



Local youth earns pilot wings

Sergeant Ben Beacock of RR5 Paisley earned his power pilot wings this summer during a seven-week course at Aviation International (Canada) Inc. in Guelph, Ont. The training involves qualification to Department of Transport light aircraft standards, as well as academic subjects. He has been a member of 340 "Port Elgin" Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets for four years, and earned his flying scholarship from the Air Cadet League of Canada. (DND Photo)



Ben Beacock is all set to soar as the Port Elgin Air Cadet received a scholarship for his power flying licence from the Cadets. The 17-year-old Sergeant in the Air Cadets will also be receiving the necessary training courtesy of the Port Elgin Flying Club. Brian Marshall, (left) president of the Flying Club, said the Air Cadet will be receiving ground school training, manuals, and flight computer from the Flying Club. Ben will be taking the power flying licence course in Guelph for seven-weeks starting in July. Ben is hoping to make a career of aviation. Photo by C. Meingast

Medals for local air cadets competing at National biathlon

Seventeen year old air cadets, Tara Voisin and Ben Beacock broke from their studies at Saugeen District to spend the week of February 19th to 24th competing at the National Cadet Biathlon Championships in Val Cartier, Quebec.

Biathlon is the sport in which the speed of nordic skiing is combined with the accuracy of target shooting. This is the sport in which Miriam Bedard won the gold for Canada last year at the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer. Like Voisin and

Beacock, Ms. Bedard also started competing in biathlon through Cadets. Voisin and Beacock also belong to the S.D.S.S. nordic cross country ski team as do many of the biathletes from the Port Elgin 340 Air Cadet Squadron.

The road to the Nationals has not been an easy one. The 340

Squadron began regional competitions this season by competing against 11 other squadrons in the South Western District Competitions in Cedar Springs on January 21st. Despite the competi-

tions being scheduled in the middle of exams and the lack of snow the female team of Tara Voisin, Vicki Robinson and Ann Marie Collins managed a first place finish. The male biathlon team of Ben Beacock, Chris Buckton and Jaren Belrose also finished first in



Tara Voisin and Ben Beacock

their division. These first place finishes allowed both the female and the male team to advance to the Central Region (Ontario) Competitions the following weekend at CFB Petawawa.