

# Runner, figure skaters fina

By TONY PANACCI  
Herald sports editor  
Kris Barber, Ian Clark and  
Kevin Parker are the three  
finalists for the Halton Hills  
Athlete of the Year, being

sponsored by the Halton Hills  
Herald and the Royal Bank.

The winner, who has al-  
ready been determined, will  
be crowned at the Halton

Hills Athlete of the Year  
Dinner at St. George's Hall  
on June 18. The two runners-  
up will also receive plaques  
and be honored.

The three finalists were  
picked from among 16 publi-  
cally-submitted nominees.  
The committee members  
making the choices were  
Karen Harrison (president of  
the Georgetown Minor Hockey  
Support Group), Michael  
Hollett (editor of the Herald),  
Brian James (avid sports  
fan), Rick McArthur (physi-  
cal education teacher at Ac-  
ton high school), John Mc-  
Cauley (National Hockey  
League referee) and Ruby  
Wilkes (who along with her  
husband Ted founded the  
Georgetown Legion Royal-  
ettes).

The choices of the Barber,  
Clark and Parker shows that  
Halton Hills is a major force  
to be reckoned with when it  
comes to running and figure  
skating.

Clark is the reigning Cana-  
dian Junior cross-country  
champion. Barber and his  
partner Kelly Johnson won  
the Canadian Junior Dance  
Pairs competition at the Ca-  
nadian Figure Skating  
Championships. At those  
same championships Parker  
was second in the Junior  
Men's division.

#### BARBER

Barber and Johnson fin-  
ished second at the Cana-  
dians in the junior dance  
pairs competition in 1978. At  
that time the dance pair had  
been dancing together for  
approximately one year.

Before the 1978-79 season  
began Barber told the Herald  
that he and Johnson would be  
going to win the Canadians.

They worked rigorously  
through summer of 1978,  
rarely taking a day off. They  
added many clinics to their  
schedule and got special  
coaching.

In December of 1978, they  
began the competitive sea-  
son with a huge margin of  
victory at the Sectionals held  
at Thornhill.

They then headed for Mon-  
treal to compete in the East-  
ern Canadian championships  
and were again easy win-  
ners.

The next stop was Thunder  
Bay for the Canadians. They  
again were clear-cut cham-  
pions and impressive enough  
to be asked to be members of  
the Canadian Junior team  
which was to compete in the  
World Championships in  
Augsberg, West Germany.

There were approximately  
20 of the world's best dance  
pairs at that competition in  
March representing 13 coun-  
tries. Barber and Johnson,  
the only Canadian pair, al-  
though they could have taken  
three, to make the trip fin-  
ished third behind two dance  
pairs from the Soviet Union.

#### CLARK

Clark began the season by  
competing on Georgetown  
district high school's cross-  
country team.

Competing in the junior  
division he ran to easy wins  
in the Haltons, and Peel-Hal-  
tons. Those victories made  
him the favorite in the  
OFSAA championships to be  
run at Scarborough  
College. There he was ex-  
pected to get a tough battle  
from Belleville's Dennis

Stark. However, Clark was  
on top of his form and took  
the junior championship by a  
400-yard margin.

The next stop for Clark was  
at the World Junior Cross-  
country championship in Vic-  
toria, British Columbia.  
Clark won the biggest race of  
his young career in beating  
Canada's best there.

In March, 1979 Clark tra-  
velled to Limerick, Ireland to  
represent Canada in the  
World Junior Cross-country

championships. At that  
championship Clark showed  
his power in the sport by  
finishing fifth.

So far during the track and  
field season Clark has easily  
won the 1,500 and 3,000 me-  
tres event at the Haltons,  
Peel-Haltons and OFSAA  
Qualifying meet. He will at-  
tempt to cap an incredible  
season with OFSAA cham-  
pionships in the two events  
this weekend.

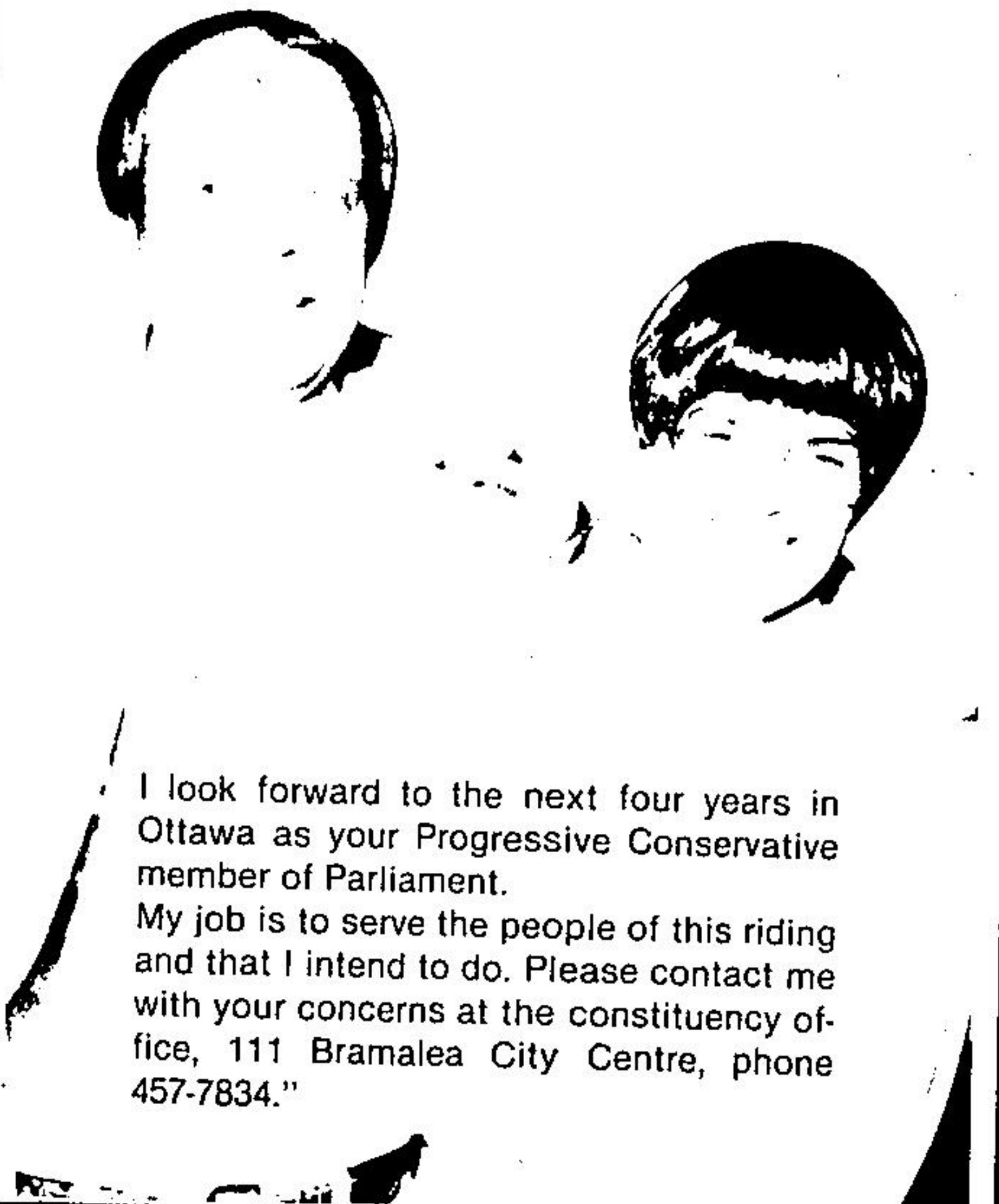
During the winter season  
Clarke broke the Canadian

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and supporters during the recent Federal  
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Association

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457-7834."



Ian Clark Herald photo by Harry Clarke.

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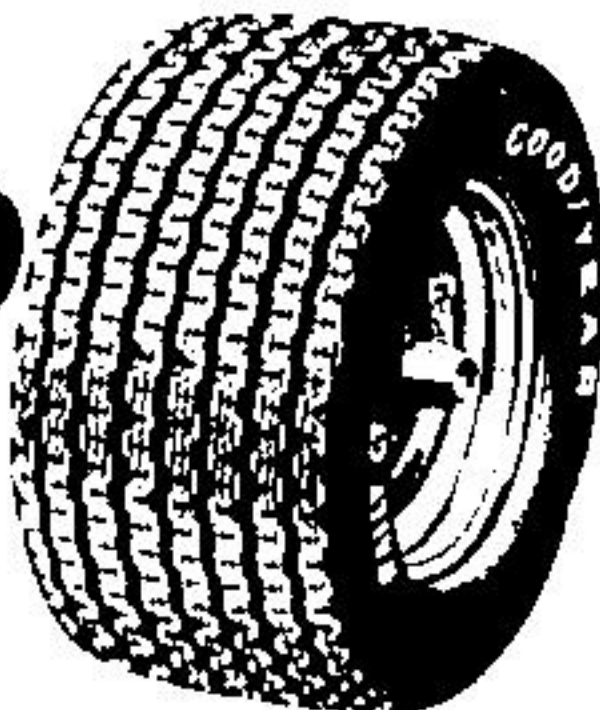
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