

Milton's Ashley Rutz (right) recently showcased her hockey talents for Team Canada assistant captain Cassie Campbell.

## She tops big field

Ashley Rutz is usually part of a big boys club on the ice, but Saturday in Oakville she kept company with a field of fellow female hockey lovers.

The 10-year-old defenceman was one of more than 200 competitors at the Women's World Hockey Skills Challenge at Ice Sports Arena.

Showcasing her talents in front of Team Canada members — including assistant captain Cassie Campbell didn't seem to faze Ashley one bit.

She was the fastest skater in her major novice division as well as the most agile. Her shot tested best for velocity and second best for accuracy.

Ashley placed first in the overall competition.

The only girl and assistant captain on the AA major novice Winterhawks team, Ashley has been playing hockey for three years. She hopes to one day play for Team Canada.

# No break for prison guards at tournament

Maplehurst's national championship losses are getting tougher and tougher to swallow.

Last year the correctional facility's hockey team - known as the Hurst Hounds dropped a 4-3 double-overtime decision to Winnipeg in the semifinals of the National Correctional Officers' Tournament.

This time around they were edged in the gold-medal round — losing a 2-1 heartbreaker in the fourth extra session to host Summerside, PEI.

"Each overtime period consisted of two minutes of five-on-five, four-on-four, etc," said captain and eight-year team veteran John Jackson, of the April 5 finals.

"We got down to two-on-two and lost it on a broken play. It was very, very intense."

Scoring Maplehurst's lone tally in the title match was Mark "Mungo" Brewer while Jim Pereira was sensational between the pipes.

The Hounds squeezed their way into the

championship with a 6-5 semifinal triumph over Spring Hill, Nova Scotia again with overtime deciding the victor.

Their road to the finals was somewhat bumpy at first with early 3-2 and 2-1 losses to Dorchester, New Brunswick and Summerside respectively. Said Jackson, "We out-chanced our opponents in both of those games but just couldn't bury it.

"From there we beat Atlantic Renous of New Brunswick 5-1 and that seemed to break things open for us."

#### To final four

Maplehurst followed up with a 4-3 win over Shelburne, Ontario to qualify for a final four seatings before outdistancing Spring Hill and falling to Summerside.

Making up the rest of the national finalist crew are Rob Aquilina, Scott Bartlett, Iain Douglas, Mike Dimartile, Tom Dykstra, Marcel Fournel, Duncan Heggie, Carey Moore, Todd Smith, Dave Whalen, Stewart Wilson and coach Derek Brown.

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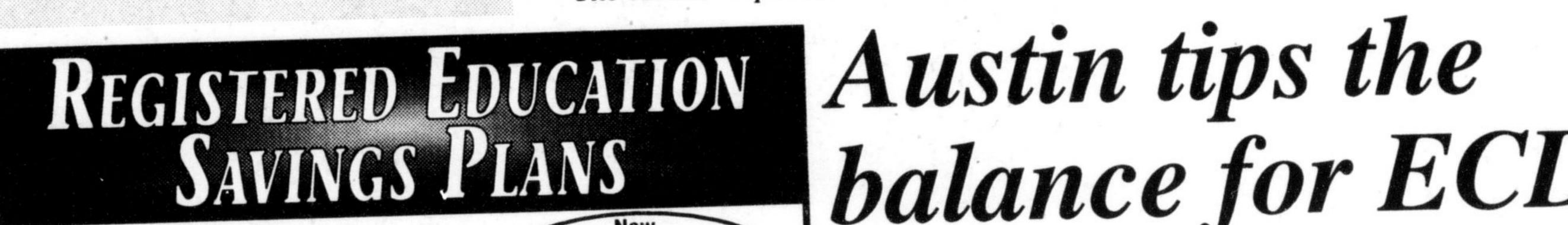
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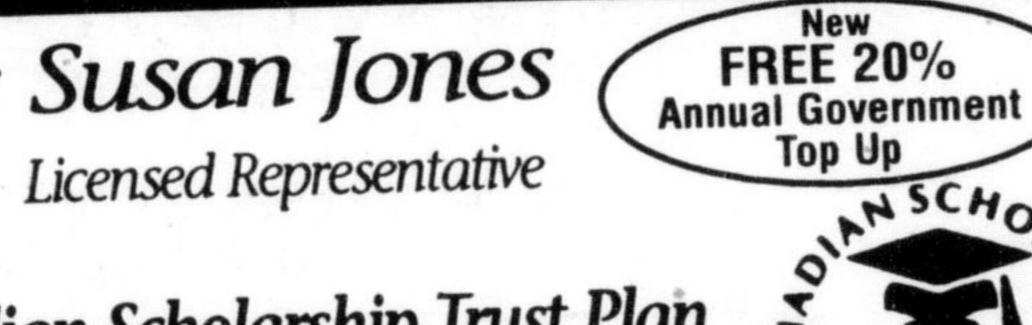
pendent work with a supportive team. Training will be provided.

If you're flexible, dedicated, enthusiastic & would like to volunteer but don't have a lot of free time, please attend our short information session on Thursday, May 21 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Halton Regional Health Department.

To register or for more information, please contact Lisa Mina at the Halton Regional Health Department 825-6060, ext. 7891 before Monday, May 18, 1998.



Call: Susan Jones



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# balance for ECD

The Trailblazers may dominate on the 'Ridge, but E.C. Drury owned the rest of Halton Region last week at Central Arena.

They did so at the Burlington Cup junior hockey tournament, where they staged a come-from-behind 3-2 triumph over Iroquois Ridge in the championship finals.

Mike Austin became an instant hero midway through the third, after setting up Craig MacDonald for the equalizer with one second left in the middle stanza.

Teammate Jordan Jeans caught him in full stride at centre ice and hit him with a breakaway pass. In all alone, Austin's shot spilled under netminder Terry Denike's leg and found its way over the line.

Also scoring for the Spartans was Kaegan Sherriff, who capitalized on a first-period powerplay and erased the Trailblazers' initial lead.

Luke Hendrie and Travis Van Loosen drew the assists.

Jon Sweetland came up with a brilliant performance in the cage and was named tournament MVP.

E.C. Drury knocked off the Assumption Crusaders 3-2 en route to the finals while Iroquois Ridge beat the Lord Elgin Lancers by an identical score in the other semifinal contest.

## Wes is on fire in conso match

Milton's minor bantam boys rep basketball team Saturday.

The Monarchs were on fire in their morning tilt at the Invitational Brantford Tournament — spanking St. Thomas 61-22 — but fell into who had 10 and six-point an offensive void after lunch showings respectively and and lost 57-17 to Brantford combined for 11 rebounds. CYO.

heartbreaking 40-36 defeat to the Brantford Briers Friday night, put the Hunt Plymouth Chrysler-sponsored crew in the consolation finals.

Here they claimed a decisive 39-25 triumph in a return

It was feast or famine for engagement with St. Thomas, thanks largely to a 14-point effort by sharpshooter Wes Van den Hoek.

Sharing MVP honours in the consolation match were Jon Jeysman and Chad Leadey,

Van den Hoek sank 14 points The two-game split, plus a against the Brantford Briers as well while grabbing 11 boards and the MVP award for the

Mitch Edwards and Joey McSweeney were standouts during both Saturday tilts with fierce two-way performances.

## Summer hockey is on

The Golden Horseshoe Hockey League is accepting applications for both minor league and men's summer play.

All games will be played at Burlington's Mainway Arena. To obtain an application form, or for more information, call

(905) 332-0757 or (905) 257-5805.