiful bouquet of red roses each.



B. A. DEGREE
Mrs. Neil Preston of 235 Ontario St., Milton, received a Bachelor of Arts degree at the fall convocation at University of Guelph. She is the former Pam Green, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Green of 441 Woodward St., Milton. Pam is now attending Lakeshore Teachers' College.

Man killed by train

A Toronto man was killed when he was struck by a Canadian National Railways train near the Third Line north of Esquesing's 10 Sideroad on Sunday evening.

Michael Harry Sabodash, 43, of 496 Euclid Ave., Toronto, was killed instantly. Milton OPP investigated and list the death as a suspected suicide. An engineer on the train reportedly saw a man standing on the tracks but could not stop the train, travelling about 45 mph, in time.

Nine injured two crashes

Five persons were injured Sunday in a two-car collision at the corner of Pine and Commercial Sts. A car driven by Miss Irma Robson of R.R. 4 Komoka and a car driven by Mrs. June Gray, 1361 Rebecca St., Oakville collided. Milton Police investigated.

Passengers in the Robson vehicle, Mrs. Elizabeth Clow and Jonathan Clow of 419 George St. were taken to Milton District Hospital. Mrs. Clow suffered a twisted back, cuts and bruises; her 18-month-old son received cuts and bruises. Mrs. Robson also suffered cuts.

To hospital
Mrs. Gray received fractured ribs and a bump on the head as a result of the accident. Her son Martin, 4, suffered cuts and a bump on the forehead. All were taken to Milton Hospital.

Damage to the Robson vehicle was estimated at \$600 and \$2,000 to the Gray car. An estimated \$30 damage was also reported to a wire fence.

A two-car collision at the corner of Bronte St. and Derry Rd. West on Monday resulted in four persons being sent to hospital. A car driven by Joan White of Ottawa collided with a car driven by Eileen McDougall of George St. Damages totalled \$1,250.

A passenger in the White car, Arlene Decou of Sudbury suffered multiple cuts and bruises. Mrs. McDougall, daughter Wanda and son Wayne also suffered cuts and bruises. The four were taken to Milton District Hospital and later released.

Three men were charged with causing a disturbance in front of Milton Inn, Monday.

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Water convention not air pollution

Councillor Syd Childs and Works Superintendent Bruce McKerr are going to a WATER pollution control convention in Calgary this month, not an air pollution convention as stated in a Champion news report last week.

Mr. McKerr, who pointed out the error, notes this will be his 15th trip to the annual convention for water pollution control officials. The Champion regrets the error.

Hot corn

A quantity of corn in a grain dryer caught fire Tuesday at United Co-Operative on Bronte St. Milton Fire Department was called to the scene to extinguish the blaze.

Smoke belched from the dryer but firefighters were unable to pinpoint the centre of the blaze, for the corn covered the source. Finally the dryer was emptied and the fire was put out.

Cause of the blaze is unknown.

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