

Rams and Gators join forces

By **HERB GARBUTT**

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Local lacrosse associations are hoping bigger is better.

The Acton and Georgetown Lacrosse Associations have combined forces to create a larger Halton Hills house league system.

"Both towns really needed the numbers to build up the house league," said George Artem, president of the Acton Lacrosse Association. "Getting lacrosse sticks in the kids' hands, that's our main focus."

It is hoped that with a larger house league system in place, players will be encouraged to pick up the game because they won't have to start on a town's

rep team.

"They won't be scared that they're not going to make (the rep team)," Artem said. "I think it will be more positive for the (new) players."

Georgetown Lacrosse Association president Gerry Veltman believes the larger house league will be a great benefit in helping players develop their skills.

"Instead of adding players to the teams we had we'll be able to make a fourth team and shorten the benches so the kids will get more playing time."

The towns will maintain separate rep programs. Acton only had rep teams last season while Georgetown had 148 players with only three house

league teams in most divisions. By combining forces there will be 240 house league players and each division, except bantam, will have four teams. That will allow each team to play once a week.

This year's registration almost triples Georgetown's inaugural in 1994 when it had 84 players. And the numbers could still grow.

"We had eight or nine (new) kids come to the clinic (on Saturday)," Veltman said. "I've had a few more calls since then, too."

Artem said with the partnership coming together close to the beginning of the season, there wasn't much time to advertise the house league

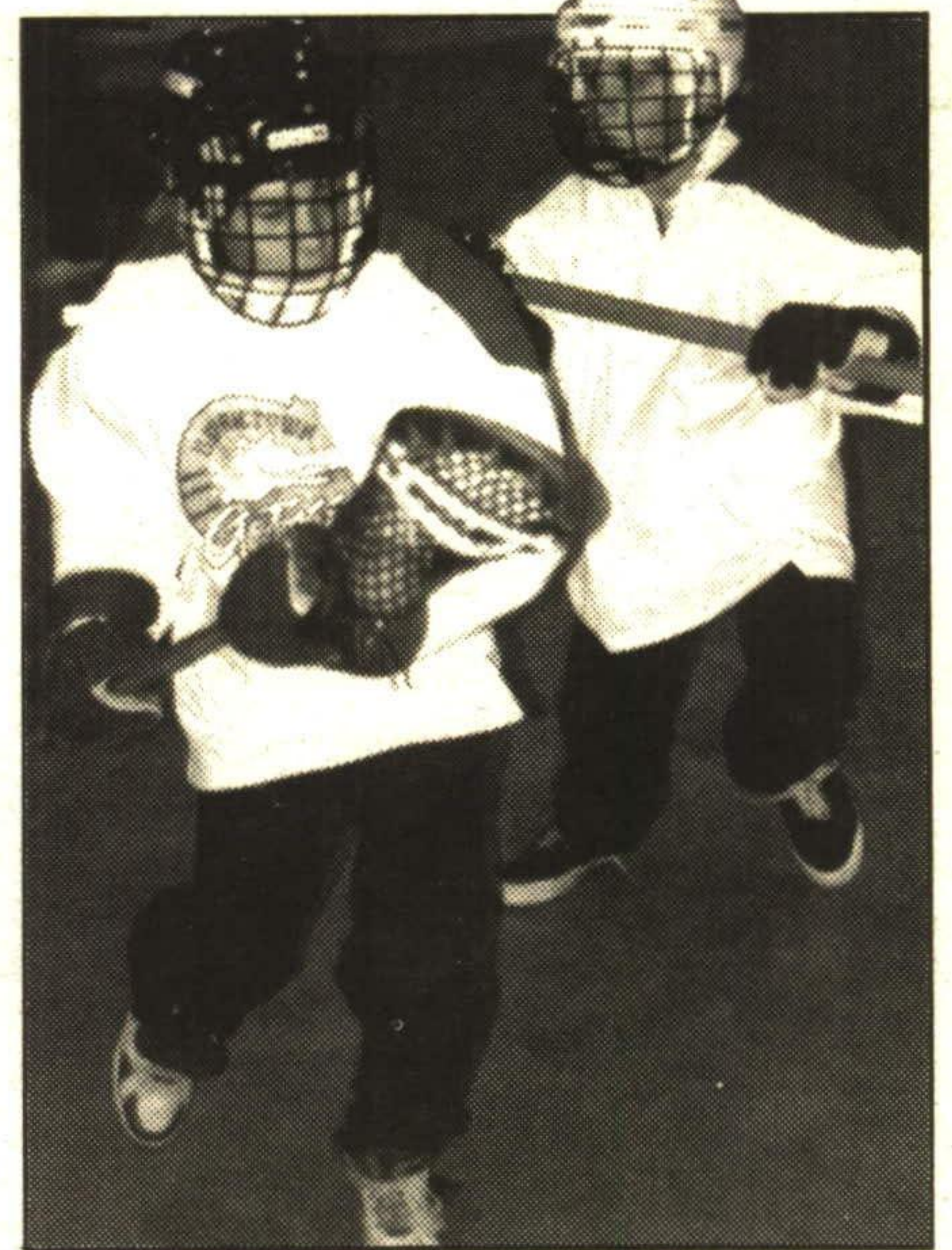
program in Acton. He expects to see many new players in the coming years.

The two associations decided against putting all the Acton players on one team. Instead they have been divided amongst the four teams.

"I think it's a definite advantage to the kids," said Artem. "They'll get to play against some of their friends and they'll get to meet some new people and make new friends."

All games will be played on Saturday mornings and both Acton and Alcott Arena in Georgetown will host games.

The 10-week regular season started Saturday and will wrap up with a one-day Day of Champions.



Players practice rolls and blocks as the lacrosse season got underway last Saturday with a clinic at Memorial Arena in Georgetown.

HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

SPORTS

Sports

SHORTS

Softball sign up

Registration for the Georgetown Kinsmen Girls Softball League (girls aged 5 to 18) is on going. Check the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department brochure (page 52) for the registration form. If you didn't receive a copy or need more information contact Jim Ford at 877-9373. Fees are \$40 per player or \$60 per family. Some openings remain in all age groups.

Silent auction

The fourth annual Georgetown District High School Student Athletic Association spaghetti dinner and silent auction will be held April 25 in the school cafeteria. There will be numerous items available to bid on, and all proceeds go to GDHS athletics, since this is the SAA's major fundraiser. Tickets will be available at the door, \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids. Anyone wishing to donate to the silent auction can contact Jim Hall, at the high school at (905) 877-6966 or evenings at (905) 877-4093.

School time

The 1995-96 hockey season has just ended, but plans are already under way for the start of a new year, beginning with the 7th Annual Halton Hills Hi Lite 1996 hockey school this summer.

Geared towards hockey players between six to 12 years of age, this intense one-week training program will be held August 26-30 at Gordon Alcott Arena in Georgetown.

Former Edmonton Oiler defenceman, Adam Bennett, will again be the head instructor. He will be joined by Jay Anderson, assistant coach of the Milton Jr A hockey club and Trent Cull of the St. John's Maple Leafs.

The school will be limited to the first 80 hockey players who apply.

For further information please call Dave Krause at 873-4991 or at Remax Georgetown at 877



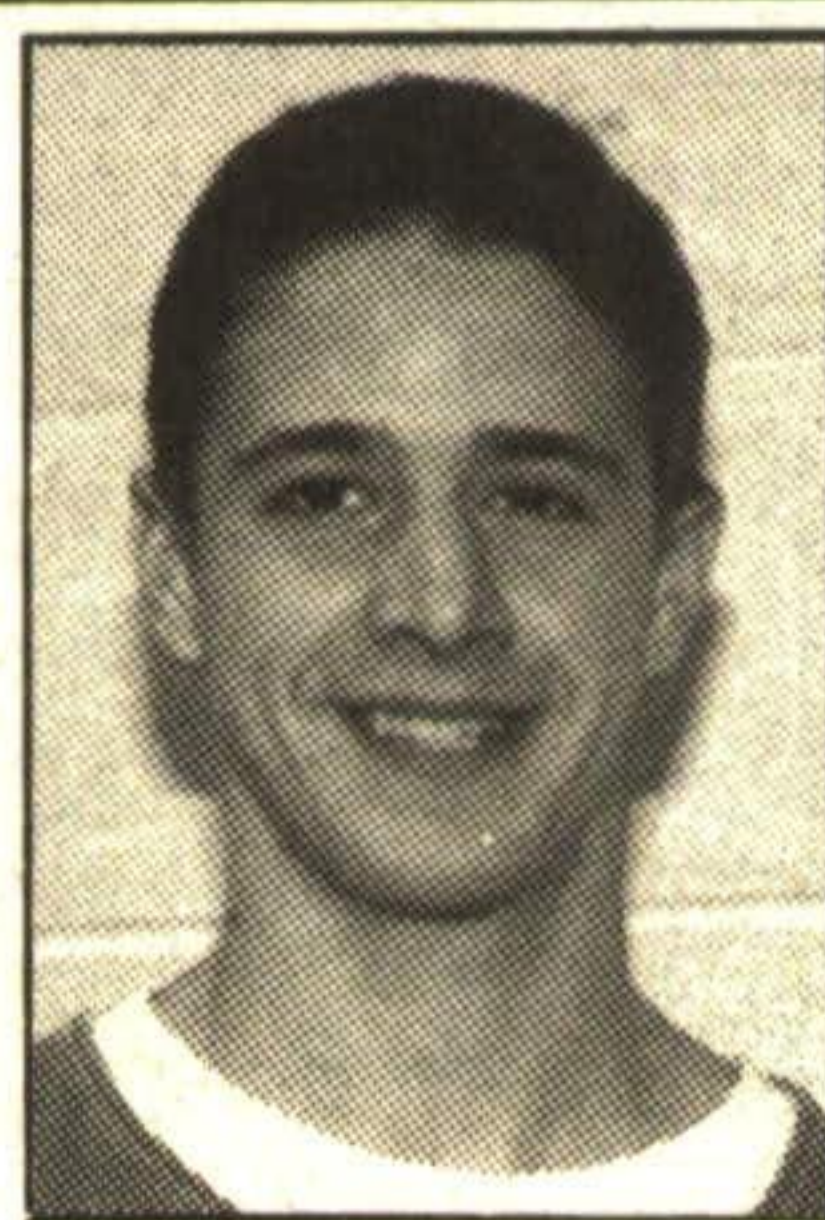
Talents on display

Ice Infiniti, a precision skating team out of Streetsville/Meadowvale, performed at the Georgetown Figure Skating Club's year-end skate last Saturday. Club members displayed their skills for friends and family. Below (from left) are Chris Sano, Miranda Walsh, Tara Hibbs and Nicole Brown.

Photos by HERB GARBUTT



JACKIE JAHN



JEFF NEWMAN

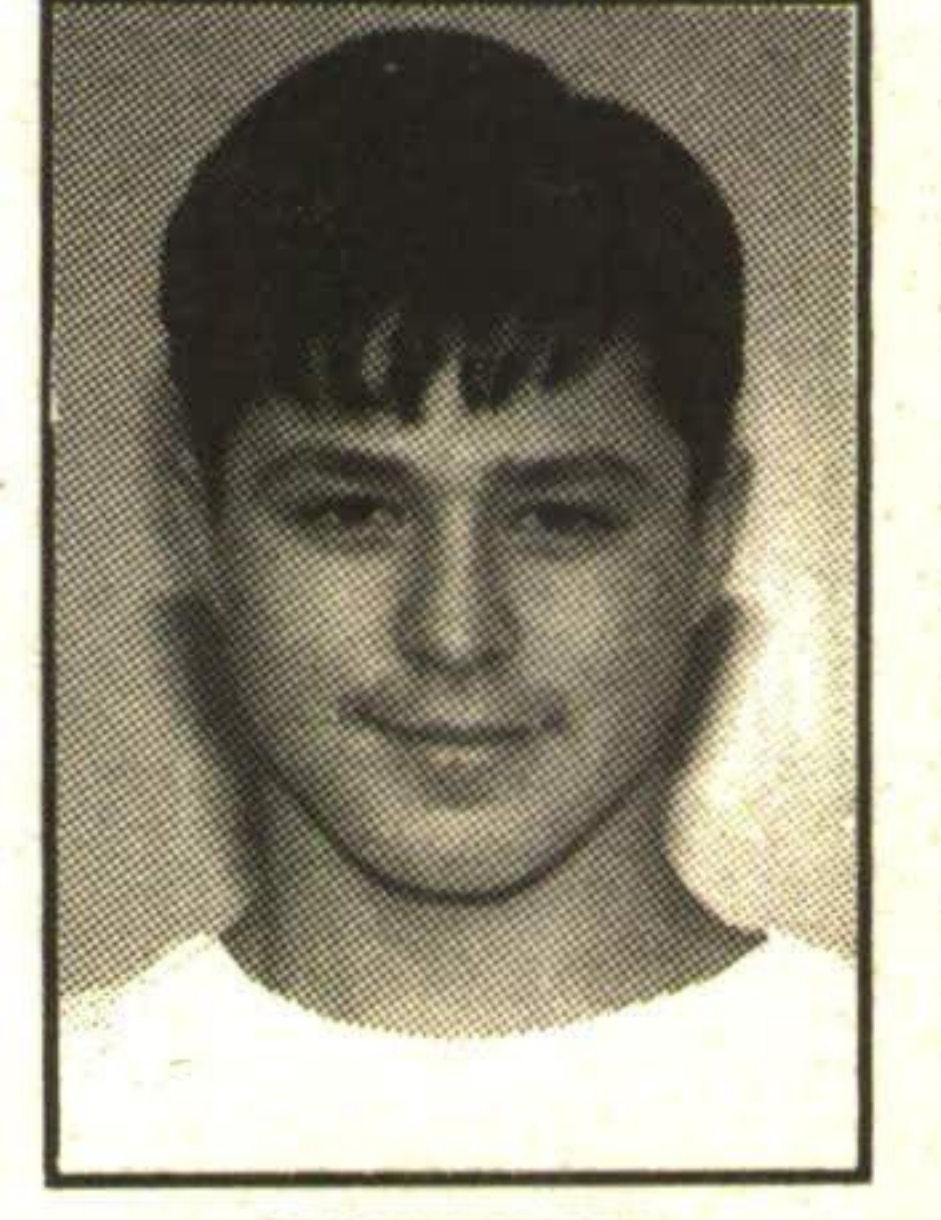
Athletes of the Week

The Acton High School Athletes of the Week are Jackie Jahn and Jeff Newman. Jackie, a member of the Redmen girls soccer team was selected for her hustle and potential. Jeff was selected for his performance at a recent indoor track meet in which he broke the AHS midget record for the long jump.

Georgetown District High School Athletes of the Week are Andrea Pollock and Dan Cibic. Both are members of the Rebels badminton team, and were chosen for their outstanding performances during games this past week.



ANDREA POLLOCK



DAN CIBIC