

Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

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Bulldogs unsure who's playing in season opener

By **HERB GARBUTT**
Staff Writer

With the regular season set to open Friday, the Georgetown Bulldogs are still wondering who will make up this year's edition of the team.

"We're in a bit of a quandary because the (junior) As still haven't made their final cuts," said Bulldog GM Warren Welner. "Until we get some more bodies in camp, we have to keep everyone. Our practice on Wednesday should give us a more realistic picture of who we're going to have."

The Bulldogs did get their first look at the new recruits in game action on the weekend. Georgetown surrendered an 8-2 lead in the final period in a 9-9 tie with Elora Saturday night before losing three straight at the Spartan Tournament in St. Catharines on Sunday. While the results were not impressive, the Bulldogs lineup featured no more than seven veteran players for any of the games.

With the team looking for offence (they had only 10 goals in three tournament games), Peter Veltman scored three times in Saturday's tie and added another in the tournament. However, because Veltman is a first-year midget, the Bulldogs can only use the local player as an affiliate. Also distinguishing themselves were Justin Dixon and brothers Ryan and Brad Marshall.

Chris Bricknell and Andrew Craig each scored twice Saturday. However, no matter how many rookies step forward, the Bulldogs will need more help from their experienced players.

"A lot is going to depend on the veterans," Welner said. "They're probably still finding their legs but they're not as good as we hoped at this point."

Welner said even though the tournament scores were lopsided, the Bulldogs goaltenders performed well. Brandon Miller kept the scores from getting out of hand while backup Jeff Wiggins, who got burned in the Elora comeback, "was like night and day from the previous game," Welner said.

DOG BITES: The Bulldogs open the season in Milton Friday night and then play the Huntsville Hawks, the team they beat in last year's Blair Trophy final, Saturday at Memorial Arena. Game time is 7 p.m....The Bulldogs will be presented with their Civic Award from the Town of Halton Hills prior to Saturday's game and MP Julian Reed will sing the national anthem...Matt Greco, who was expected to be one of the returnees from Jr. A, broke his foot and will miss six weeks. He had four assists in four games with the Bulldogs last season.

Palichuk and Johnson qualify

Local gymnasts bound for provincials

By **HERB GARBUTT**
Staff Writer

Stephanie Palichuk's golden performance secured her a place on the Central Ontario gymnastics team.

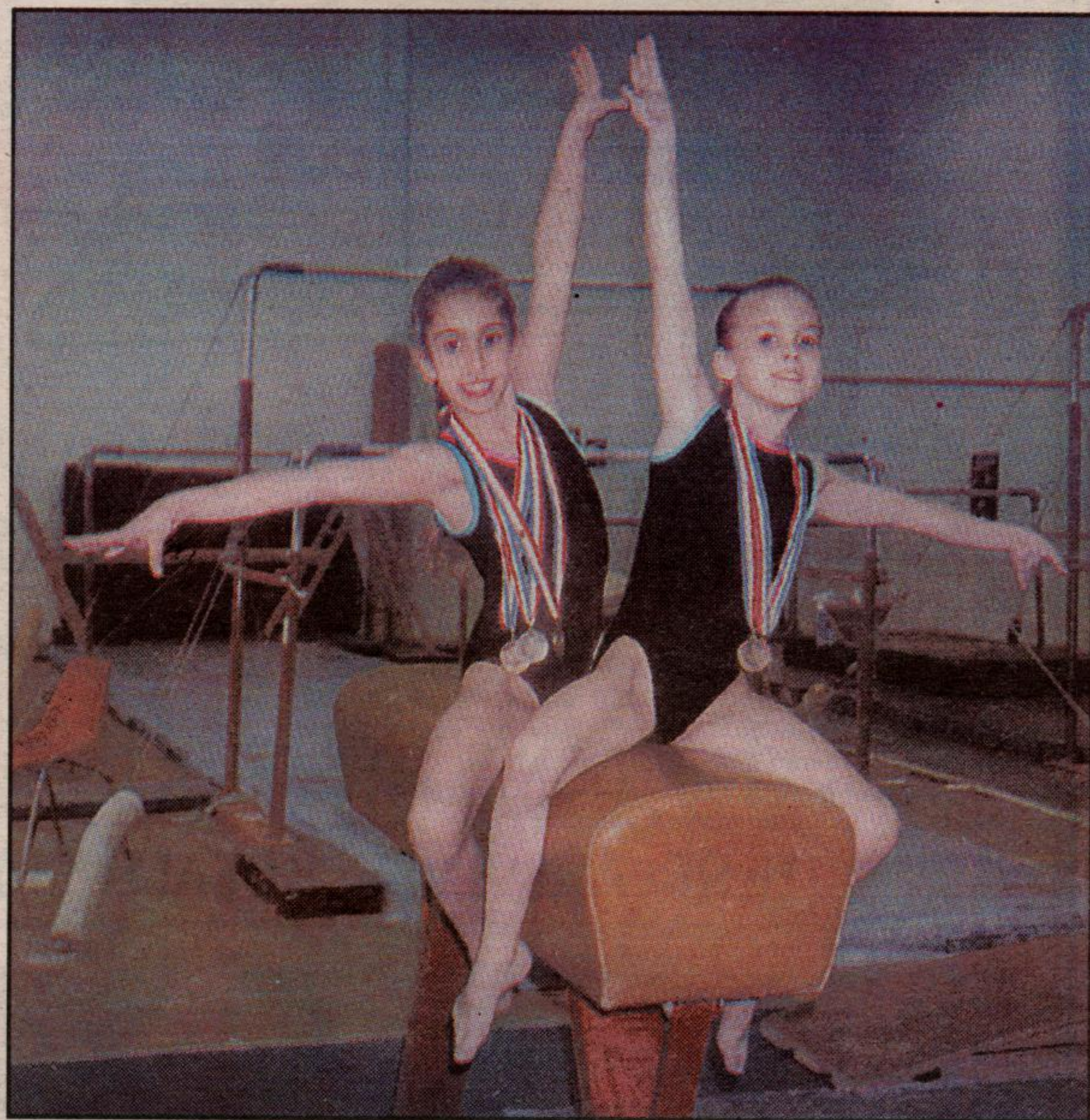
Palichuk earned the overall gold in the last of three qualifying meets in Owen Sound. Also locking up a spot on the team was her Halton Hills Gymnastics Club teammate Holly Johnson. Both will now compete at the provincial championships in the Level 1, nine-year-old division in Cambridge on May 4.

Palichuk topped 32 other gymnasts to win her division. Palichuk finished in the top five in each event, including a gold on the bars, to win the overall title. She also won a silver medal on the beam, was fourth on the vault and fifth with her floor routine.

After overall silver medals in each of the first two qualifiers, Johnson needed only a fourth overall finish to secure her place on the Central Ontario team. Johnson brought home a couple of medals from Owen Sound, winning gold on the bars and a silver on the vault. She was also sixth on the floor exercise.

By placing a pair of rookie gymnasts on the team, Halton Hills head coach Paula Lockwood earned the right to lead the Central Ontario team.

Halton Hills gymnasts turned in some more strong performances at the final qualifier. Lisa Etchells won the vault bronze medal in the level one, 11-year-old division. She was also



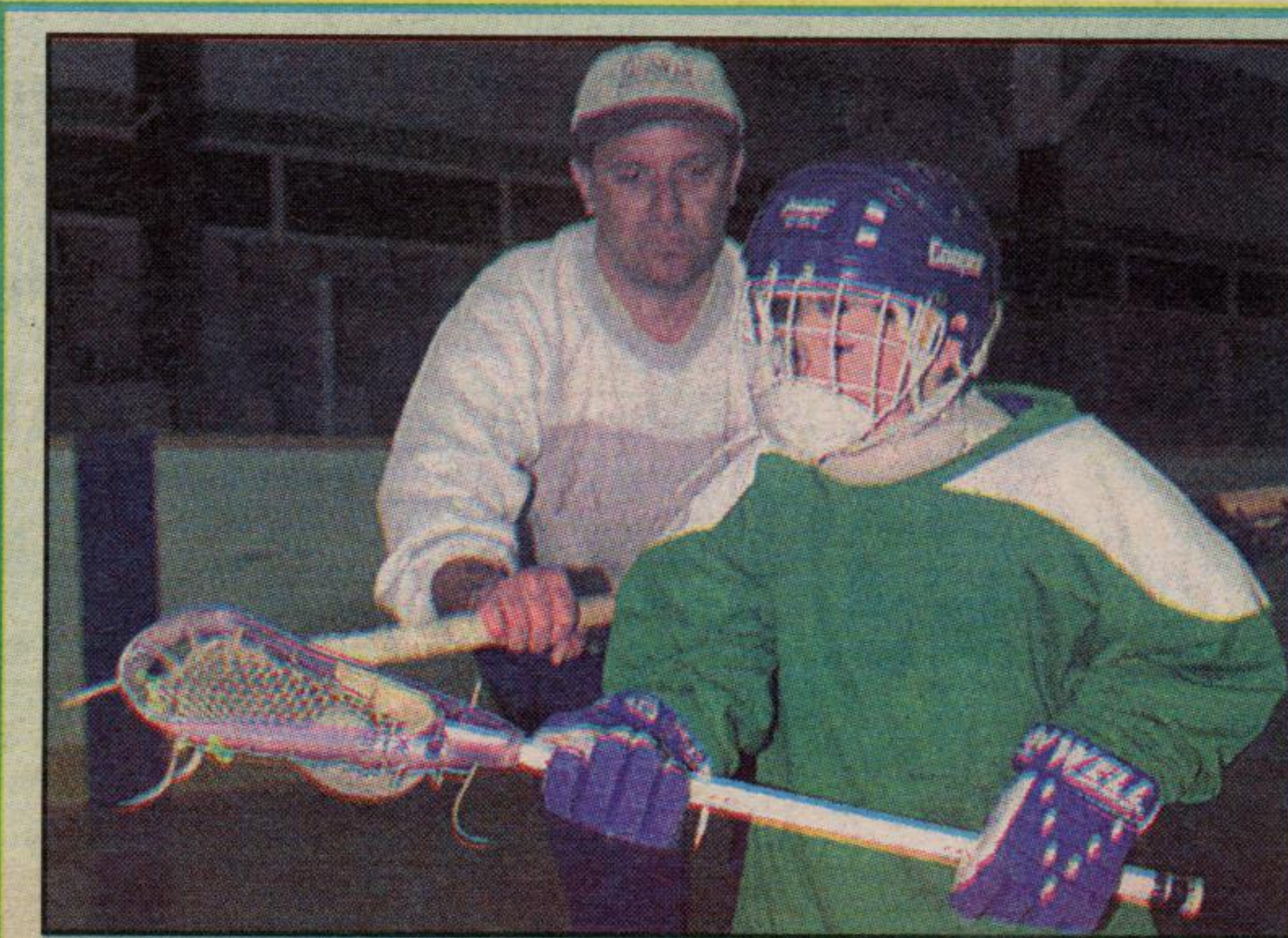
Stephanie Palichuk, left, and Holly Johnson of the Halton Hills Gymnastics Club are off to the provincial championships in May after clinching spots on the Central Ontario Region team. Palichuk won the overall gold at the final qualifier while Johnson, who was the overall silver medalist at the previous two qualifiers, finished fourth overall. Photo submitted

sixth on the bars and eighth overall. Teammate Michelle Seanor was fourth on the vault.

Lisa Butler's silver medal on the floor and a sixth on the bars helped her place sixth overall in the level one, 12-13 year-old division. In the same

group, Jenna Johnson was fourth on the bars, fifth on the beam and ninth overall.

Erin Carter took the silver medal on the beam in the level two, 11-year-old division. She was also sixth on the bars and sixth overall.



Checking it out

Arnold's Greenhouse assistant coach Bob Paterson shows tyke player John Cullen how to avoid a check during the Halton Hills House League Lacrosse clinic at Memorial Arena. The clinic is held each year at the beginning of the house league season. Regular season play got underway on Saturday.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

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