

## Mohawks tearing apart Halton baseball league

**IT SEEMS RATHER** unusual that the best team in the Halton Senior Baseball League should come from the town with the smallest population—Campbellville.

For many years, Campbellville Mohawks have provided baseball fans in the village with a high calibre of ball. The only exception this year is that the ball is better.

After starting relatively slowly with a 3-2 record, Mohawks have reeled off no less than 15 consecutive wins. Their 18-2 record puts them two and one-half games ahead of Dundas and three in front of Milton in the race for first. With four games remaining, including one each against Milton and Dundas, Mohawks are a shoo-in for the top spot.

Much of the reason for their 15-game winning string might be negative—perennial champion Leaside Leafs left the league to join the Niagara District League.

But much of the reason for their success is positive.

Mohawks boast the best pitching staff in the league. Where most good clubs have maybe three good pitchers, Mohawks have seven. Hitting, if anything, has been the club's weak spot, but its defence has been spectacular.

What is perhaps the most unusual aspect to the club is that a majority of the players grew up in Campbellville.

Tim Roberts, Ray Evans, Rick Mitchell, Garney Mitchell, Steve Smith, Charlie Currie, Bill Dennis, Dan Thomson, Scott Gadd and Rick Slaughter are all Campbellville lads. Doug Timbers and Hal Perrott are transplanted Miltonians.

Of the key players, just four are not from this area. Steve Tait, Paul Ridley, Ritchie Knight and manager Bob Evans are the only Mohawks from outside.

The villagers are taking on the likes of Dundas, Oakville, Burlington and Brampton and beating them consistently. It's a credit to their baseball program that it has reached such a high level.

Manager Bob Evans is quite pleased with the play of his charges, as can be expected.

"Actually," recalls Evans, "we should be 19-1 (Mohawks lost to lowly Cambridge). But then again, we've won a few games by close scores."

"I think the reason we're doing so well is that we don't have a weak spot in the line-up. The eighth-place hitter can easily hit second or third."

"Our fielding gives us the best defence in the league but the key is our pitching. We have a well-balanced pitching staff of seven pitchers where other teams are lucky to have three or four."

The seven pitchers are Thomson, Gadd, Garney Mitchell, Rick Mitchell, Perrott, Currie and manager Evans.

"This year we've had no bickering at all. I try to get everybody in the games."

This is apparent in that Mohawks haven't run up the score many times. Whenever Mohawks get in front by half-a-dozen or so runs, Evans sends in the reserves to keep them ready just in case of injury and for better team involvement. Everybody plays and gets their chance to show their stuff.

"We're feeling pretty good about the season," Evans adds. "Maybe too much so. I think we're getting a little overconfident."

The other six teams in the league have shown their fear of Campbellville when the clubs selected their level of play for the Ontario Baseball Association playdowns.

Campbellville was obligated to choose either Level A or Level B because they are in first place. They chose Level B. All other teams chose Level C.

It means Campbellville will automatically advance into the OBA playdown rounds without a race down the wire with any other Halton Senior League team. The other six are now in a race for second place in the league to see which club will move to OBA. At this point, Dundas leads Milton by half-a-game.

Evans didn't seem too concerned about OBA play. In fact, he appeared somewhat unconcerned.

"I'm more or less worried about the Halton County league," he says. "I don't even know the teams at the B level. But we'll get it together."

I think I've found a name almost as long as the race itself.

On Sunday Aug. 22, a few hundred runners will leave the Optimist Club to participate in the Molson's Fifth Annual Maple Leaf 10-Km Classic Bryan Kerr Memorial road race.

The race was started by Bryan Kerr who died tragically in a boating accident two years ago.

He would be very proud of its progression over the past five years. Runners from many parts of the province and the United States take part.

The race is sanctioned and certified by the Ontario Track and Field Association. The course is measured down to the last inch (pardon me, centimetre) to exactly 10 kilometres.

There are five categories for men and four for women with prizes and trophies for each category. Any distance runner 13 years and over is eligible.

For more information on the race, contact Peter Schmidt at 878-7574. Entry fees are \$5 for registered runners, \$6 for non-registered runners and \$8 for entries taken on race day.

The race begins at 10 a.m. with entries accepted until 9.30 a.m. Mail

Mike Boyle



your entries and save a few bucks to Race Secretary, 1300 Mississauga Valley Blvd., Apt. 1012, Mississauga, L5A 3S6. Advance entries close Aug. 13, so hurry.

It may seem too early to be discussing hockey registration—but it's not.

Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Milton Mall, members of Milton Minor Hockey will be on hand to accept registrations for the 1982-83 hockey season.

With a \$25 late registration fee, several members of the MMHA felt there should be more variety in registration dates hence the early dates.

The fees remain the same—\$65 for the first boy, \$65 for the second boy and \$15 per boy thereafter. Still pretty cheap.

If you didn't get enough fastball last weekend at the MFL's annual tournament, head over to Hornby ball park Saturday and Sunday for the first recreational fastball tourney.

The tourney, which doesn't have a name, is strictly a "fun" type tourney featuring four entries from the Halton Men's Softball League, six clubs from the Milton Fun Fastball League and two outsiders, Hornby and John Burns Stable which is rated the team to beat.

All money raised will be donated to the Milton District Hospital Expansion Fund. With a beer licence and a beer tent, it'll raise its share.

Action begins at 8.30 a.m. Saturday and runs through the day with the semis slated for 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. The championship with the semis slated for 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. The championship game goes at 2.30 p.m.

Two Milton midget-aged hockey players are joining 67 other top provincial players, 30 referees and 12 trainers at Hockey Ontario's second annual Development Camp this week at Queen's University in Kingston.

Defenceman Rick Serafini and centre left-wing Mark Haskett are taking part in the nine-day program which began last Saturday and runs until Sunday.

Both players played last year with Milton's major midget Comets as minor midgets.

The 69 players are divided into three teams of 28 with a head coach. The coaches are Tom Watt, NHL coach-of-the-year with Winnipeg Jets,

Bill Mahoney and Don McKee.

The program is being carried out by Hockey Ontario but is totally financed through the Bank of Nova Scotia's hockey sponsoring program.

This camp is part of relatively new Hockey Ontario overall program which forges provincial midget teams vying for national championships.

Right now, plans for the camp call for the players to be re-united at the end of the hockey season for a series of exhibition games.

Milton is on the verge of a national champion.

At a recent Ontario Men's Open Doubles Shuffleboard Tournament held in Niagara Falls, Tony Lambert, 26, of Victoria Street, Acton and Geoff Denny, 43, of Mill St., Milton, walked off with the tournament title and a trip to Calgary to compete in the Canadian Finals this fall.

Milton track and field star Ian James pulled off a switch and is in line to qualify for the Commonwealth Games scheduled for early October in Australia.

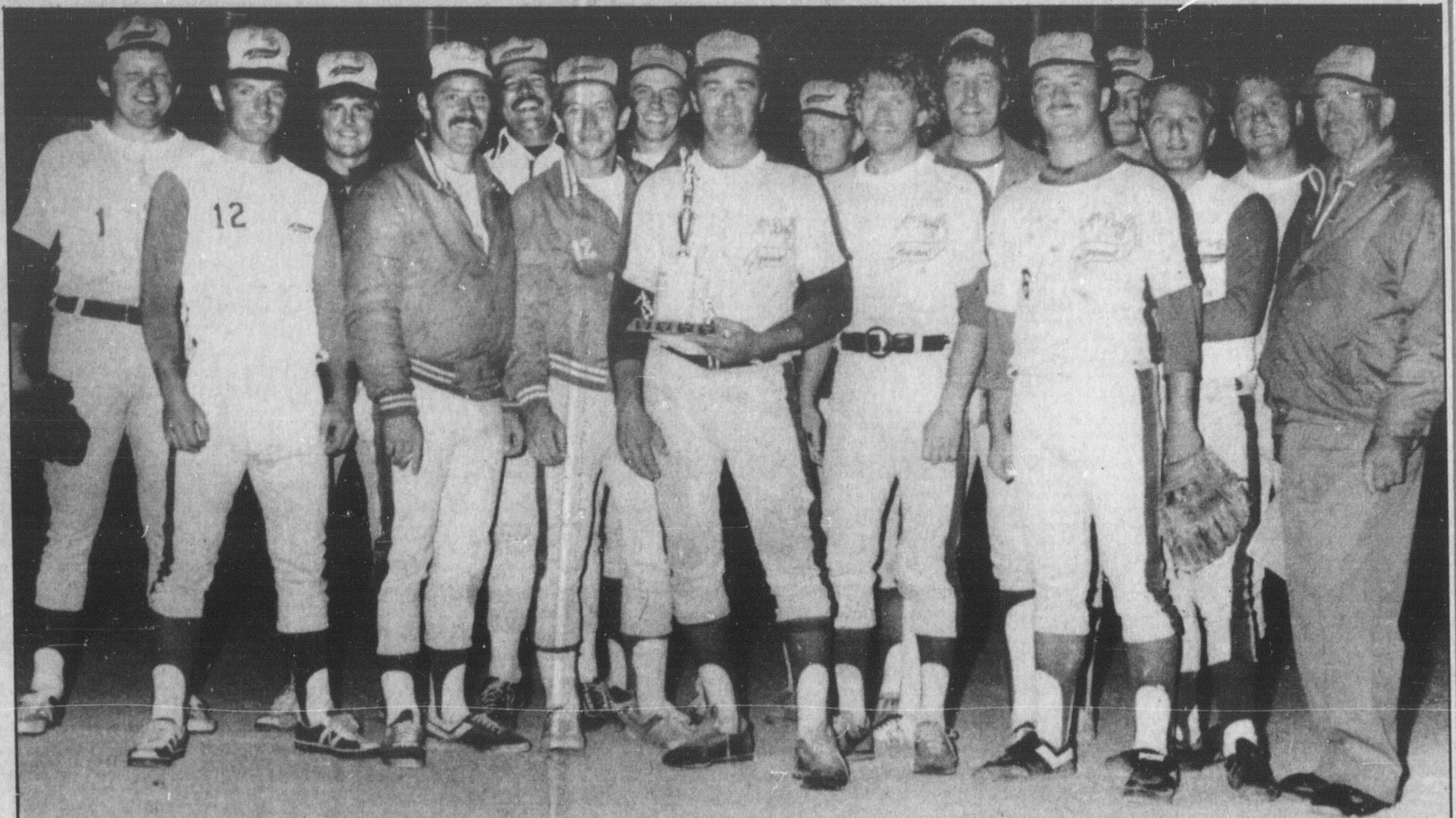
James qualified for the Junior Pan-American Games but chose not to compete in order to compete in the senior national track and field championships and also to complete his summer school courses.

The long-jump and triple-jump specialist finished second in both events last weekend at Ottawa. Although the top two jumpers in each event were scheduled to qualify for the Canadian team, financial restrictions will hold down the size of the team and James won't know until later this week or early next week whether or not he qualified for the team.

Milton middle-distance runner Phillip Dew finished eighth overall in the 800 metres, a very creditable showing for the 18-year-old runner who ran in 1 minute and 53.43 seconds.

# Champion Sports

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION  
MILTON, ONTARIO  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1982  
FOURTH SECTION



It took a superlative effort by McDuffe Equipment during the tournament and especially in the final game to wrestle the honors from a determined effort by Thornborrow Oilers. McDuffe showed a great deal of character in coming back from a 3-1 disadvantage to take the championship game 6-3.

## No longer bridesmaid McDuffe takes tourney

Always the bridesmaid and never the bride? Not any more.

Showing a great deal of character, McDuffe Equipment overcame a 3-1 disadvantage with five big runs in the fifth inning to earn a 6-3 win over Thornborrow Oilers for the championship of the Milton Fastball League tournament Monday night at Brian Best Park.

Despite struggling in regular play in the MFL this year, McDuffe rolled through the round-robin undefeated with four straight wins before edging A & A Radiator 2-0 in the semi-finals to earn a berth in the championship game.

It was a superlative team effort for McDuffe which finally put it all together for the title. More importantly, McDuffe overcame a jinx of being unable to come from behind when they exploded for five runs in the fifth inning—all with two out—to steal the championship after it appeared Oilers had locked up their fourth straight title.

The victory in the final game marked McDuffe's second win over Oilers during the weekend. McDuffe edged Oilers 3-1 in the round-robin. The two Oilers losses in the tourney were one more than they've lost in 21 regular-season MFL contests.

Although McDuffe received several strong pitching performances from Barry Timbers, Keith McKinnon and Rob Amos, and some timely hitting from Norm Mowbray, the key to the victory rested with the club's ability to battle back after trailing Oilers late in the final game.

In the championship, Mowbray led off the bottom of the first inning with a home run installing McDuffe in front 1-0.

However, Oilers struck for three runs in the third inning, courtesy of some sloppy defensive play by the McDuffe fielders to take a lead and, many thought, a firm grasp on the championship.

However, McDuffe showed their character by taking advantage of two Oiler miscues and stringing together four consecutive two-out hits to produce five runs.

In the fifth, catcher Brian McDuffe got things rolling by leading off with a single. Pitcher Timbers and Mowbray

were both retired on ground outs with close plays at first sending McDuffe to third.

Jake Doering followed with a bunt single but the runner held at third. Frank Robinson singled up the middle for one run. Ken Fay then hit a slow roller down the third-base line. Oiler third-sacker Don Hearn's hurried his throw and the ball sailed over first baseman Wayne Ellis' head and into right field off the fence which enabled Doering and Robinson to score.

Doug McLaughlin then lined a hard drive to left field which took a hop past left-fielder Derrick Neelands and rolled to the fence. McLaughlin turned on the jets and scampered around the bases for an inside-the-park homer bringing in Fay ahead of him.

Timbers retired six of the next seven batters to give McDuffe the championship and some much-needed confidence.

Oilers scored their three runs courtesy of two McDuffe errors in the third.

Oiler pitcher Tony Broussard led off the inning with a single. Hearn's sacrificed him to second. Jim Felker followed with a line shot to right field which bounced through the legs of fielder Paul Larmer and also rolled to fence. Felker easily beat out the throw for an inside-the-park homer.

Oilers weren't done though. Trevor Houston doubled and moved to third on Geoff O'Brien's infield out. Ellis was hit by pitch to put runners on the corners.

Oilers then pulled off a delayed double steal. Ellis took off for second and stopped two-thirds the way there. Catcher Brian McDuffe's throw was slow and bounced enabling Houston to race home with the third run.

The tourney was played under clear skies Saturday and Sunday. However, a thunderstorm early Monday morning

covered the field in water. Work crews quickly restored the field to playing order but the schedule was two games behind when play resumed.

One scheduled game was eliminated from the tourney and action carried through a steady light drizzle which fell all day and night.

Cancellations from two clubs reduced the entries to 10, down from 16 a year ago. In fact, a team comprised of players with Fifth Wheel and Brookville was drawn up to allow for 10 clubs.

Prize money was for wins only. McDuffe got \$200 for the championship game. Oilers and McDuffe received \$100 apiece for their semi-final wins and each round-robin win was worth \$25. In all, McDuffe won \$400 while Oilers took home \$162.50.

Despite fielding just 40 per cent of the clubs, MFL teams shone through the tourney. In addition to Oilers and McDuffe, Miltonwe advanced to the semi-finals, where they lost 5-0 to Oilers, and Thruway narrowly missed qualifying for the semi-finals when Miltonwe beat Mufflers 6-4 in the final game of the round-robin.

In the semi-finals, Keith McKinnon scattered six hits to pace McDuffe past A & A Radiator 2-0.

McDuffe struck for just four hits themselves but made all of them count. Norm Mowbray led off the third with a triple. After Dave Norton popped up, Doug McLaughlin laced a single up the middle to score Mowbray with the first run.

McDuffe scored the second run on an error. Hugh Williams singled and moved up to second on a passed ball. Paul Larmer's infield grounder went for an error allowing Williams to score.

In the other semi-final, Oilers struck for six hits in the fifth inning scoring five runs for their 5-0 win over Miltonwe.

Wayne Ellis led off with a homer. After Ray Tonelli tripled, Derrick Neelands produced an RBI single. Catcher Roger Johnston singled before Don Hearn's sent them both home with a triple and then scored on Jim Felker's single.

Meanwhile, pitcher Al Few allowed Miltonwe just two harmless singles to rack up the shutout.



Miltonwe's Steve Gervais successfully slides into second base ahead of the tag applied by Thruway's John Moore during Monday's action in the MFL tournament.

### Face West Lorne next

## Miltonwe mows down Lynden

Putting aside any thoughts of a potential protest, Omagh Miltonwe Realty edged Lynden 3-1 to capture their Ontario Rural Softball Association first-round play-down two games to one.

The game was played last Wednesday at Hornby in front of one of the largest crowds to watch a fastball game in the Milton area this year.

Several representatives with Lynden had indicated they might protest one or more players with Miltonwe. However, the deadline passed Friday without a word of disagreement.

Miltonwe now meets West Lorne, a London-area club, tonight (Wednesday) in West

Lorne in the first game of the best-of-three second round. The second game goes Friday at 8 p.m. at Hornby ball park.

A good crowd witnessed a hard-fought game last Wednesday with many good plays and at least one timely hit.

Mark Curtis, the player who came up in talk surrounding a protest, did most of the damage with a two-run homer in the second inning and then came on in the late innings in a relief pitching role shutting down Lynden without a hit to pick up the save.

Al Fenton started on the mound for Miltonwe and lasted until the eighth. He chang-



Mark Curtis edged places with Curtis, who'd been playing right field, and

Curtis finished the job.

After Lynden starter Don Robertson retired the first three Miltonwe batters, Dave Martin led off the second with a line drive triple to the fence. Curtis followed Martin to the plate and while trying to drive him home with a sacrifice fly watched his high fly sail over the fence for a two-run homer.

After Larry Withnell doubled to lead off the third, Robertson replaced himself on the mound with Smith who allowed four hits and one run the rest of the way.

Miltonwe clinched the win in the eighth. Withnell started things rolling with a single

and was sacrificed to second by Len Jillard. After a pop-up, Steve Gervais lined a drive through the right side which he converted into a double driving in Withnell with the third run.

Lynden was held to just five hits in the nine-inning game but strung three together in the fifth for their only run.

Lynden put runners on first and third with one out. Brian Taylor knocked a slow roller down the third-base line which handcuffed Martin who couldn't make up his mind to go home or to first. In the process, the runner from third sped in from behind Martin and scored Lynden's sole run.