



# SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1998



Photo by STEVE LeBLANC

Campbellville's Mark Marshall recently secured a provincial motocross championship and will go after the national title this weekend.

## Mark Marshall, 11, is a champion

By STEVE LeBLANC  
*The Champion*

Mark Marshall loves horsepower, but not the kind that runs free on his family's Campbellville farm.

Since first hopping aboard a Yamaha 50cc more than four years ago, the local youngster has been drawn to the speed and

strength associated with motocross racing.

"I just didn't want to get off it — ever," said the 11-year-old of his early riding days. "My first bike was stolen not long after I began racing.

"I remember crying my eyes out I was so upset."

Since this emotional loss — one of

Mark's earliest memories of racing — disappointment has given way to joy and satisfaction as widespread success has come knocking on his doorstep.

The most prestigious of his umpteen awards came recently in Paisley, Ontario where he was crowned provincial champi-

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## John Grant sees bigger things for prized pacer

Milton's Barnett Hanover raced to an impressive second-place finish in the \$600,000 Woodrow Wilson Pacing Classic last Friday at the Meadowlands.

Owned by John Grant, the two-year-old prodigy now has one first and two seconds in his young but extremely promising career.

"He couldn't really do it at the end but he ran very well," remarked Grant, who said bigger and better things are ahead for Barnett Hanover.

His prized pacer is one of the favourites to win this month's Metro Pacing Classic at Woodbine Racetrack. Elimination heats begin next weekend with the finals slated for August 29.

Grant will be in the spotlight himself next Friday (August 21) at Woodbine when he is officially inducted into the Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame.

### OJC appointment

The Ontario Jockey Club has appointed Hugh Mitchell as vice-president of standardbred racing.

The announcement — made by OJC president and CEO David Willmot Tuesday — follows the recent departure of Gerard Spoor, who has taken a senior management position in Holland.

Mitchell has been deeply involved in the horse racing industry for many years, 17 of which were spent as an executive with the Western Fair Association, which operates a multi-faceted entertainment complex in London.

"We are very fortunate that Hugh has decided to join our senior management team," said Willmot. "He brings to the OJC an extensive background in the standardbred racing industry."

Mitchell will assume his new position on September 24.

### New track tested

Mohawk Raceway has finished lengthening its track to seven-eighths of a mile — up from five-eighths — and will break it in tomorrow with fall qualifying races.

The new track's official opening doesn't come until September 14.

## Midgets hold tryouts

The Halton AAA Midget Hurricanes Hockey Club is set to open tryouts for the 1998-99 hockey season and are inviting all eligible players to attend.

The training camp opens on Saturday, Aug. 15, at Thompson Rd. Arena in Milton at 6 p.m. and continues on Sunday, Aug. 16 at 4:30 p.m. Cost for each tryout is \$10. Tryouts will also take place on Monday, Aug. 24 and Wednesday, Aug. 26 at Thompson Rd. Arena. Both skates will commence at 8:30 p.m.

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