

The winning fight

nine years ago seems like cons, but to Brent Schizzzi of Milton, it was a time which he still recalls with uncanny sharpness. It was a time of allen hospital atmosphere and lonely nights away from his parents, followed by years of tedious visits to hospital.

For Brent's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Enio Sclisimi, 1968 was when their only son was beyond their help, when all they had to think about was their doctor's advise to 'hope for the best but be prepared for the worst'. It was the year their son had CRICCT.

"We kept up the motions of living because we had another child at home and life must go on," says Mrs. Schistzi," "but we were living in shock. You just don't think that sort of thing can ever happen to your

Early detection of Brent's cancer was the result of his mother's observations. While recovering from a bout of chicken pox, she noticed he was unusually tired which she assumed was due to his illness. However, a few days later when bathing him, Mrs. Schierzi noticed an unusual lump, a hardness over his appendix. Suspicions aroused, she took him to their family physician for a checkup.

By reporting unusual signs in Brent's health to their doctor, diagnosis and treatment of his illness began early and played

a Wilm's tumour, a rare form of such a curiosity to young inchildren, usually before they posted above his bed advising are six years old. Only twenty them to 'Look But Do Not years ago, chance of surviving Touch." a Wilm's tumour was small.

It was no wonder that he was Today, because of research and a medical curiosity at the age of modern treatment techniques, four, because the size of the about 75 percent of the patients tumour the surgeons finally can be cured and lead a normal, removed from his tiny abdomen turned out to be larger

The following six months advised us not to spoil him were decisive, if there was no because, if he makes it he will further evidence of cancer it grow up to be a miserable old meant that Brent would man'."

For anyone who is only 13, an important role in his cure. While waiting in hospital for than a grapefult. Although his month, Mrs. Sclisizzi took him income years ago seems like cons. His illness was diagnosed as surgery, Brent's lump became right kidney was totally regularly to hospital for ut to Brent Sclisizzi of Milton, a Wilm's tumour, a rare form of such a curiosity to young indestroyed by the tumour the checkups. doctors were confident that "I was grateful for every

they had gotten "everything." day," says Mrs. Sclistzzi, "I "That was when we started to started to think in a positive live again," Mrs. Schisizzi says, way about Brent's future, "-we knew there was hope." especially when our doctor

probably be cured. Once a Although the operation left Brent with only one kidney, which meant that he would never be able to play contact sport, it was a small price to pay for the feture of good

> Just as the six-month waiting period neared its end, their hopes were crushed with the news of Brent's all important checkup. The doctors had discovered a spot on his left

For a while it seemed like everything had been in vain, that they were indeed going to treatment and chemo-therapy destroyed. He was healthy generously supported.

Brent still visits the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto for checkups but now it's only once a year. In the meantime he likes to "hack" around like other bove his own age, play a tolerable game of tennis and receive scholastic awards for

academic excellence at his school as he did last year. Although far too young at the time to realize the implications of his disease, Brent does know

that he has beaten cancer. "I think that parents should have their child examined by their physicisn," says Mrs. Schistzi, "at the first sign of unusual health. From our experience we know that early diagnosis and treatment does

help to beat cancer." This year the Canadian Cancer Society will conduct its April campaign across Canada to raise money to support cancer research as well as carrying out its program of service to patients and public lose him. But with radiation education. The Georgetown unit is confident its \$18,000 goal the cancer was quickly for Halton Hills will be

A CHILDHOOD TUMOUR left Brent Schisteri with only one kidney at the age of four. Today the Milton, teenager is in good health because of early diagnosis and treatment.



SOLD

cancer can be beaten.

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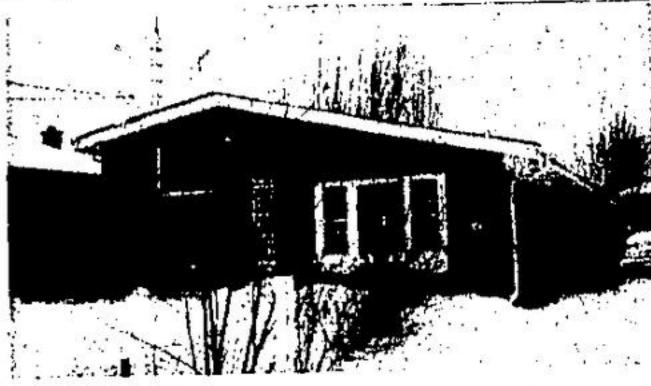
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