

RON SHANNON gets ready to fire then . . . WOW that smarts. The lefty inadvertently hurt his nose when he fired his shotgun in the target shooting part of the Turkey Shoot at the Halton Sportsmen's Club Saturday at the Steeles Ave. clubhouse.

## Optimists terrific

Playing without doubt some of the best hockey in their lives, Milton Optimist minor peewees advanced to the finals of a Leamington tournament on the weekend.

Optimists were downed 3-1 in the championship game by nearby Essex but the squad's play throughout the tourney was exceptional.

Optimists kept peaking

with every game until the final when the team was emotionally drained from the semi-final match-up. They did not play with as fine an edge as they had earlier although their standard of play was very high.

The squad won three games en route to the final which had coach Bob Davidson brimming with pride.

"The tournament had just about everything you could ask for," said Davidson. "We beat three excellent hockey teams along the way."

Optimists were placed in a six-team division in the 10-squad tourney.

In the first game, Milton dumped Niagara-on-the-Lake 8-3. The team came out flying and took control of the game paced by a four-goal, one-assist effort from steady Steve Scannell.

Niagara-on-the-Lake later went on to claim the championship of the consolation round winning their three remaining games by 10-goal margins.

Tim Rayner added two goals while Darren Shaw and Sean Davidson chipped in with singles. Eric Chudleigh had five assists, an unusual number for this age group. In fact, Optimists recorded 12 assists in the game.

Milton advanced to play Riverside (a Windsor suburb) and beat them 6-1 with disciplined hockey.

Riverside took 10 individual minors including three stick penalties. Davidson said Riverside tried to "goon us" throughout the game but the strategy backfired when Optimists refused to budge from their disciplined style.

Optimists employed their faster speed to offset the larger size of the Windsor-area team.

Rayner netted three goals, Scannell fired a pair while David McGuire added a single. Bruce Cameron and Chudleigh had two assists each.

Craig Defrietas played a standout game in the Milton nets.

The win moved Optimists against St.

Catharines' second team. Milton won the game in overtime when they out-shot St. Kitts 7-1 although neither team registered a goal.

The contest was one of the most interesting and frenzied Davidson said he had ever seen.

For starters, neither team was willing to come out to the ice first. After a six-minute stall, officials forced both teams to enter the rink at the same time.

The St. Catharines fans brought with them Javex bottles filled with coins and marbles. The sound was deafening throughout the game.

Both teams were tied 1-

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## Goes to nationals

# Parker second

Campbellville figure skater Kevin Parker was both pleased and unhappy with his performance last week which gave him second place in the Central Division championships in Sudbury.

He narrowly missed claiming the top spot in his first year in senior competition by a 96.74 to 95.92 margin to veteran Kevin Hicks of Windsor.

That part pleased him. However, the 18-year-old student at Acton High School said he felt that if he could have skated better in the long program he could have won it.

"I was only a few points behind after the short program," he said. "If I'd skated my best I could have won, hands down."

He described his short

program as "the best I could possibly do."

His performances entitle Parker to advance to the Canadian championships Jan. 19 in Kitchener.

However, he is somewhat concerned with the politics involved with the sport which work against him. This is just his first year in senior compared to the five years of Hicks.

"You don't go to the meets worrying how to

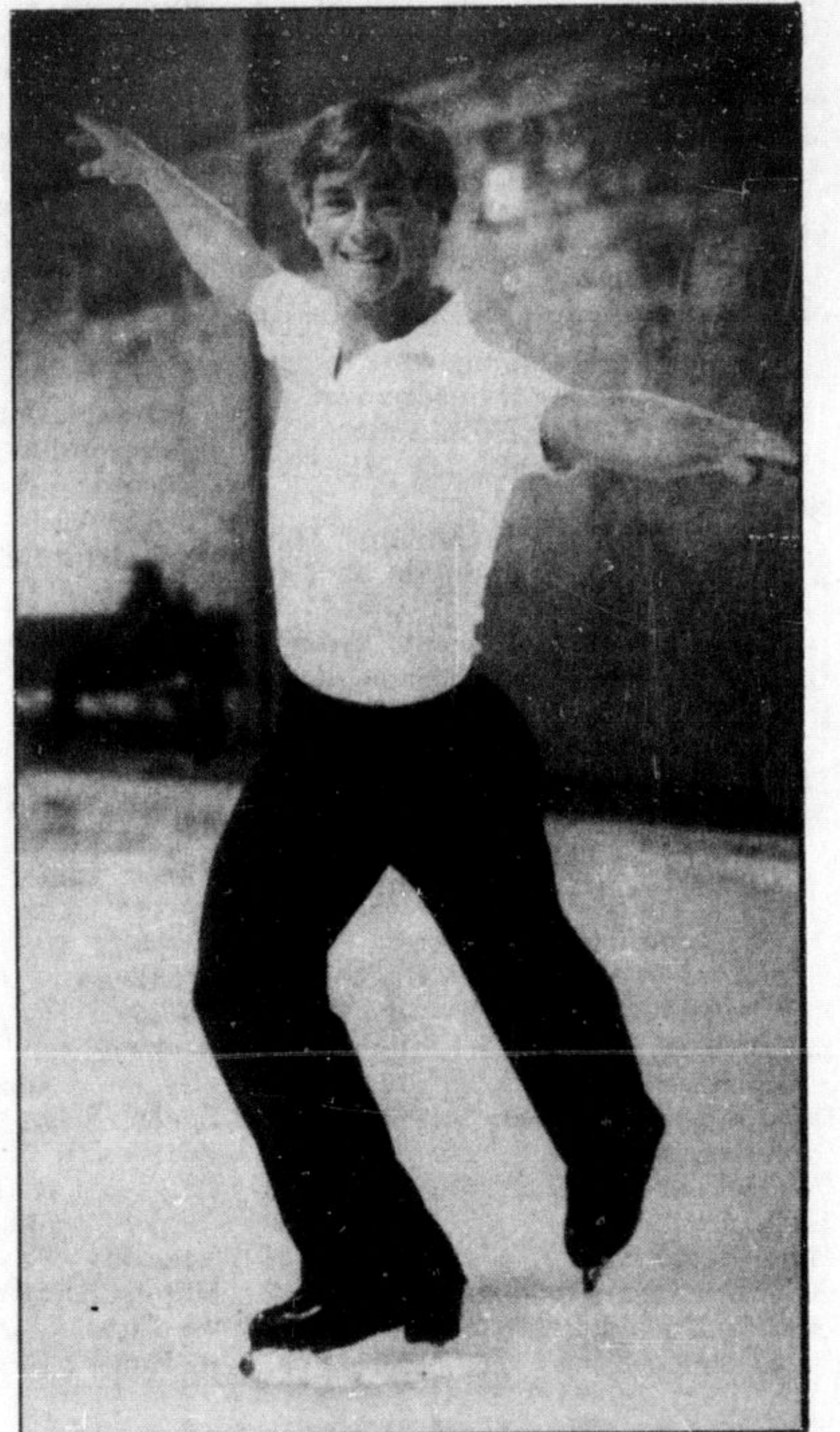
place," he said. "This is my first time around in senior and all the judges have to see you before. I just do my hardest and see what happens."

The Canadian Championships set up a natural rivalry for Parker with Penetanguishene's Brian Orser who claimed the national junior championship with a spectacular final performance.

Parker added that beating Orser was on his mind, although he felt Orser might have the edge in the judges' minds before the finals because of his victory last year as well as his strong European performances over the summer.

Parker had been slated to perform four triple jumps in Sudbury but made them into doubles while he was skating. He also completed three double axles and a variety of other moves.

In contrast, Hicks attempted three triples and fell on two, completing just one jump.



KEVIN PARKER was nudged from the top spot at Sudbury last week. He heads to the nationals in January.

## Inglis in; Sones out

It's official. Gerry Inglis is Milton Flyers' new coach.

Inglis replaces Scott Sones who took over the reins of the club amid dissension on the team after the first game.

Inglis becomes the Flyers' third coach and the fourth man to stand behind the bench this season. Owner Vern Gooding had served in the coaching capacity while Sones was on a three-week vacation in Florida recently. Sones had replaced Doug Vaughan.

Inglis' decision to coach was revealed to the players in the dressing room prior to a practice last Wednesday.

Both Gooding and Dave Brush, a friend of Gooding who has known Inglis for some time have been actively searching for Inglis for some time now.

Inglis returns to the club he left at the end of the 1977-78 season to coach Georgetown Raiders in Intermediate A hockey.

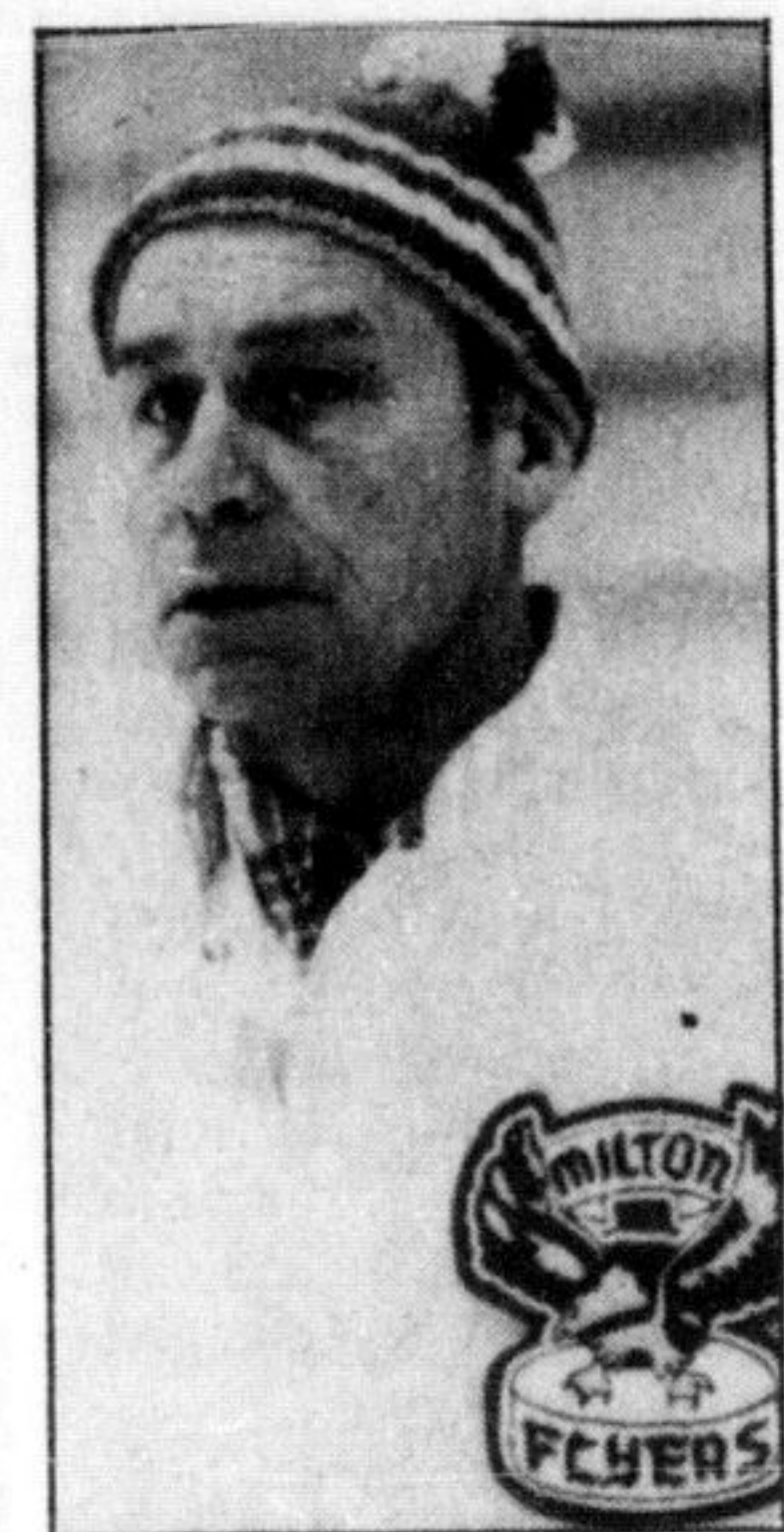
"I missed it when I wasn't coaching," explains Inglis, who earlier said he wanted to take a year off and spend more time away from the arena. "I didn't want to coach intermediate hockey because of all the travelling."

"I enjoy the kids, though. Maybe we might start winning hockey games and maybe we won't. But the enthusiasm is certainly there."

The new coach faces a formidable task—attempts to take a last-place club up the ladder to the playoffs. Flyers' record of 2-17-3 certainly hasn't scared many other teams in the league and they are currently 14 points out of a playoff position.

"I haven't seen the club all that much," said Inglis. "We seem to have a well-balanced hockey club. I think it's better than the Milton team I took over before (midway through the 1976-77 season). I don't know all the boys. That's my biggest problem now."

"All we need is four or



GERRY INGLIS

five wins in a row. Even if we played good games and are in the game until the end, that'll help. The kids need the freedom not to be the underdog when they start a game."

Inglis said the team needed to work on its passing, its on-ice manners and its defence but seemed impressed with the quality of the players on the team.

"We've got to find that one player to light the fire under these guys to get them going. He might be on the team now."

Inglis' first test came last night when he handled the chores behind the bench against Georgetown Gemini. Flyers' fans can renew their acquaintance with the Norval resident Friday when Flyers host Orillia.

Sones wasn't exactly

pleased with the decision, but said he felt it had been coming for a long time.

"That's the price you pay when you coach junior hockey," said Sones, who works in the same office as Gooding.

"Hey, this is where it all happens. I'd have much preferred to be here than in Florida. Sure, I'm disappointed."

"I expected it. But let's face it. What we need is players."

## Fifth Wheel bantams capture Silver Stick title

The elevation from level A to AA didn't affect Fifth Wheel Truck Stop bantams on the weekend when they dropped Burlington 7-4 to claim the championship in the Owen Sound Regional Silver Stick tournament.

The squad now advances to the International Silver Stick championships in Port Huron, Michigan, Jan. 23-27.

Coach Gary Hudson and his assistants were elated with the tournament victory, attributing the title to outstanding efforts from every team member.

In the final game, Fifth Wheelers met Burlington, their southern league rival. The stage was set for a real barn burner. The teams had tied 1-1 in their only league encounter to date.

Milton jumped ahead right off the bat when Mark Newby found the mark with just four seconds gone in the contest. Burlington came right back within the two-minute mark to knot the score.

Two more first-period goals from John Turner and Rob McCullough put Milton ahead 3-1 at the end of the opening period.

McCullough tallied again early in the second period but Burlington stormed back with goals from Danny Store and Richard Bastasick to narrow the gap to 4-3. Bastasick and Milton's Mike McIlwraith traded

goals later in the period to maintain Milton's two-goal lead.

The third period was all Milton as Stuart Anderson and Bob Landry fired unanswered goals to propel Milton to the victory and the title.

In the tournament semi-finals, Milton met superb opposition in Kitchener and came out on the winning end of a 2-1 squeaker.

It was both teams' third game of the day and Landry netted the pair of Milton goals.

In the second game, the Fifth Wheelers met the hometown Owen Sound and dropped the crowd favorites 5-2. Scoring for Milton were Rob Bourbonnais, Randy Heggie, Steve Mead, Turner and Anderson.

The Truckstoppers began the tourney in fine style hammering out an easy 14-1 victory. Landry led the potent attack with five goals while Bourbonnais, Anderson, Heggie and McCullough chipped in with a pair apiece and Mark Whitten added a single.

The major bantams have four league games before the Christmas break during which they will be competing in a tournament in Hespeler. The next home game is Tuesday at 9:15 p.m. versus Brampton.

## Putting fun into lessons aim of new ski instructor

Trying to make ski instruction both fun and interesting is the goal of Doug Leeming who just recently was named head ski instructor at Glen Eden Ski Area in Kelso Conservation Area.

Leeming represents the new breed of ski instructors who combine learning techniques with appropriately devised games meant to improve the skills by making the lessons fun.

The influence of the European and Japanese sport systems recently has spread to skiing with the goal of a more interesting approach to the sport.

"My job as an instructor is to make it fun and interesting and improve their skills," says Leeming. "What I'll be doing is designing specific programs for age groups."

"You've got to make the lessons interesting if skiers are to improve. For example, children are not prepared to stand on a hill and listen to instruction. You've got to get them moving."

"Adults want more technical information. They don't mind standing on the hill for a while as the techniques are explained to them."

Leeming will design the nature of all lessons (group and private) as well as keeping his crew of 40 certified instructors on their toes with the latest techniques.

He stresses the need for enjoyment as a part of the lessons.

"Enjoyment has to come out of every lesson. What we try to do in teaching is for them to enjoy the sport. Once they enjoy it they're likelier to pick it up."

The 30-year-old Etobicoke native comes from Kitchener where he served for six years in a lesser capacity with Chicopee



TAKING OVER the reins as the ski school director at Glen Eden is Doug Leeming. The avid skier comes from Chicopee Ski Club in Kitchener.

Ski Club. He is married and spends his summers managing the Cedar Creek Equestrian Centre near Guelph.

In terms of the standards implemented by the Canadian Ski Instructor and has passed half of the Level 4 which is the last step of the ladder. Leeming will also write a column every two weeks in The Champion giving tips on the sport.

He said he was impressed with the potential of Glen Eden. "We have the unlimited potential to grow because it's so close to large municipalities. Skiers can come home from work and come here for a couple of years while they're learning the sport. Then they can go to the larger ski resorts like Huntsville and Collingwood on their holidays, if they like."

"The terrain is challenging. The hills are the largest in the surrounding area."

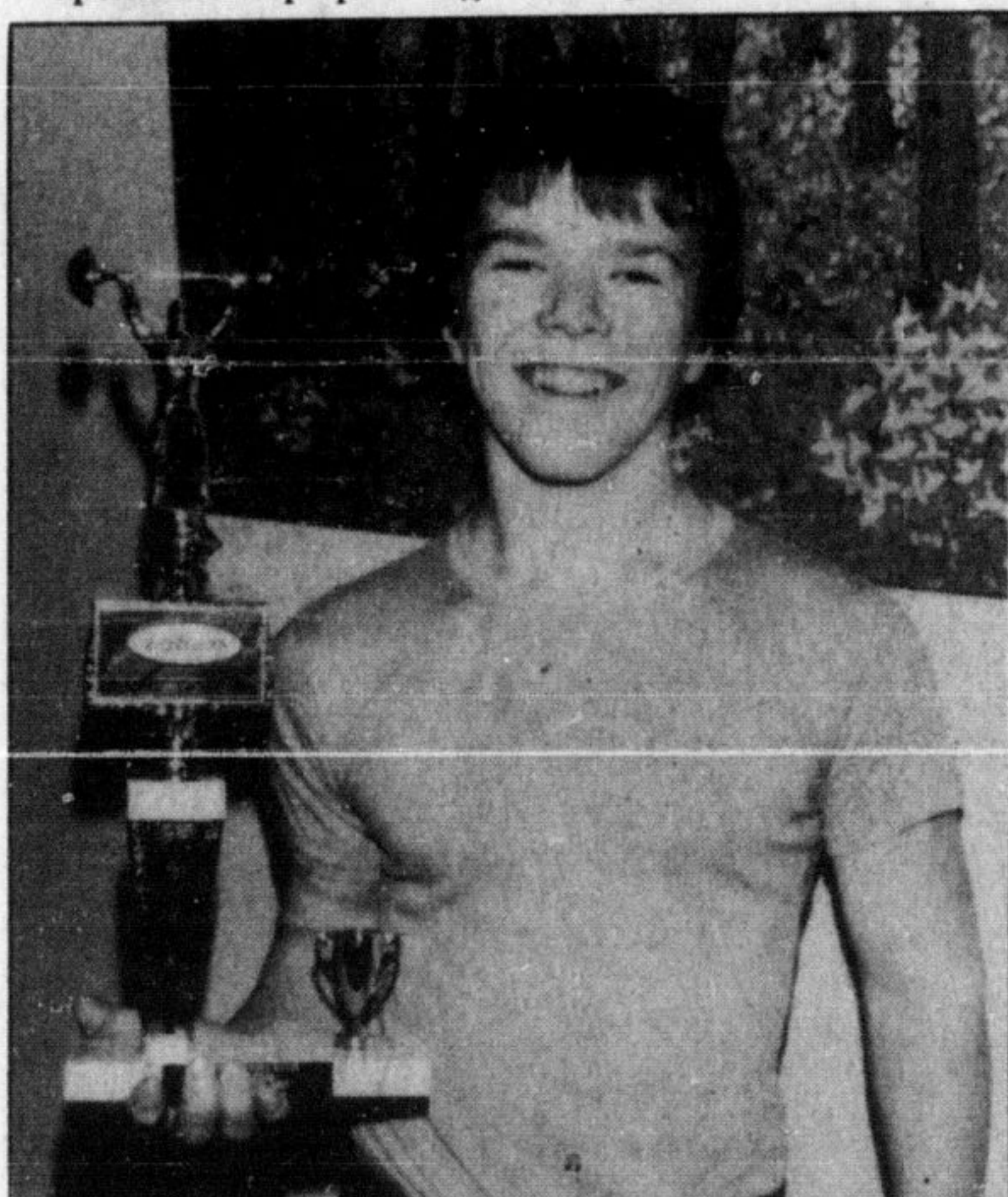
"This place should be just swamped. Not that it's not being used because we have 13,000 lessons last year. But there can and will be a lot more people here in the future."

There is a long-range plan to increase the skiers' needs on 5-10 year plan. The area has equipment for artificially-made snow. There are three t-bars and two rope tows. The vertical fall of the hill is 2,040 feet.

Registration for the lessons was held earlier but those interested in signing up can still do so by calling the ski lodge.

Scheduled lessons start during the first week of January although some lessons will be held during Christmas week. Complete rentals are available for an \$8 fee for all day or \$6 for half a day.

For information on snow conditions call 878-5333.



MUSCULAR Chris Snowden, 14, placed second at the Northern Ontario powerlifting meet on the weekend in Kirkland Lake.

## Trillium student places second

A 14-year-old Trillium School student lifted his way into second place at the Northern Ontario powerlifting developmental meet on the weekend in Kirkland Lake.

novice division of the 114 lb. weight class. The muscular youngster has been in competition for about one year, training under the guidance of Henry Lambert in Hamilton.

Altogether, about 25 students from Quebec and Ontario competed at the meet.

Chris Snowden, who hails from Kirkland Lake, competed in the

## Rep teams now AA

Milton rep hockey teams have been upgraded to the AA level (from A) by a ruling by the Ontario Minor Hockey Association last Tuesday.

The ruling which was expected means Milton teams will be playing different teams in the OMHA play-downs as well as in Silver Stick tournaments.

Fifth Wheel major bantams showed no ill effects by the move when they captured the regional Silver Stick tourney in Owen Sound on the weekend to advance to the international championships in Port Huron, Michigan, in mid-January.

The change will mean Milton will play either Georgetown or Dundas in the first round of the OMHA play-downs, instead of traditional rivals Streetsville and Ancaster.

Although no criteria was cited, it is believed Milton's expanded population growth to 25,000, its large hockey registration and its success in recent years contributed to the upgrading.