

Sports Week

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Local skaters set to go



(Herald photo)

Kevin Parker of Campbellville and a student at Acton high school will be one of three local skaters competing in the Canadian Figure Skating Championships in Thunder Bay this week. The other two are Kris Barber and Lise Smith. Parker is seen above during a practise at Milton arena earlier this week.

Three figure skaters from this area will be trying to take it all when the Canadian Figure Skating Championships begin in Thunder Bay later this week.

Two of the skaters, Campbellville's Kevin Parker and Glen Williams' Kris Barber, will be in the junior section. It is the last year the two skaters are eligible to skate junior.

The third skater, Lise Smith of Georgetown, is in the novice section. She will be competing in two events.

The Canadian Figure Skating Association has a rule that a skater can compete in the junior class for up to three years or until he wins a championship. Both Barber, who skates Junior Dance with Kelly Johnson of Toronto, and Parker, a single, are competing in the junior class for the third consecutive year.

Last year Barber and Johnson finished fourth at the championships in Victoria, British Columbia.

Before he left Barber told the Herald that he thinks he and Johnson have the potential to win it all this year. None of the skaters that finished ahead of them last year is skating in the junior competition this year.

VASTLY IMPROVED

Barber also said that he and Johnson are vastly improved over last year. It was the first year the two had skated together.

Parker, who finished fifth last year after finishing fourth the year before, will be competing against only one of the skaters who finished ahead of him last year.

Brian Orser, of Midland, second at last year's competition is back to make an attempt at winning it all.

Barber and Johnson as well as Parker are all going into the Canadians undefeated so far this year.

Barber and Johnson won the dance competitions at the Sectionals in Thornhill as well as the Eastern Canadians at Montreal.

Parker came from behind to win at the Sectionals in St. Thomas and then won it all at the Mid-western championships in Sarnia.

IN MILTON

Last week Parker rented the ice at Milton Arena. He was there because the ice he usually skates on in Kitchener is strictly for ice skating and has no boards. The dimensions are also bigger than those of hockey rinks. In Thunder Bay he will be skating a surface which is usually used for ice hockey.

"The ice in Kitchener is much softer than the usual rinks because it is strictly for

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