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Acton cyclist named tops in Ontario

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner

For Tim Hadfield, 1993 has been full of surprises.

However, the biggest surprise of his season came last week when the Acton cyclist was named Male Athlete of the Year by the Ontario Cycling Association (OCA).

'People are noticing me'

"It was a shock, I wasn't even thinking about the award," Hadfield said from his home on Monday. "The recognition comes from everyone at the top (OCA executives). It shows that people are noticing me and they're saying I did have a good year. For them to acknowledge my work ... it means a lot to me."

Unfortunately, Hadfield couldn't make the trip to London to accept the prestigious award at the OCA's annual general meeting on Sunday.

He's busy holding down two jobs in order to continue his climb up the competitive ladder come March.

Life as an amateur cyclist demands training year-round and job searching during the four months away from competition. Aside from a two-week respite flipping through the Classified pages, Hadfield has been either training, working or sending out letters to potential sponsors.

"I started sending out letters and then I won this award. Now

I'll have to change the top of them and put this award there in bold letters. I don't mind having to do that, though," chuckled Hadfield, who was notified of his win on Thursday.

Hadfield listed his two summer Gold Medal performances — a 4,000-metre team pursuit win at the National Track-Cycling championships in Victoria, B.C. and later a win in the 100 kilometre team time-trial event at the National Road championships in Brandon, Manitoba — as the biggest highlights of 1993.

Competed in pro race

Other memorable moments included being selected to the National Road team and racing in the Tour de l'Avenir professional race in France in September and being invited to race in Trinidad in late October.

While most riders completed their season at the end of September, Hadfield, 22, jumped at the opportunity to compete in Trinidad.

He came home with five top-three finishes at the international meet that attracted athletes from over seven countries.

Hadfield improved at each meet in a year that wasn't supposed to bring about much fanfare.

He was sidelined in February and March with achilles tendinitis

— something that still flares up on occasion — but by mid-April he was in winning form.

Enthusiastic about '94

"I realized when I was injured how much I loved the sport. Some days I don't feel like training, but then I'll wake up and think about when I was injured and then I'm out there in 10 minutes doing that extra loop," said Hadfield, whose training these days consists of lifting weights, running 10 km and biking 60 to 80 km three times a week.

"I'm really enthusiastic about next year, considering how well things went from May to October this year."

Hadfield hopes an improvement on his power from work in the gym coupled with "great" coaching ideas and training philosophies from coach Mirek Mazur, will gain him a spot on the national team for the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, B.C. next August.

It's a goal of Hadfield's and by his own figuring, a realistic one.

"My personal best time is 12 seconds off the Olympic individual pursuit qualifying time of four minutes, 45 seconds over 4 km, but I haven't ridden one (qualifier) in my presently fit condition.

"If the Commonwealth Games were this year, I'm quite sure I would have been selected."



WINNING RIDE: Acton cyclist Tim Hadfield signals his finish in the Metro Tech Criterium in Brooklyn, N.Y. He has had a number of pleasant surprises this year. (Submitted photo)

Bowlers advance to Owen Sound

Three Acton bowlers qualified for regional "select" bowling teams following a weekend competition at Acton Lanes.

On Sunday, Acton bowlers Angie Ahearn, Angie Dance, Brad Hammond and Steve Turkosz took to the lanes in the hope of qualifying for the Zone's Youth Challenge men's, women's or mixed teams.

Twenty-three boys and 17 girls from the Maple Hills zone traveled to Acton to participate in the annual tournament. Bowlers came from Guelph, Fergus and Orangeville.

Each participant bowled a total of five games. The top five bowlers in each category were named to the men's and women's teams. The next two bowlers in each division made up the mixed team, along with the next highest overall total.

Hammond managed to place first in the men's division and first overall with scores of 198, 249, 300, 240 and 264 for a total of 1,251. Hammond will be joining four other bowlers from the Maple Hills zone to make up the men's team.

Turkosz qualified for the mixed team with a seventh place finish in

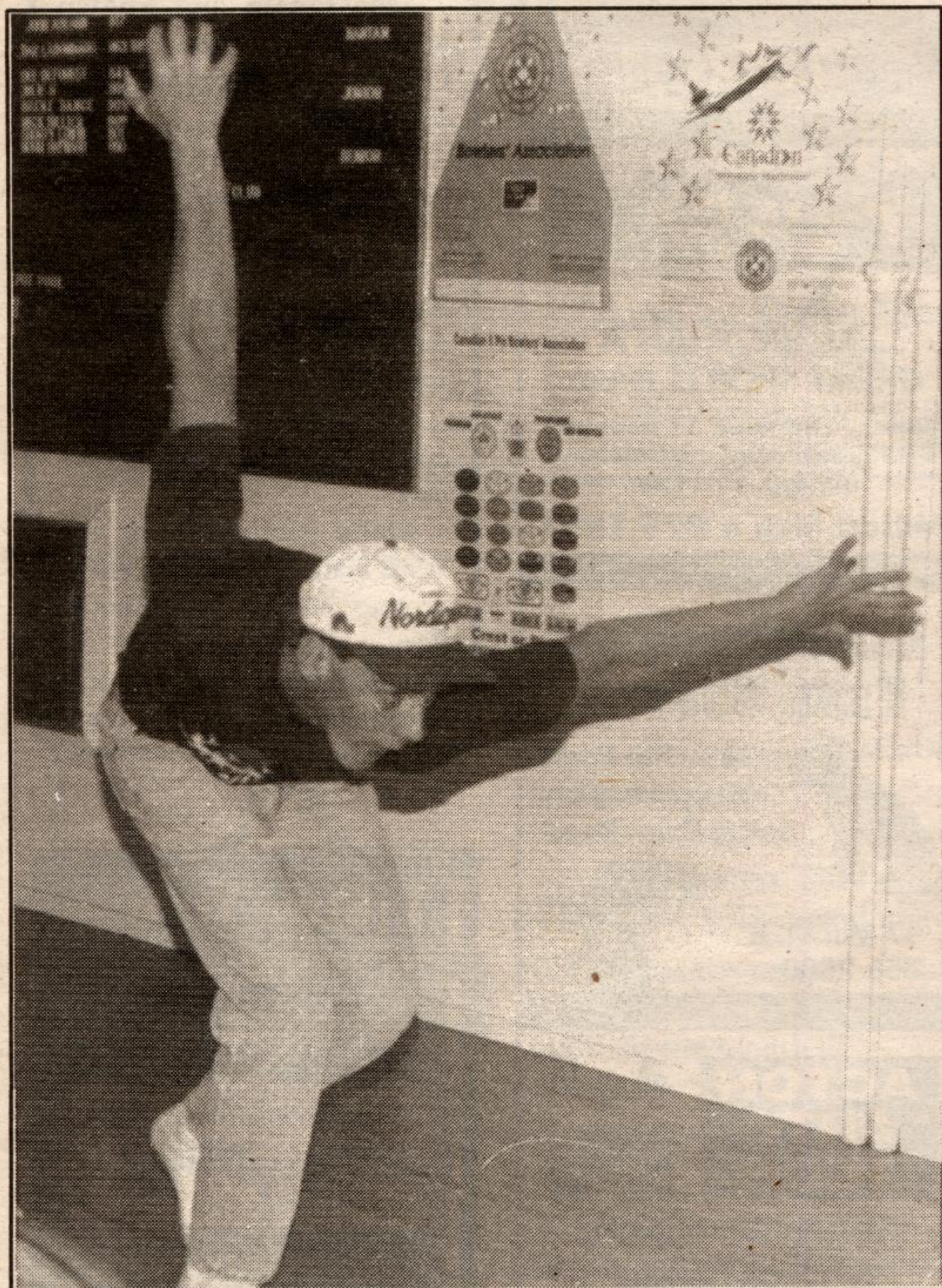
the men's category. Turkosz qualified with a scores of 196, 239, 190, 247 and 211 to total 1,083.

Ahearn also qualified for the mixed team with a seventh place finish in the ladies' division with scores of 166, 164, 180, 213 and 172 for a total pinfall of 895.

Angie Dance had a strong showing, placing 10th, with scores of

158, 151, 182, 193 and 176, for a total of 860.

Hammond, Turkosz and Ahearn will be representing Acton and the Maple Hills Five-Pin Bowlers Association, along with their respected teams. They will be travelling with their new teammates to Owen Sound on Jan. 29 to compete in the Regional finals.



FULL EXTENSION: Acton's Steve Turkosz warms up for the Youth Bowling Challenge at Acton Bowl on Sunday. He placed seventh in the Men's Division. (Brad Hammond photo)

Sabres win streak halted at 7

The Nellis Construction Novice I Sabres rep hockey squad will have to start another win streak.

That's after their recent tear was stopped by neighbouring Erin, who held them to one goal in a 2-1 win last Wednesday at the Community Centre.

Mike Dube was the lone local scorer. Brian Field, who was summoned from the Novice II Sabres, was credited with the assist.

On Sunday in Elora, the 10-2-2 Sabres throttled their opponents 6-0.

Five Sabres had multi-point

games. John Field scored twice, while Adam Brouillard, Mike Dube, Steve Atkinson and Matt Wolfer added singles.

Two-assist games went to Brouillard and Shawn Prentice. Dube, Atkinson, Nick Mastro, David Lyons, Sean Kirk, Andrew Pembleton and Mark Pawlak had one apiece.

Acton and Arthur face each other in back-to-back games starting tonight (Wednesday).

A bake sale and bazaar by the Sabres is being held Saturday at the Community Centre from 9 am to 3 pm.