

Springer 'Andy' Geniole fourth in Ontario

You could say 10-year-old Andrea "Andy" Geniole was just looking out for the family name.

With older sister Paula unable to compete in the provincial gymnastics championships because of a nagging injury, Andy carried through with the family name and Milton Springers' colors finishing fourth best in the province in Argo B at the championships over the weekend at

York University.

In just her first competition at this level, Andrea captured a silver medal on vault with a score of 8.50, two sevenths on floor and beam and an eighth on bars to claim the fourth best score. A total of 40 competitors made up the Argo B group.

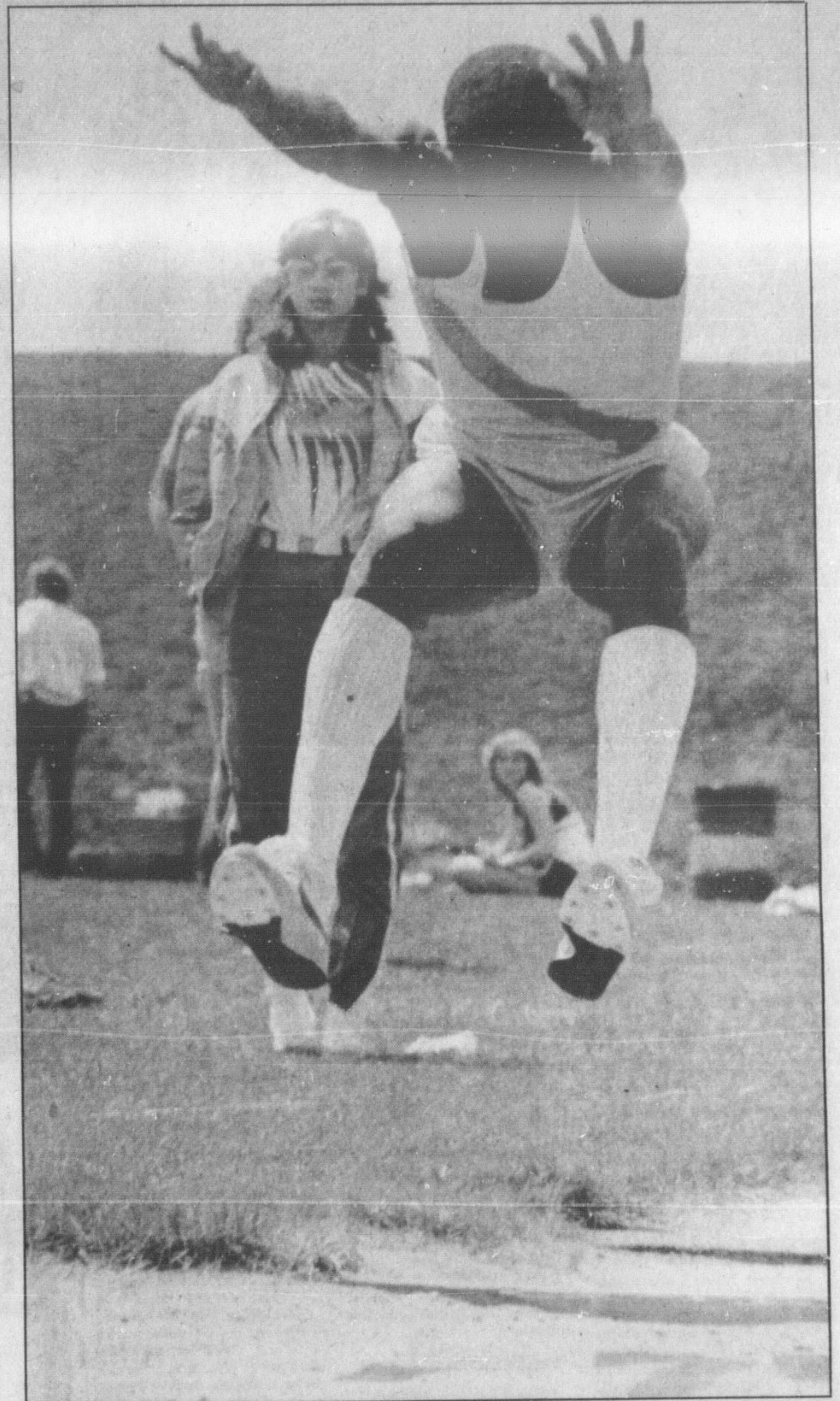
Teammate Jenny Arnold, 9, also in her first competition at this level, came

through with a good effort with a strong seventh placing in the highly competitive meet on her floor routine.

Thirteen-year-old Kerry Horn, who went as an alternate last year to the provincial championships, finished sixth overall of 41 competitors in the Tyro B group. She won a silver medal on vault and also was sixth on beam.

Coupled with the strong performances last week of Susan James and Suzanne Wood in the Junior competitions, this year marks the finest, from a standpoint of Ontario level calibre, for Janet Campbell's Milton Springers.

Last week, it was incorrectly reported Suzanne Wood was competing in her first provincial championships when in fact it was her third.



Ian James shows his winning form in the triple jump at the Halton track championships Friday in Etobicoke. For more, turn to pages C3 and C5.

Champion Sports

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION
MILTON, ONTARIO
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1982
THIRD SECTION

Thomas adds Flyers to his sports stable



By MICHAEL BOYLE
Champion Sports Editor

In an interesting turn of events, Milton town Realty Aeris' owner Gary Thomas has purchased Milton Flyers from Vern and Beth Gooding for an undisclosed amount of money.

Thomas said he in turn will sell both Flyers and Aeris to a group of four or five members of which he will be one.

The sale, completed last Thursday, after just 10 days of negotiations, changes the complexion of hockey in Milton at both the junior and intermediate levels. Educated estimates at the cost of Flyers are in the neighborhood of \$14,000.

Thomas wouldn't disclose his partners or their plans for both teams for the 1982-83 season. The group will meet later this week to develop a strategy for the coming year.

"It all happened rather quickly," explained Thomas who was obviously elated with his new acquisition. "Beth phoned me and asked when she could pick up a cheque for some hockey sticks I purchased.

"I put in the envelope an offer to purchase the team and two days later Vern had a counter offer. I can't say enough about the good way Vern handled the situation. It was all done very professionally and if there was any bad feeling caused by the Friday-night business, it certainly didn't show.

"We haggled a little over the particulars but it was done very efficiently and professionally."

For the Goodings, it marks an end to the eight years the family has owned and operated junior hockey in Milton. (See other story).

It is believed the controversy surrounding the Friday night home dates, which now has become relatively unimportant, contributed to the sale. In the discussions which went before Milton Council, Aeris were awarded a partial share of the Friday nights at Memorial Arena after many years of junior exclusivity to the night. It is not known how the situation between the teams will stand now with one group own-

ing both teams.

Thomas explains his comparatively sudden interest in the junior team.

"I went to the OHA annual convention in Toronto in April and talked with other owners of the Intermediate teams," he explains. "Some of them weren't sure if they were coming back, all had some kind of problem and none of them seemed committed to next year.

"I don't run my business like that and I didn't like what I saw and heard."

Technically, the club has been purchased by Gary Thomas alone. He is expected to sell to a group called "Gary Thomas & Friends" in the not-too-distant future. Their names will be made public next week.

Intermediates' future unsure with purchase

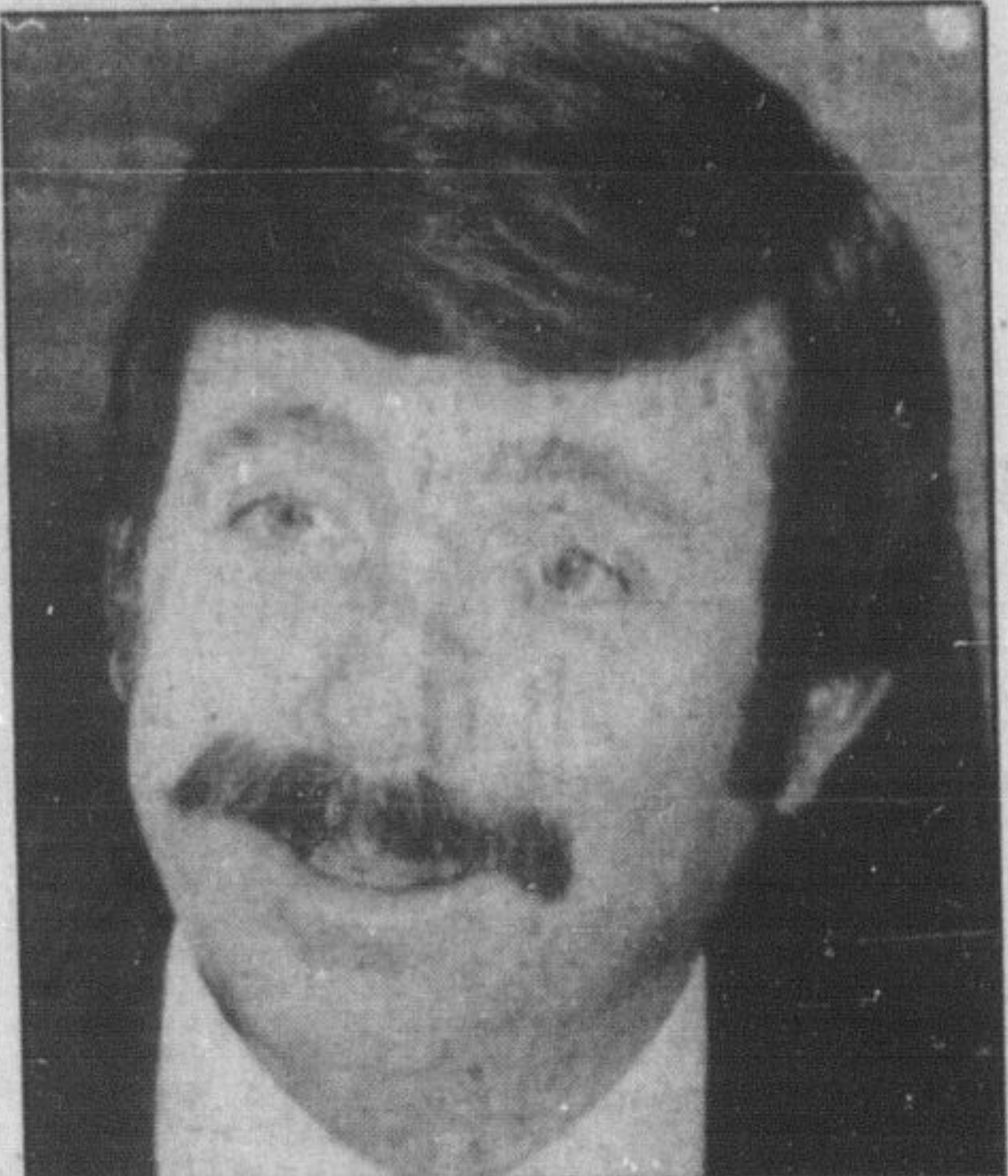
Among the most intriguing questions facing the recent sale of Milton Flyers to Gary Thomas is—What about the Aeris? Milton's Intermediate B team was recently upgraded to the 'A' level by Thomas with big hopes for the 1982-83 season.

However, the intermediate division at all levels is customarily late with its commitments for the coming year and the OHA, realizing that, extend the deadline for all intermediate applications until July 1. All other divisions have deadlines much earlier.

Thomas has openly shown his displeasure with way the league is run and as a successful businessman, would have liked to see it run more professionally.

Thomas' went to great lengths to gain a share of the Friday nights at Memorial Arena for the Intermediate Aeris. Where that situation actually stands is in doubt with the new group now calling both the shots.

Thomas said he will concentrate on the promotion and public relations aspect of the hockey teams and let the group handle the hockey operation. The club will be sponsored by Miltonown Realty and called Miltonown Realty somethings.



Gary Thomas

The group is considering a name-team contest. Ads could run in The Champion with a prize for the winning entry.

With the quickness of the sale, little has been finalized for the coming year. The future of Milton Aeris also remains in doubt. The prospect of one group running two teams, one in Intermediate A and the other in Junior B may be too much to handle right off the bat. More is expected to be known later this week.

Beth Gooding said Thomas' offer to purchase was the first written offer the club received this year.

"We've had a few verbal offers but Gary's was the first written offer."

Gems, Sabres talk merger

By ROBIN INSCOE
Special to The Champion

The recent change of ownership of Milton's Jr. B hockey team may not be the only area junior hockey team

planning changes for the 1982-83 season. Team representatives of Acton Sabres and Georgetown Gemini and recently discussed the possibility of amalgamating their teams into a single

club.

Gemini president Zeke McCandless and outgoing general manager Bob Tost sat down a few weeks ago with Sabres' outgoing GM Ron Jeffery to get the ball rolling on a possible merger. After four hours of initial talks, little had been decided. They decided to meet following elections of officers had been completed for both teams.

How do people feel about the possible transaction? The Gemini, who instigated the merger, voted at their general meeting last week to continue to pursue such a merger. McCandless is hoping that it could possibly be completed before the season while Tost said, "it's a step in the right direction."

Sabre coach Jules Russiani is a major booster of the joint project from the Sabre standpoint saying it is the only way to go. He said it must happen this year.

"There's not enough to work with," commented Russiani about the talent in Acton or Georgetown alone. "Neither team has anything to look forward to. Make the playoffs and go out in the first round."

Goodings sell after eight years

For Beth Gooding, the sale of her club to Thomas brings mixed emotions.

"It was becoming too much for us to handle. We're not getting any younger and running the juniors has been a year-round job for eight years. We were getting weary.

"But I'm a little sad. I'm going to miss the boys and the team. I'm sure we'll continue to support and watch the juniors and I hope everybody doesn't forget about us."

Beth said neither she or Vern had been approached by the new owner to help out in any capacity.

The Goodings' mark on the club goes back to the mid-1960s when, with nine

other people, they ran and financed the club.

During the early 1970s, the club ran into financial difficulties. The Goodings bought out each of the members, except one (Harry Funk) before the 1973-74 season and operated the club themselves. Funk sold his share two years later.

Bob "Pie" Lee became the first coach for Goodings' Flyers. Four years later, the club barely scraped into the playoffs but beat out both Burlington and Oakville in the early rounds before meeting Streetsville for the championship. Streetsville won that year and the next season was a virtual repeat of the previous year with Flyers beating out Oakville and Burlington

again before losing to Streetsville in the final.

Through it all, the Goodings set the club on a sound base and restored financial credibility to the club.

Not only have the Goodings operated the team, but their home has been "home" to 16 Flyers during the hockey seasons. This year, Jeff Martin and Bill Lynch have lived with the Goodings.

"I think I'll miss that the most," adds Beth. "And of the all the boys who stayed with us, I think I'm the most proud of Billy (Lynch)."

Players staying with Flyers came about by accident when no one could be found to board some players.

Power to spare

Mohawks start right beating Oakville, Royals

Demonstrating all the facts of winning baseball, Campbellville Mohawks started the Halton County Baseball

League season on the right foot taking wins of 13-4 against Oakville Saturday and 15-10 over Milton Royals Sunday both

at Campbellville.

Mohawks showed just a few of their many strengths which, with Leaside gone to bigger and brighter places, rank the club near the top in early season predictions.

In their home opener Saturday Mohawks were never in trouble. Rick Mitchell started and was relieved by

brother Garney Mitchell. Rick got the win.

It was a different story Sunday at Campbellville in the first of what promises to be an interesting renewal of their rivalry. Former Mohawk Rich Clement now coaches Milton.

The score seasawed back and forth until the seventh inning when Campbell-

ville tied the score. Mohawks then erupted for five runs on four hits and two walks to secure the five-run margin of victory.

Bob Evans pitched the first five innings and to two batters in the sixth before being relieved by Dan Thompson. The righthander gave up a two-run homer to Wade Bekar in the seventh but settled

down allowing just one more hit the rest of the way to pick up the win.

Royals' opened the scoring in the top of the second when Gary Nayler led off with a home run. Mohawks rallied in their half of the second on a home run by Rick Mitchell and an error to score three runs for a 3-1 lead.

Jack Cantelon put Royals in front 4-3 with a three-run homer in the fourth but Paul Ridley returned the favor with a three-run homer of his own in Mohawks' half of the fourth for a 7-4 lead.

Ray Evans led off the fifth with a homer to give Mohawks a four-run lead but Royals struck for four runs in the sixth, including Bekar's first of two consecutive two-run homers, to tie the score.

After Royals' starting pitcher Roger Clement set Mohawks down one-two-three in the sixth, Bekar put Royals in front 10-8.

The lead was shortlived as Mohawks strung two singles and three walks from Bekar who had replaced Clement, to score twice and tie the score 10-10.

The eighth inning belonged to Campbellville as the club connected for four singles and a pair of walks to produce five runs and the victory. Thompson set down Royals in order in the ninth for the win.

Mohawks boasted several changes in their starting line-up proving they should be rated as a powerhouse. The infield featured Steve Tait at third, Paul Ridley at shortstop, Ray Evans at second and Doug Timbers at first. Tim Roberts was behind the plate.

The outfield featured Ritchie Knight in left, Steve Smith in centre and Bill Dennis in right. Rick Mitchell pitched the first game and was designated hitter in the second game.

Mohawks resume action next Sunday with a 2.30 p.m. start at home to Dundas Chiefs. The two teams meet again Monday at Dundas.

Marchand leads Royals to 8-3 win over Oaks

Wayne Marchand gave up just five hits and went the distance to lead Milton Royals to an 8-3 win over Oakville Oaks for Royals' first win of the year Monday night in Oakville.

Marchand pitched an outstanding game and only two Oakville hits, both singles, were clean hits. Backed by strong defence which contributed to 19 infield outs, Marchand was in command all the way to produce the club's, and new manager Rich Clement's, first win of 1982.

Marchand surrendered one run without a hit in the second and then allowed just two runs in the sixth. He easily bested Oakville ace Rob Fisher, who is considered by many to be among the top and fastest pitchers in the league.

Glen Turner and Doug Nayler paced Royals with two hits while Rick



Rich Clement

McTrach, Jack Cantelon, Rich Clement and John Turner each added one hit. John Turner, brother of Glen Turner and Clement each drove home two RBIs while Rick McTrach and Ken Armstrong added one RBI.

Coach Clement says he has found the early part of the year a learning experience. "Yesterday was all

my fault," explains the rookie manager of his team's loss to Campbellville. "Today, the big story was Wayne. He pitched a great game."

Marchand had coached the team for several years before relinquishing the job to Clement this year. Coach Clement said the reduced responsibilities should help Marchand's pitching.

Royals have a few new faces and some brother combinations.

The Turners—Glen, John and now pitcher Dave—make up the biggest group. Brothers Garry and Doug Nayler and first cousins Rich and Roger Clement give the club a family affair. In addition, Bekar and Rich Clement are brothers-in-law.

Royals play in Cambridge Sunday and at Burlington next Wednesday before meeting Campbellville Saturday May 29 in their home opener at Brian Best Park.



They got him

Mohawk Ray Evans tags out Royals' Glen Turner attempting to steal second. Mohawks exploded for five runs in the eighth

inning for a 15-10 win. Mohawks also won Saturday over Oakville.