

# Sports

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## Everson becomes Canadian bowhunting champion at 10

BY DOUG HARRISON  
 The Acton Tanner

Two weeks ago, 10-year-old Mark Everson never thought he would enter the fourth annual 3D Canadian Bowhunters clinic and show at Pioneer Sports Club in Kitchener.

Today, he stands in his McDonald Boulevard backyard shooting arrow after arrow into a styrofoam block for an hour every day, knowing he's No. 1, the Canadian champion in the largest 3D Bowhunter tournament in Canada.

Scoring 395 of a possible 500 points in the final round, the Acton

resident vaulted from fifth-place at the start of the balmy day to capture the title in the 10-and-under category.

"I never thought I would get this good to win the Canadian championships," says Mark, who's been involved with the sport for the past five years and competing in tournaments the last two. "I don't just go to win because not everyone's going to win."

Only five points separated Everson from his fifth-place opponent. In 3D shooting, Everson shot at 40 life-size and life-like animal targets in the qualifying rounds on Friday and Saturday and 20 in the championship.

The lung area of the animals were worth 20 points and the heart area 25. "It was one or two heart areas that made the difference (for Mark's win)," explains Mark's father, Rick. "We (myself and wife Kathy) are really proud of him. We were surprised when he qualified in fifth-place and then when he won..."

Mark, who shoots for the Royal City Bowmen club in Guelph, said he intends to remain involved in the sport for the rest of his life.

"I like having fun and winning first," he said, laughing, adding the competitive nature of the sport is worth it.

Ontario Federation of Archers Association (OFAA) shooting differs from 3D shooting in that the

former involves round targets and marked yardages to determine the shooter's scoring. Three-dimensional shooting involves hunting-like conditions. The bowhunter must estimate the distance from the stake to the animal and be accurate in order to accumulate points.

Mark nudged his way to fifth following Saturday's qualification run.

After driving home that night, Mark wanted to find that glitch in his repertoire that would hopefully make him champion. He immediately entered the backyard and practised for two hours.

"He's got the drive behind him," Rick says. "Kathy and I will keep him going as much as we can. He seemed to be in his element on Sunday for the final."

And how. But what made the difference in a matter of 24 hours? "Mark didn't feel the pressure like the other boys did," says Rick. "I just told him to have fun and he did. He likes shooting at animal targets."

In Mark's age group, he uses his fingers to discharge the arrows as opposed to a release bow.

For now, the Grade 4 M.Z. Bennett student will polish his concentration skills and improve his judging of distances before moving up a division to the 11 to 15-year-olds, where he'll use a release bow.



**SMILING TO THE TOP:** Acton's own Mark Everson, a 10-year-old bowhunter, shows off his hardware from various tournaments held by the Royal City Bowmen club in Guelph, which he belongs to, and outside tourneys. In his right hand, Everson holds the top gun buckle he won at the recent fourth annual Canadian Bowhunters clinic and show at the Pioneer Sports Club in Kitchener. Everson competed in the largest 3D bowhunting championship in Canada. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Andy's wins see-saw affair

In a see-saw Peewee baseball battle, Andy's Restaurant nipped Kilbride 9-7 at Prospect Park last Wednesday.

Pitching strong innings for Andy's were Andrew Coe and Derek Lockerbie.

Amanda Thompson and Mark Faseruk each knocked in two runs for the winners.

Single RBIs were awarded to Heather Ambrose, Chris Scully, Jeff Miller, Ronny McCaslin and Mike Smith.

Miller was noted for his excellent defence, while McCaslin stole home for the winning run.



**SWING BATTER:** Local seniors enjoyed a fiesty game of T-ball Thursday at the annual Picnic in the Park. (Wendy Long photo)

## Peewee lacrosse squad takes pair

They're not a one-line lacrosse squad.

That's the message the Acton Galvcast and MacKenzie-Chapman Peewee lacrosse team was sending out on Thursday as nine different players deposited the ball in the Brantford II net in a 10-2 rout. One night earlier, the locals handled Elora with ease, playing to a 9-3 win.

Against Brantford, Acton's Richard Raju was the only player to pot more than one goal as he scored twice. Scoring single markers were Jason Christopher, Jeff Newman, Steven Monaghan, Sandy Chapman, Paul Withers, Kyle Artem, Chris Lee and Scott Monaghan.

Registering assists were Newman, Chapman and Artem with two apiece, while Christopher, Steven Monaghan, Marc Forbes, Scott Monaghan, Thomas Wolfer and Andrew Coe with one each.

The locals showed great passing skills, said coach George Artem.

Outshooting Elora 42-10 last

Wednesday, Acton dominated the third-period 6-0 en route to the 9-3 win.

Artem scored four goals and Raju three to lead the team. Notch-

ing singles were Chapman and Withers.

Withers and Artem were also busy setting up goals, grabbing two assists each.

## MacMillan's tops Eramosa

An early first-half goal by vice captain Danny Pursoo paced the visiting Acton MacMillan's soccer team to a 3-1 win over the Eramosa Optimists in Atom play at the Rockmosa Community Centre last Monday.

Shawn Meilleur found the back of the net to give Acton a 2-0 lead at the end of the half.

A much more determined home team then had their efforts rewarded with a goal from Chris Stanhope.

With captain Paul Lemiski's excellent performance in goal for MacMillan's, Acton added an insurance goal from Nathan Bowen to culminate a rewarding evening.

Acton received excellent support play from Josh Bowen and Steve Barends.

J.D. Hatch, Pursoo and Barends had Acton assists.

Ben Williams set up Stanhope for the lone Eramosa goal.

## Denny's explodes for 20 runs

Last Monday, Denny's Insurance pummeled the Kilbride Bears 20-4 in minor ball action in Acton.

Jason Wells had a double and RBI; Chris Gibson a single and two RBIs and Craig Lockwood and Chris Near both had one safety and RBI.

Effective showings on the mound were turned in by Joey McGrath, Chris Near and Craig Lockwood.