

Trevor Houston hits grand slam

Trevor Houston's grand slam in the third inning stood up for Charles-Newman Stags as they edged Robert Reilly 4-3 to win the first annual Milton Fastball League tournament Sunday night at Rotary Park.

The tournament was originally scheduled for Aug. 7, but the final game was postponed until Sunday because of rain.

Foberts took a 1-0 lead when winning pitcher Ed Dunn walked Tom Sargent in the second inning. Sargent came home on a long double by Mark Grenke.

In the third, two walks and an error loaded the bases, setting the stage for Houston's smash off Grenke, who was later relieved by Terry Collins.

Small rally
Fobert staged a rally in the ninth inning. Ray Grisold singled, then came home on a homer by Ray Tonelli, but that was all they could get.

Roger Johnson and John Pensen had hits for Stags, while Pete Hawke had Fobert's other safety.

The tournament was an eight-team affair with four teams from Acton and four from Milton. Doug McClaughlin, the tournament organizer said next year he hopes to have teams from Georgetown enter, and perhaps some from Oakville.

Paquette, Harrison combine to oust Pelham in OASA

By Rod Jerred
The pitching of Jacques Paquette combined with the hitting of centre-fielder Burke Harrison proved too much for the visiting Pelham team Wednesday as Lowville Samuel Roy enterprises shut them out 3-0 to advance to the second round of the OASA playoffs against Simcoe.

Paquette allowed only three Pelham hits while striking out 12 batters. Harrison provided a large part of Lowville's offense scoring two runs and driving in the third.

The competition between the two teams came to a boil during the top of the sixth inning as both benches emptied for a pushing and shoving match following a collision between Pelham pitcher Taylor Gamble and Lowville catcher Dale Smith in an unsuccessful attempt to stretch

a triple into a homerun. With the bases empty, Gamble knocked the ball to deep right centre and tried to stretch the hit into a home run but was picked off by a perfect throw to home plate from right fielder Mitch Lajeunesse.

Gamble, instead of trying to slide into home, ran into Smith knocking him over but failed to knock the ball out of Smith's hands.

Smith then came up swinging and both teams gathered around home plate pushing and shoving one another around. There was no serious fighting as those that wanted to were held back by their teammates and no one was ejected from the game.

"It was a clean play," said Lowville manager Bob Fox. "The baserunner knew he was going to be out so he didn't have any choice but to

try and knock our catcher over. Our catcher just didn't like being on the receiving end of it though."

Gamble also pitched a good game limiting Lowville to five hits and striking out five.

Lowville produced the only run they really needed in the first inning when Harrison walked and scored after Pel-

ham third-baseman Mike Ker threw the ball into right field attempting to get Harrison at second on Smith's grounder.

Lowville scored their other two runs in the third inning when Paquette singled, advanced to second on an infield out and scored on a double by Harrison. Harrison then scored on Murray Dawson's

single. In the last inning Pelham came close to scoring when Gamble with one out hit to centre and stretched an ordinary single into a double. He then moved to second on Rob Vanalstine's infield out, but Paquette beared down and struck out second baseman John Gamble.

Juniors get bye into OBA

Milton's Colonial Junior Dormers defeated Burlington Braves 3-2 in a Halton junior baseball game played at Milton fair grounds Aug. 17.

It was Milton's final game of the regular season. They have been given a bye into the Ontario playoffs in the "C" Division. Milton did not make the Halton County playoffs

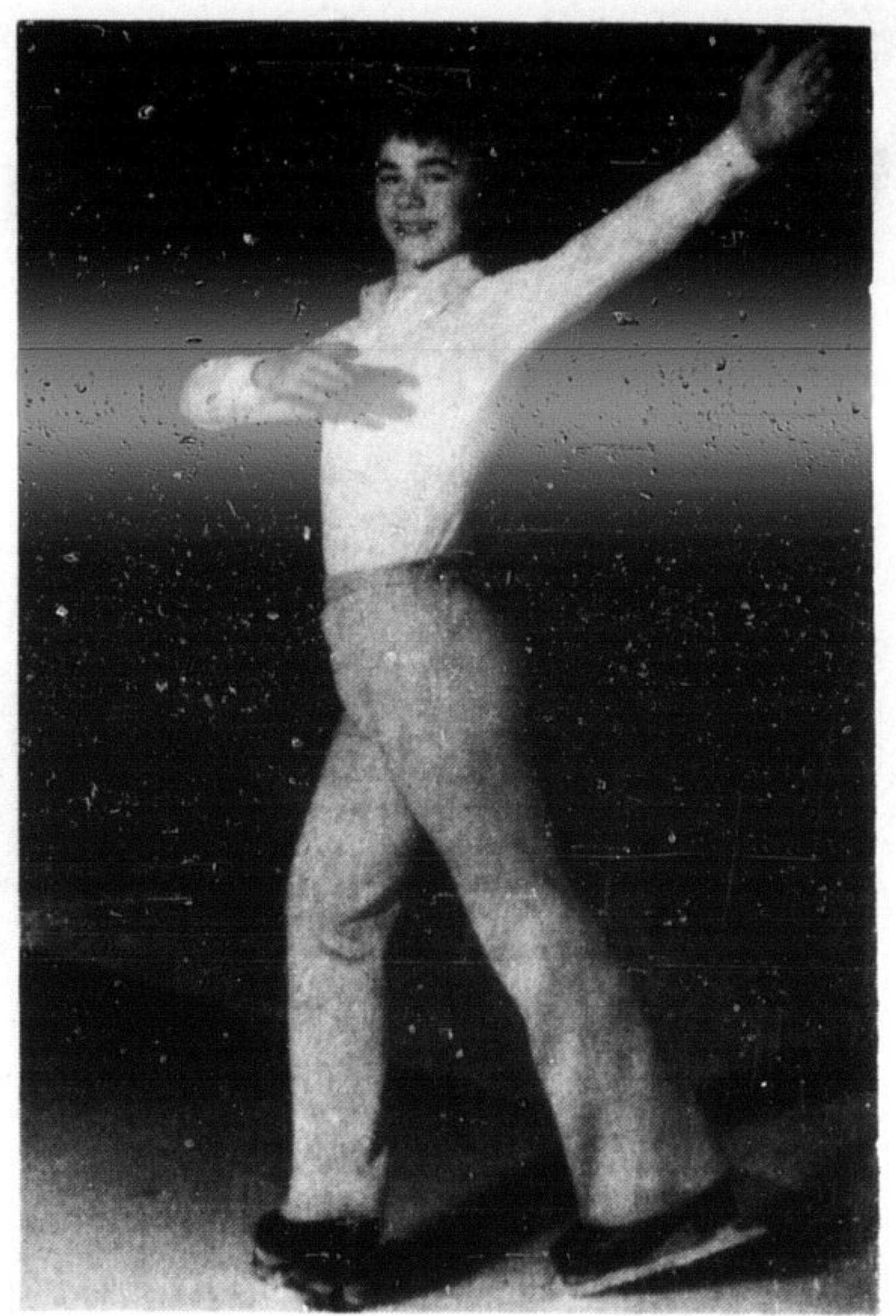
however, finishing two points out of the fourth and the final playoff spot.

Lauro Rigo was on the mound for Milton in Tuesday's game against Burlington.

He gave up two runs on five hits, issued one walk and struck out 10 Burlington

batters. Milton got all three runs in the third inning.

Glenn Turner started it off with a single, then scored on Ken Armstrong's triple. Armstrong scored on Hap Perrott's double, and Perrott scored the go-ahead run on John Kelman's double. Steve McCann also hit a single.



Kevin Parker invited to figure skate camp

Kevin Parker of Halton Hills is one of the top 112 figure skaters in Canada who have been invited to take part in a special one-week national training camp being run by the Canadian Figure Skating Association.

Parker will join 58 other skaters from Eastern Ontario, Aug. 30 to Sept. 4. Among his fellow students will be Ron Shaver of Galt and Stan Bohonek of Toronto, two Olympic competitors in Innsbruck, Austria this year. Shaver and Bohonek finished second and third in the men's senior championships last winter, behind Toller Cranston of Toronto.

Parker was invited on the basis of his first place finish in the Canadian Novice championships.

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"Most fantastic . . ."

". . . simply not valid"

Councillors disagree on parks survey

By Lee Fairbanks

A Milton Parks and Recreation Department survey conducted this spring on the "recreation needs in the community" was given to Council at its last regular meeting.

A total of 3,673 questionnaires were distributed in Milton through The Champion and public schools, of which 100 were returned. In order to obtain a more definitive response, Deidre Gardner, a University of Waterloo student who designed the survey, conducted 165 personal interviews in urban Milton.

The results of the questionnaire were backed up by the interviews.

List priorities

Readers were asked to number their priorities for the following: parks, indoor swimming pool, improved playgrounds, and "other."

Thirty-nine per cent listed an indoor pool as their first priority in Milton, 26 per cent preferred improved playgrounds, 22 per cent wanted tennis courts first, and 17 per cent asked for parks.

Of the 100 respondents, only 30 said the recreation facilities in Milton were "adequate". The survey was conducted before the closing of the Armstrong Arena, and did not touch on the need for a second ice surface, although some replies suggested the need for more public skating hours.

Recreation good investment

A large majority of people (78 out of 83) felt that recreation is a good tax investment in Milton, while 67 of 83 said they would contribute to fund-raising for the facilities they felt were needed.

Regarding programs, the survey found an almost even split with 38 people finding the parks and recreation programs offered by the town adequate, while 49 felt they were not.

Bob Small, Parks and Recreation Director said he was satisfied that there was enough information contained in the survey on which to base a policy. He noted in particular the support for the pool, and the need for improved parks and parks equipment.

Surveys vital

"Definitely there are large sums of money that I feel have to be spent over the next few years (on parks), not only in the new subdivisions, but upgrading equipment in the older parts of town," he said.

Small said he considers it vital to conduct a similar survey, especially in the urban areas, every one or two years.

The reaction from council members varied. Some thought the survey was very useful, and others found it biased and not representative. The Champion contacted each Council member for their opinions on the survey, and how they intended to use it.

Anne MacArthur

The Mayor said she hadn't had time to read it yet (it's a 33-page report) but she would read it some time in the fall. She plans to go through it with Mr. Small, and then present something to Council. She said she was "impressed with Miss Gardner, and very happy with the parks and rec staff."

As for the pool, Mrs. MacArthur said it was "down the road", and should be slated in with the new high school (to be built on Thompson Rd.) because that was the only way Milton could afford to maintain it. She said Milton should have one but could not afford it right now.

The Mayor hopes to see construction start on the school in the early part of 1978.

As for parks, the Mayor admits "It's going to be sad" if the stands and facilities planned for Best Park are not built soon, but on the other hand people could sit on the grass to watch a game, or bring their own folding chairs.

She suggested Maplehurst inmates might be asked to build seating, or another way may be found to build them at no cost to the town. She lists a hardball diamond as a priority, before the indoor pool.

"Certainly a ball diamond should come before the pool," she said.

Rick Day

"I thought it was very interesting but I took it the same way as I do all casual surveys—I don't give it much weight," said Day.

Day said the questions were leading, and people responding probably gave each question about "15 seconds' thought." He said the survey dealt with generalities, and not enough information was given to readers.

For instance, he said, the question about wanting a pool did not mention the possible tax increase needed to pay for it, just "do you want one."

"How many people would answer no?" he asked.

He compared it to a survey of college girls, asking how many were virgins. "Of course 100 per cent said they were."

Day conceded the survey might help show the taxpayers' priorities and that may be of value, but he doesn't intend to fight for a pool just because of the survey's results.

He said he would like a pool, "when we can afford it." As for a need, he said, "It doesn't prove a need, it proves a want."

He lists completion of Kinsmen Park in Milton as a top priority. More expensive developments can be finished when Milton receives tax money from the industrial park planned for north of the Highway 401. This would be \$2,000 an acre, he said, although the park will be "substantially less than 1,500 acres" — the original figure.

Don Gordon

"That is one of the most fantastic surveys I've ever seen," said Gordon. "If it doesn't force the town to program, its sports needs, there's something wrong."

Gordon was not surprised by the support for a pool.

"This town is long overdue for an indoor swimming pool."

He would like the pool to be put in the budget for 1977, and moved to 1978 if Milton can't afford it next year. This is the same procedure used for overpasses and bridges which haven't been built yet, he noted.

Gordon supports early completion of town parks, especially Best Park.

"I'd like to see kids in sweaty underwear running around over there. We can't let that much parkland go to waste."

The key to having the park ready for use next summer, he said, is to start the budget for next year in January. Then, he said, the parks budget could be approved in February, ratified in March and tenders could go out in April. In the last few years, budget sessions have dragged on into the summer, and the work has not started until late in the year.

Gordon expects local service clubs to help in equipping the parks, once they have raised the money for the town's second ice surface.

Gord Krantz

Gord Krantz said he couldn't remember seeing it (the survey report), although he was at the council meeting.

"I don't recall putting much emphasis on it. Anything that (that long) I generally throw in the garbage," he said. "Usually a survey means more tax money, that's for sure."

Art Melanson

"I think it was a good survey, although I was a little disappointed with the returns (four per cent)," said Art Melanson.

"It shows that most people are interested in athletics, and points out the need for an indoor pool. I'd like to see it built."

Melanson agreed with the idea that the pool should be built with the new high

school.

As for parkland, "I think we have enough parkland, it's just a matter of equipping it," he said.

If he runs for re-election, the completion of Best Park will be "one of my main concerns. I was disappointed it was not done this year," he said.

Melanson said he is looking for a May 24th opening of the park, and he expects it to be ready by then. He said Milton should get to work on it in early spring, so the local hardball teams can play on it.

"We'll be pushing for that for sure," he said.

Hazel Porter

"The survey was not representative of the population of Milton. Less than three per cent returned them," pointed out Mrs. Porter. She was one of the people in the "rest of the town," who didn't get a survey.

The poor return rate meant conclusions drawn from the survey were arbitrary, she felt.

"Can you say three per cent want it (the pool) and 97 per cent don't, or do you say 97 per cent don't care?" she asked.

Mrs. Parter said she was happy to see a good response from the Dorset Park owners, and their efforts should be recognized. As for the pool, she's all for it if it's built with the new high school.

"I don't think it's an absolute necessity. It's an awful lot of expense for the few people who want it and the 97 per cent who don't care," she pointed out. "It will shoot taxes up, but we'll have to come to it," she admitted.

Basically she saw other things of more pressing need.

"You don't live in a mansion if you're eating beans and porridge, do you?"

Brad Clements

"I think it will be useful in some sense. I mainly paid attention to the pool, and there are a lot of people who don't care if it's built, about 50 per cent," said Brad Clements.

"In studying the breakdown (given by area) there was a fair number who didn't care. Some of the survey was passe (tennis courts)," he pointed out.

Clements found the comments included in some of the responses to be informative, making some valid points. "It should be used as a guide (for the town's policy)," he said.

He feels council cut the parks budget too low this year, and suggests more money from capital levies should be given to the department for new facilities, including Best Park.

He wouldn't be against a slight rise in taxes to pay for an expanded budget for the town, "up to a certain point."

"I hope we can get the lights and stands in Best Park for next year," he said, "but we have to look at the overall view." He meant that other departments also have important needs.

Clements called for the groups who use sports facilities that don't charge a fee to help more with the operating of them. If volunteers would line the baseball and soccer fields, for instance, it would cut down on operating costs and free more money for capital expenses.

As for priorities, Clements noted that he had no favoritism for one particular sport, so he's not pushing for one development over another.

Jim Watson

Jim Watson felt the survey was not valid because it did not include the rural areas which he represents. He said he was disturbed by this omission, and before the results are used as policy another house-to-house survey of rural communities should be taken.

"I'm sorry they couldn't go into the new rural subdivisions (Campbell Heights, Brookeville Estates)," he said.

He believes the people in rural areas would not support an indoor pool built with public funds, because they would not use it as often.

"The rural people are the users who have to contribute the most in the terms of money (tax dollars) and transportation costs to get there. I don't see how you can stick Eden Mills and Drumquin for a pool when their chances of using it are slim."

"The conclusion is very simple. If a pool is to be built it must be built privately (with no public funds)," he said.

Watson criticized the survey for placing too much emphasis on the new people in town—"they probably don't intend to stick around and pay for it," he said. "How long have they supported the tax base of the town?" he asked, "three months?"

As for parks—"As far as I'm concerned we've got parks coming out of our ears. I personally like to see parks of a passive nature." He does not support development of the town's parks, he said, because often gangs will congregate there, and he prefers parks to be used for walking in, rather than organized sports.

Jim Kerr

Jim Kerr disagreed with the conclusions reached by the survey that the majority of people in Milton want an indoor pool. He said the low number of returns convinced him that Miltonians "are not too sure they want an indoor pool."

"I wouldn't want to make any key decisions from this," he said. "With the very small response, I wouldn't put much faith in it."

He said the survey questions were biased towards a pool, and in some cases were misleading. He also noted that Dorset Park got a large share of door-to-door surveys, with most of the remainder at new houses, town houses or apartments.

In general, he felt the recreation department is doing a "fantastic job" and

Milton has "all kinds of facilities."

As for the town's needs—"We don't need a second arena, but it's nice to have. If we didn't have Drury School pool, an indoor pool probably would have taken priority over the arena."

He feels the pool should be built with the second high school, hopefully started in 1978, but will probably take two years to complete. He suggests waiting for the industrial park, and the tax assessment to come from that.

He would like to see the pool issue placed on this year's election ballot in order to get a greater response, and noted that the survey is "somewhat out of date" already because it was taken before the Armstrong Arena was closed, and before the tennis courts in Campbellville and Dorset Park were built.

Russ Powadiuk

"The fact that there was a limited response says a lot about the satisfaction of people towards the facilities we have now," said Russ Powadiuk.

He felt surveys get a greater response when the people have agreed with their neighbors that something is needed—when they have a common goal.

Powadiuk slighted the survey as a "good exercise for the student (Gardner)," and "a handy tool to pursue something (indoor pool) he (Bob Small) has already decided on," but said the results were not startling to him and "reinforces some of the gut feelings I have," about building future facilities.

"I think we've done pretty well in the last two years, particularly in developing new facilities," he said. Powadiuk feels future development must take careful consideration of the market value assessment, and the taxation balance.

"In ward three, essentially we've decreased services such as roads and the library to offset the impact of education in particular and the region. If that trend continues, I personally won't be voting for major enhancement of existing facilities," unless funds are raised through public subscription.

Marjorie Powys

Marjorie Powys felt the sections of the survey dealing with an indoor pool really couldn't be considered valid because they did not mention the possible cost of the facility. She thinks if the survey had told residents what the pool would mean in extra taxes, there may have been a different answer.

She would like to see a pool built, but wants individuals and service clubs to share the brunt of the cost, in the same manner that the pool in Rotary Park was built. It was privately financed, then handed over to the town.

"If someone wanted to build an indoor swimming pool and give it to the town I'd be all for it," she joked. She recalled, however, that when the Rotary Park pool was given to the town some people complained that they would have to pay the operating expenses, which proves you can't please everybody.

Mrs. Powys feels that people should not look to the government to provide everything, but should look to private groups. "All levels of government don't operate as efficiently as free enterprise," she said.

Mrs. Powys was particularly interested in the comments section of the survey, and she intends to use some of these. She took exception, however, to one part of the survey which claims Milton is lacking in art, drama and music.

"It may be true about drama" she said, "but we have so many choirs people don't know which one to go to."



MORE PLAYGROUND equipment was listed as the top priority by many of the respondents to the Parks and Recreation Department survey on the "recreation needs in the community".