

Acton's first OHA champions iced Milton back in 1930

Acton's hockey heritage goes 'way back into the misty days of the late 1880s when teams played on Fairy Lake and Henderson's Pond as well as on outdoor rinks in the area where the IGA plaza is now. Later the Beardmore family who took an active interest in the community, had an outdoor arena built at the foot of Frederick St., the dressing rooms of which were converted into the Royal Canadian Legion's first meeting rooms and used by the Boy Scouts and other local organizations when the first arena was built.



A new indoor arena was completed in Prospect Park in 1929 and Acton's first entry in the Ontario Hockey Association (OHA) Intermediate 'B' series, a "home-brew" team captured the group championship against Milton and later won the first round of the OHA playoffs against Paris.

That was 74 years ago last week and The Acton Free Press of Feb. 13, 1939 had this to say about it: "By defeating Milton in both the playoff games this week Acton wins the honors of group 5 for the

good old town, amid the hooting, howling exuberance of the hundreds of local fans who had gone with their team to Milton. They paraded the Milton streets and hollered to their hearts' content. It was a well-earned victory for Acton's first Intermediate OHA team and a culmination of efforts over the past month since the opening of the arena.

"The Acton crowd were jubilant all the way home and on arriving back let the folks who had retired know they had brought victory with them. Here are the boys who battled out that final sweep to victory: Goal Holloway, defense F. Gibbons and Greer, centre Salmon, wings Kentner and Huffman, subs. Chew, Woods and N. Gibbons.

on the ice after an injury, but Big Boy Greer had made up for his removal, and ran in another goal."

They were heady days in the old town then despite being on the threshold of the Great Depression. The Free Press also records that drilling operations at the Seynuck Valley Oil Company, two miles west of Acton, have reached a depth of 2,800 feet.

The dream of Tony Seynuck, the oil well being drilled was located on the south end of the Crewson Corners Line overlooking the Blue Springs Valley, now the Blue Springs Scout Reserve. Eventually, old timers say, Tony, a local restaurateur, hit pay dirt (oil) but the crude was of such poor quality and limited quantity that the dream turned into a nightmare and was not commercially viable. The drillers also struck natural gas but there was no market for it then in the days of coal.

Decades later gas wells were located in the same area and one day the caps may be removed when it is financially viable and Tony Seynuck's dream of riches underground on the Town Line may be realized.



AQUA DUCKS COMPETE: Back Row: T.J. Waldie, Middle Row, l. to r.: Jennifer Kroezen, Kate Feather, Victoria Fritz, Mackenzie Kimm, Jordan Dunn and Front Row: Gresham Kimm, Leanna De Vaan. - submitted photo

Ducks swim to personal bests at Scarborough meet

There was no doubt in swim coach Gerry Ockenden's mind why any of his eight Acton Aqua Ducks swimmers who went to Scarborough's Cindy Nicholas Swim Classic wanted to go. They always like this meet every year at this time and they were primed and ready to race.

The Ducks had a large percentage of personal best times plenty of hardware to bring home, plus two boys Jordan Dunn and Gresham Kimm left the competition in the 13-and-over age group in the dust, to battle it out for the overall high point award.

All in all it was a great weekend for the swimmers.

Results as follows: 11-12 Girls- Leanna De Vaan 50 breast stroke - 10th

13 & Over Girls-Kate Feather 50 breast-7th, 100 breast-9th, 50 free-10th

Victoria Fritz -200 I.M.-bronze, fly -5th, 100 free -5th. Mackenzie Kimm-200 I.M. gold, 200 free-Bronze, 50 fly-6th.

Jennifer Kroezen-50 breast-4th, 100 breast-7th, 50 back-9th, 100 back-11th, 100 free-11th.

13 & Over Boys -Jordan Dunn 22 I.M.-gold, 50 back-gold, 100 back-silver, 50 free- silver, 100 free- silver, 200 free-bronze.

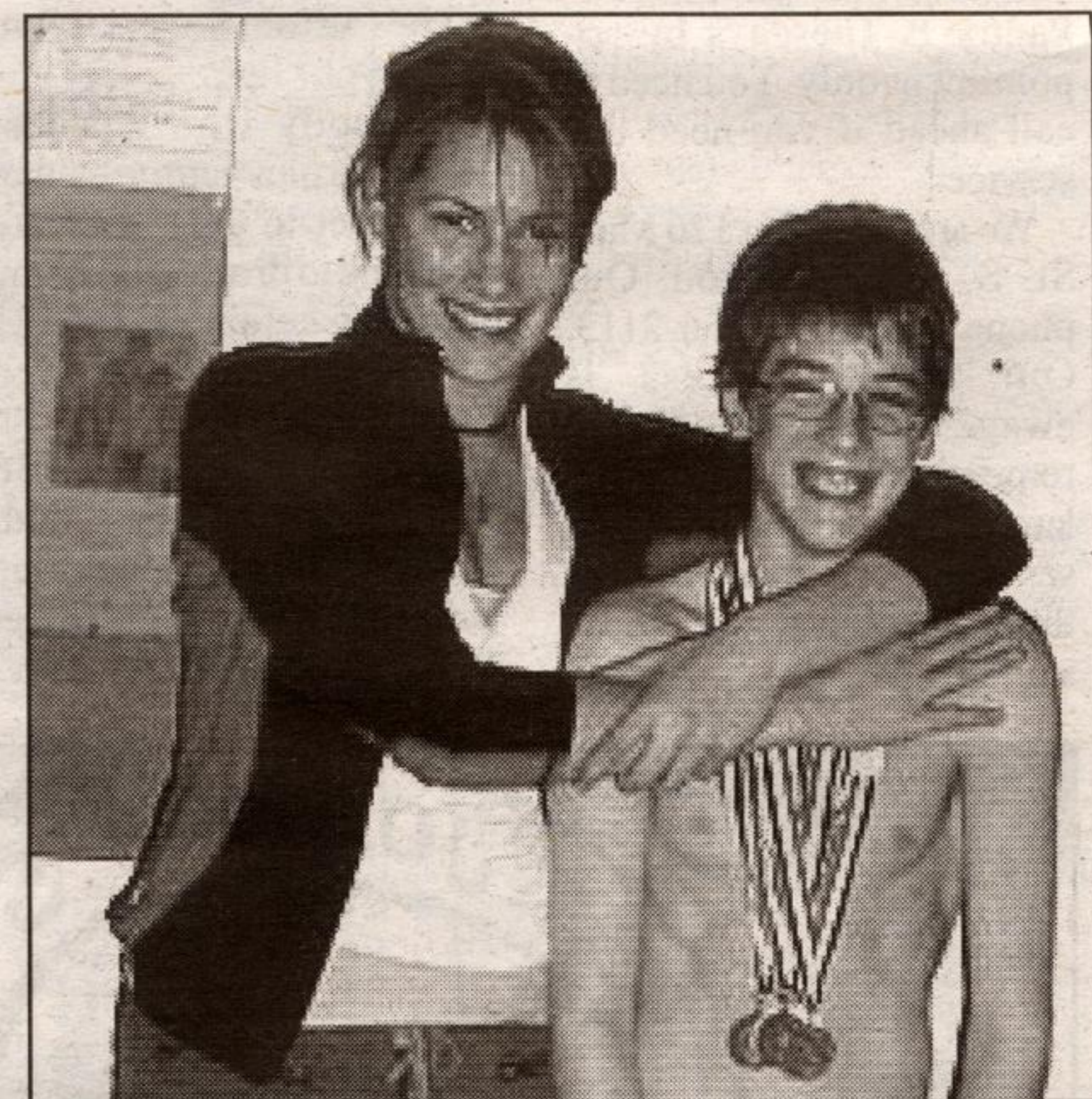
Gresham Kimm -50 fly-gold, 100 back- gold, 200 free-

silver, 50 free-bronze, 100 free-bronze, 50 back-bronze, 50 breast-bronze, 100 breast-bronze.

T.J. Waldie -50 breast-gold, 100 breast-gold, 200 free-4th, 100 back-5th, 100 free - 6th, 50 free-8th.

13 & Over Girls-200 free relay-Kimm, Fritz, Kroezen, Feather-bronze.

13 & Over Girls-200 medley relay-Kroezen, Feather, Kimm, De Vaan (5th).

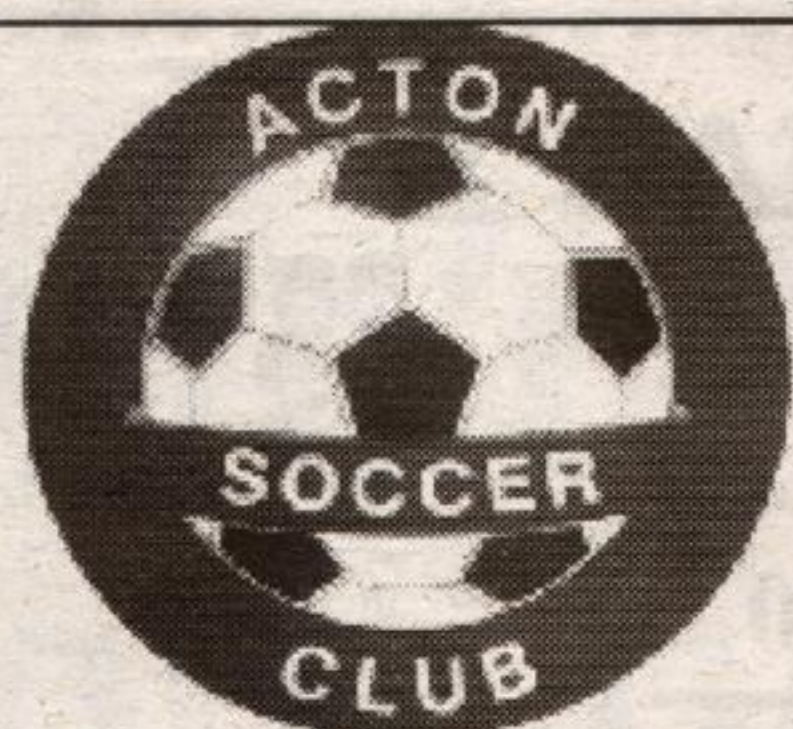


PROUD COACH AND SWIMMER; Acton Aqua Ducks age group coach Sarah Keith, left, and swimmer Jordan Dunn have a laugh after finding out Jordan had captured the 13 and over boys High Point Award at the Cindy Nichols swim meet in Scarborough. Jordan's toughest competition came from teammate Gresham Kimm who was only three points behind. - submitted photo

Honour Achievers

The Acton Achievers Breakfast was held on Feb. 13 at Acton High School celebrating students who wouldn't normally receive public recognition for their achievements. These students are to be commended for being good school citizens, having made great improvement in their scholastic endeavours, having taken a risk and tried something new and challenging, or having helped their peers to succeed.

Students recognized included: Mason McCluskey, Andy Potter, Ashley Switzer, Amy Boileau, April Thomas, Kylie Kruk, Amy Osborne, Amanda Williams, Nikki Haggett, Adam Parker, Norm Tosh, Kyle Williams, Derek Mandy, Michael Handley, Jen Landsborough, Samantha Mills, Matt Bronizerski, Sera Stinson, Michelle Taylor, April Thomas, and Amy Boileau.



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