



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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Reding rallies to reclaim Halton cross-country title

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
Special to *The Champion*

Bishop Reding's cross-country drought has ended.

After back-to-back seasons in second place, the Royals reclaimed their regional title Wednesday afternoon at Kelso Conservation Area.

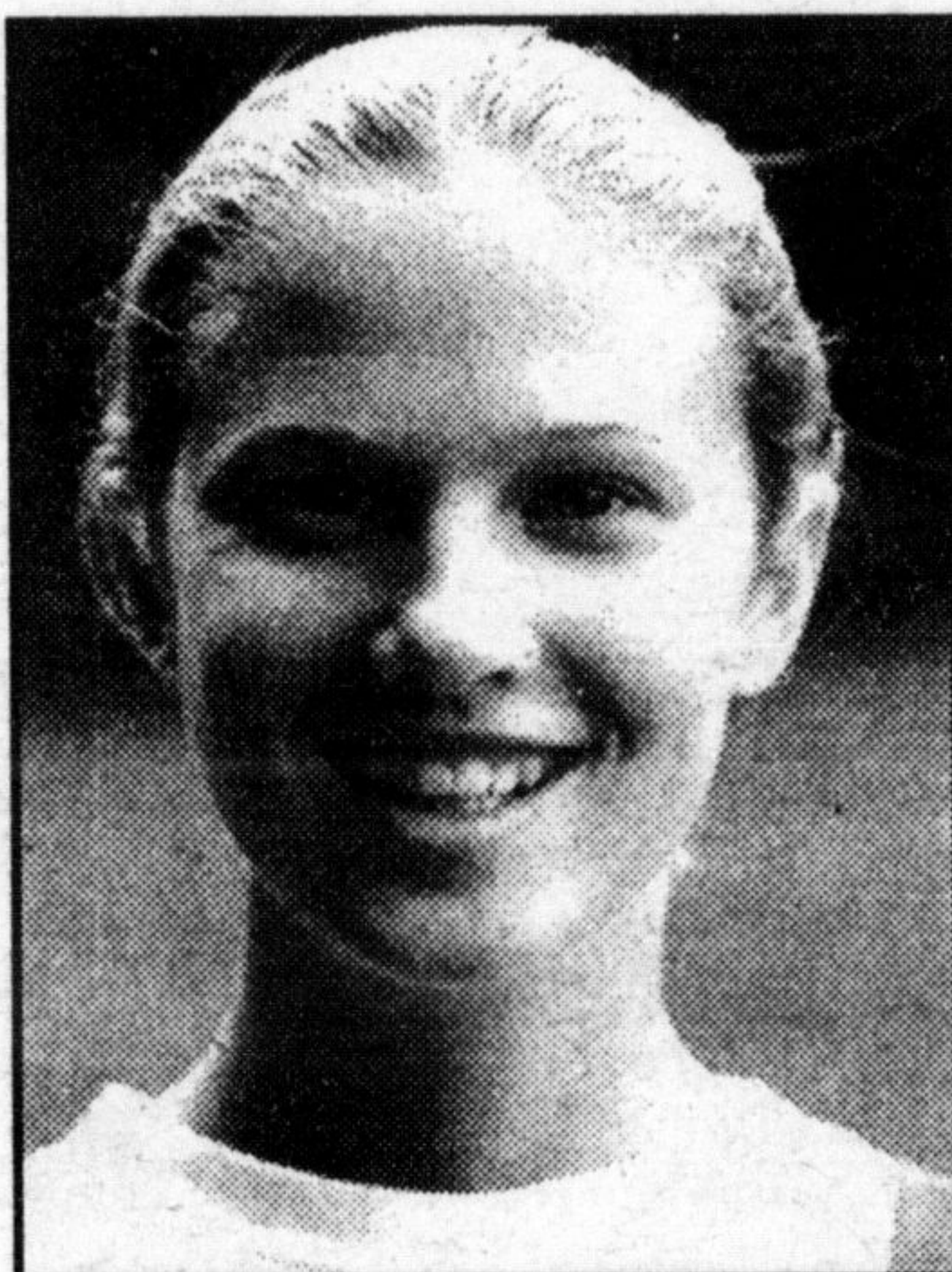
The victory — their fourth in six years — was in a come-from-behind 37-34 decision over Oakville's Q.E. Park.

St. Thomas Aquinas of Oakville edged cross-town rival Loyola for third-place honors.

BR's senior boys secured the Halton championship with a first-place finish, erasing the slim lead Eagle runners enjoyed before the final race.

Anchoring the comeback with sixth and eighth place efforts respectively were George Kerr and Andrew Silcock.

Ken Dalglish took 19th spot



Alanna Zelek

while Bobby McKnight came in 26th.

Q.E. Park's senior boys needed a top three finish to give their school the title, but could only muster a sixth-place showing.

Earlier in the day it was the midget girls who set the stage for BR's return to glory. Led by sec-

ond-place finisher Alanna Zelek — who tamed the 3,600-metre course in 12:49 — the Royals placed four runners in the top 20 for an impressive first-place finish.

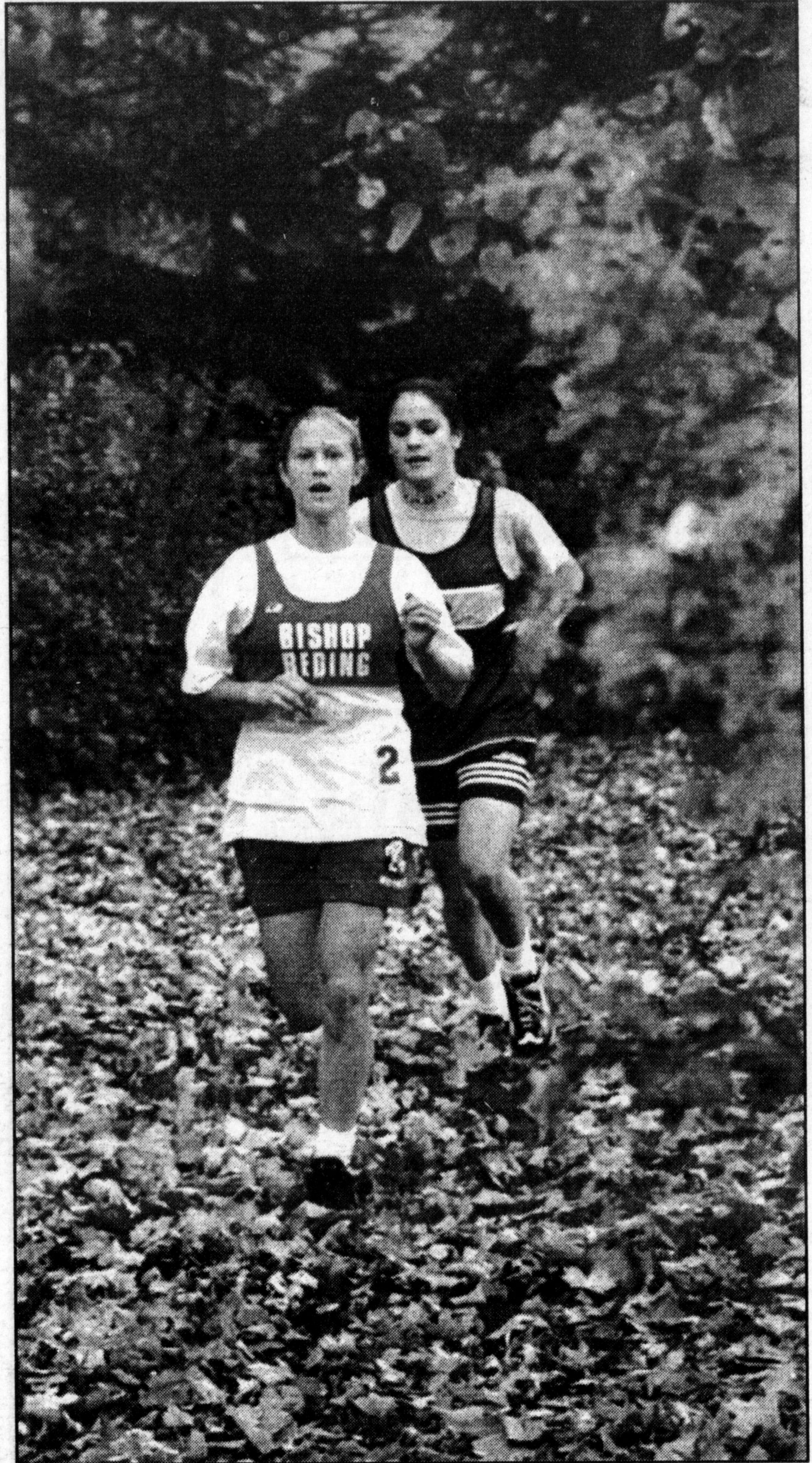
Ashley Mindorff came fifth in 13:18, Vanessa Bouskill clocked in at 13:26 for seventh and Amanda Asdrubolini finished in 17:23 for 19th spot.

Carrie-Ann Nichols couldn't match last year's silver medal performance in the junior girls' class. She was more than a minute off the pace over the 4,200m (in 19:20) and took seventh spot.

Solid efforts by Fiona Silcock, Laura Stix and Kathleen Charko (14th, 16th and 21st respectively) helped the junior Royals place third.

Both the midget and junior boys took top five team finishes. The midgets' top runner was Scott Birnie, who came in 10th, while Jessie St. John anchored the

• see **AFTER** on page 26



Photos by **GRAHAM PAINE**

Alanna Zelek, the top Bishop Reding midget racer (above in front), came charging in to take second place. At top left is the start of the senior girls' race. See page 26 for another photo.

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