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Gregory and Co. take all-Acton curling battle, win District final

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Doug Pratt put the rocks in front of the house. Carl Rosenquist was asked to do take outs and did. Ron Sheehan put the rocks in the house behind the cover. And Murray Gregory took out what was left.

It sounds simple. It almost gives one the impression that this Acton Legion Senior curling team is the grandfather of team chemistry. Or that their recent climb to snatching the Ontario Legion District "B" Senior Curling Championship was textbook-like. Like that of a veteran squad.

"We had our ups and downs. We just tried to get used to each other and we pulled together for the championship," explains skip Gregory, a curler of more than 10 years. "Before this we had never played as a team.

"The guys made my life easy."

First season together, first district championship. How about a first provincial title?

"I'm optimistic we'll make a good showing," predicts Gregory, whose team heads to the provincial finals in Barrie from Feb. 5 through 8. "What I really want to do is make the people of Acton feel proud that we can go and curl a good game.

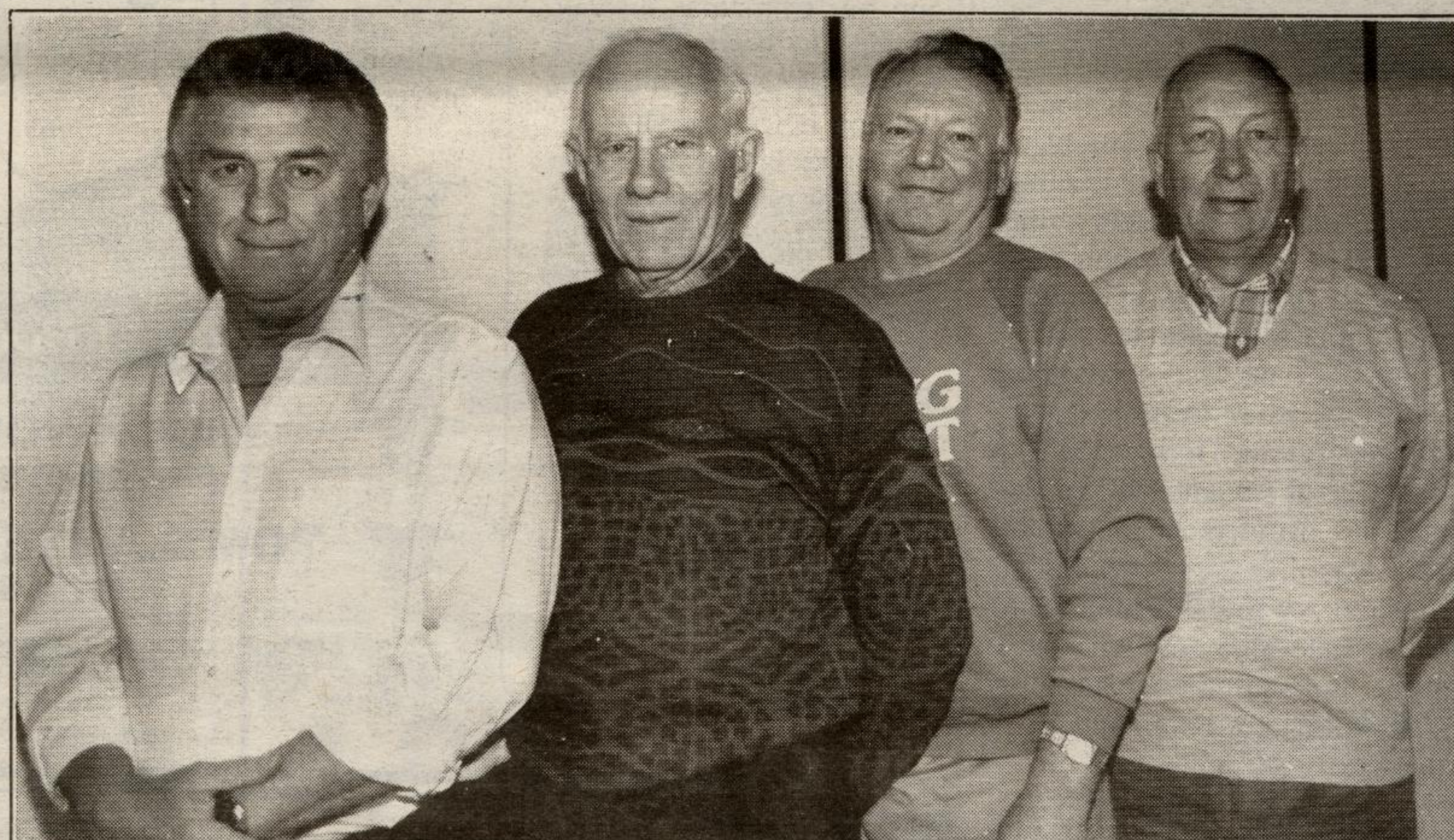
"If we curl well, let the chips fall where they may."

At the recent District event held at the Acton Curling Club, Gregory's Acton "B" unit outlasted skip Del Hickling and the Acton "A" group in the final.

George Herrington (lead), 2nd Malcolm MacKenzie and vice Ron Jeffrey are the other finalists

"We just persevered," Gregory says of the all-Acton final, which followed a come-from-behind effort against the defending champions from Grimsby in the semifinal. "Del is just an excellent curler.

"He seems to draw the button without any trouble. He has good



ALL-ACTON FINAL! TOP: From left: The Acton "B" Legion Senior curling team of Murray Gregory, Doug Pratt, Carl Rosenquist and Ron Sheehan (missing), beat the Acton "A" squad of Ron Jeffrey, Del Hickling, George Herrington and Malcolm MacKenzie (above) at the recent Ontario Legion District "B" championships held at the Acton Curling Club. (Eve Martin photo)

weight that way."

But Gregory and Co. didn't give him much of a chance to let loose.

"We made sure our rocks were

in the house and forced them to take them out to take away from their strength," Gregory went on.

Against Grimsby, Acton "B" regained the lead in the seventh end. They got their rocks in and Gregory got a couple of take outs that sealed the victory.

Gregory assures his team will get together to practice and discuss strategies before the provincials, which consist of 10 ends rather than the eight played at the District competition.

Dundas and Simcoe also participated at the District finals.

Finley controls freestyle, butterfly

Acton High's Greg Finley wanted to keep with the theme last Wednesday, so he took first-place in both the 50-metre freestyle and butterfly events at the first Halton high school swim meet of the season at E.C. Drury.

On the Girls' side, Stacey Moore placed second in the 200m free.

Following are the remaining Redmen results: Senior medley relay team (Derek Lambert, Derek Tribe, Amanda Garwood and Finley) - 2nd; Senior freestyle relay (Tribe, Finley, Moore and Lambert) - 2nd.

Emma Douglas, 3rd - Junior Girls 100m free and 50m free; Tribe, 3rd - Senior Boys 50m free and 100m breaststroke; Lambert, 3rd - Senior Boys 100m free and 100m backstroke.

Fourth-place ribbons - Lucie Langer (Junior Girls 50m backstroke); Matt Henderson (Junior Boys 50m backstroke) and Amanda Garwood (Senior Girls 100m backstroke).

Midgets win '95 opener

The Acton Redmen Midget Boys' basketball team handled a dominant Rebels player in the fourth-quarter on Thursday to eke out a 60-50 victory at Georgetown High in their season-opener.

The player frustrated the Redmen defence, accounting for about half his team's output and nailing four three-pointers in the Halton high school contest.

"He didn't miss a shot. They (Rebels) kept it closer than I thought," mentioned Redmen coach Dave Boycott yesterday (Tuesday). "Without him they had nothing else.

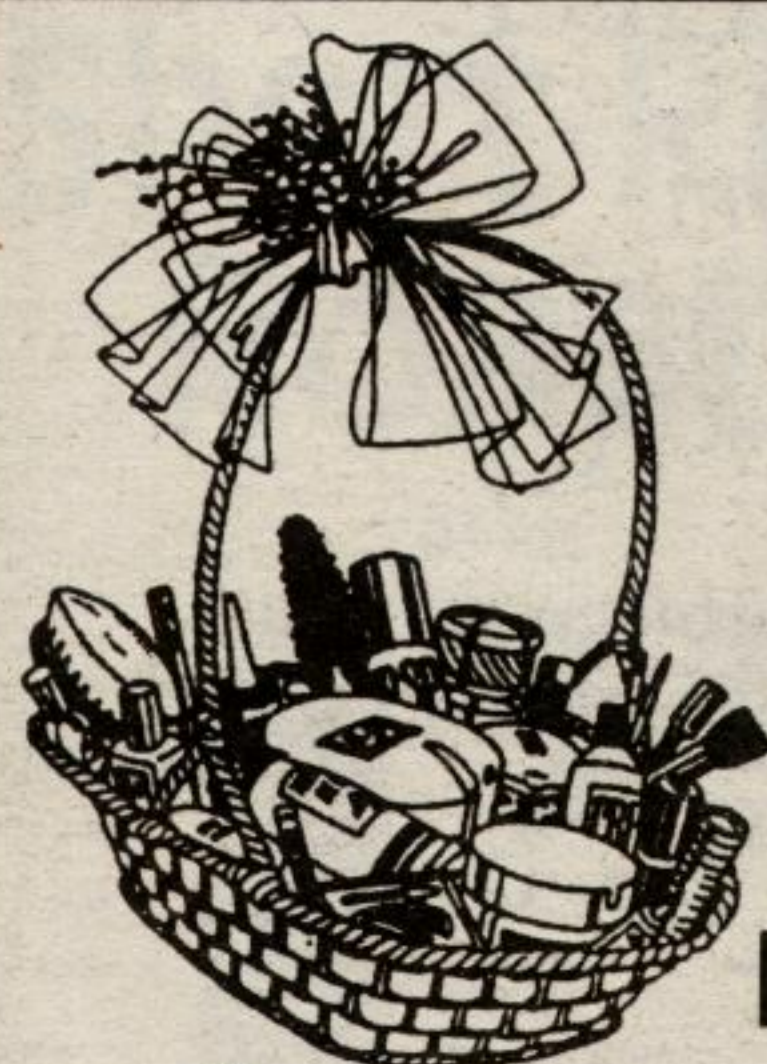
"We played man defence, picked them up at three-quarters and respected this player's speed. But even when we backed him off he could hit from the outside."

Mike Sop topped the Redmen with 17 points.

NOTES: The Redmen nipped host E.C. Drury 41-40 in a last-second thriller and bowed to Orchard Park High (Stoney Creek) 41-31 at a tourney on Saturday.

Sop had 23 points in two games.

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