

AA minor bantams run out of steam in series

Apparently there just wasn't enough left in the gas tank.

Milton's AA minor bantams had several players busy with two sports late last week. As a result, the team was running on empty by game four of their opening round provincial playoff series with Orangeville Saturday at Memorial Arena.

The Grand Transport Winterhawks, teetering on the brink of the elimination before the evening clash, started showing signs of fatigue around the midway mark of the do-or-die contest and eventually lost 5-2.

"A lot of these guys were also involved in basketball and just had no legs for the game," said head coach Jim Kosmalski.

That exhaustion was especially evident during their biggest break of the night. Halfway through the second period — with the game still scoreless — the locals found themselves with a two-man advantage for four minutes.

They managed to squeeze a powerplay goal out of it, but only after coughing up a shorthanded tally — courtesy of some sloppy play that screamed of mental as well as physical weariness.

And if Milton was counting on another undisciplined outing by their guests to knot the series for a second time, they were in for a major letdown.

In fact, they were the ones who took the costly penalties and gave up a couple of powerplay goals down the stretch, which helped seal the deal for the visiting Flyers.

Goaltender Tim Johnston was solid in the cage to keep his team within striking distance.

Shots on net favoured Orangeville 30-17. The 'Hawks didn't register a shot until two minutes into the middle stanza.

They'll now switch gears to Tri County action and host the Oakville Rangers Thursday at Memorial Arena. Game time is 7 p.m.

Milton Springer leaping back into the provincial picture

Milton Springer Ashley Quinn boosted her shot at another provincial championship appearance with medal winning efforts in qualifying competition recently.

At Central Region meet two in Brantford, Quinn's star shone brightest among those representing the local club. The Junior 2 preteen gymnast, who's looking for a second trip to the provincials, was a model of poise and consistency on the way to placing second in the all-around standings.

Her overall silver showing came on the strength of winning the floor routine — upstaging nearly two dozen gifted participants for the gold.

The 12-year-old also struck silver on the bars while her performance on beam was worthy of the bronze medal.

"We were extremely pleased with Ashley's results," said coach Janet Campbell. "Her training has been consistent in the gym, and she was able to bring that experience with her into competition."

While taking a step back in Brantford, Kristen Deumer — also 12 years of age — kept her chances of going to the spring showcase alive with top six finishers in a couple of events.

The Junior 2 gymnast was fourth in the floor routine and fifth on bars.

A much stronger showing during the first qualifying meet — plus solid, though unspectacular efforts this time around — have her in line for a trip to provincials.

Christina Chimonides, 10, captured a pair of medals in Novice 1 competition. She sprang to gold on the vault and secured silver on the bars. Teammate Stephanie Deumer also reached the podium, taking bronze on the vault. Overall she was sixth.

Placing fifth on bars and sixth on floor routine in



Milton Springer Ashley Quinn is on her way to another provincial championship appearance with medal-winning efforts in qualifying competition recently.

the same age division was Jaimi Fellows.

Alexis Stoffels, Milton's Senior 1 representative, was the other local golden girl with a beam performance that was second to none. Her floor routine was good enough for fifth spot.

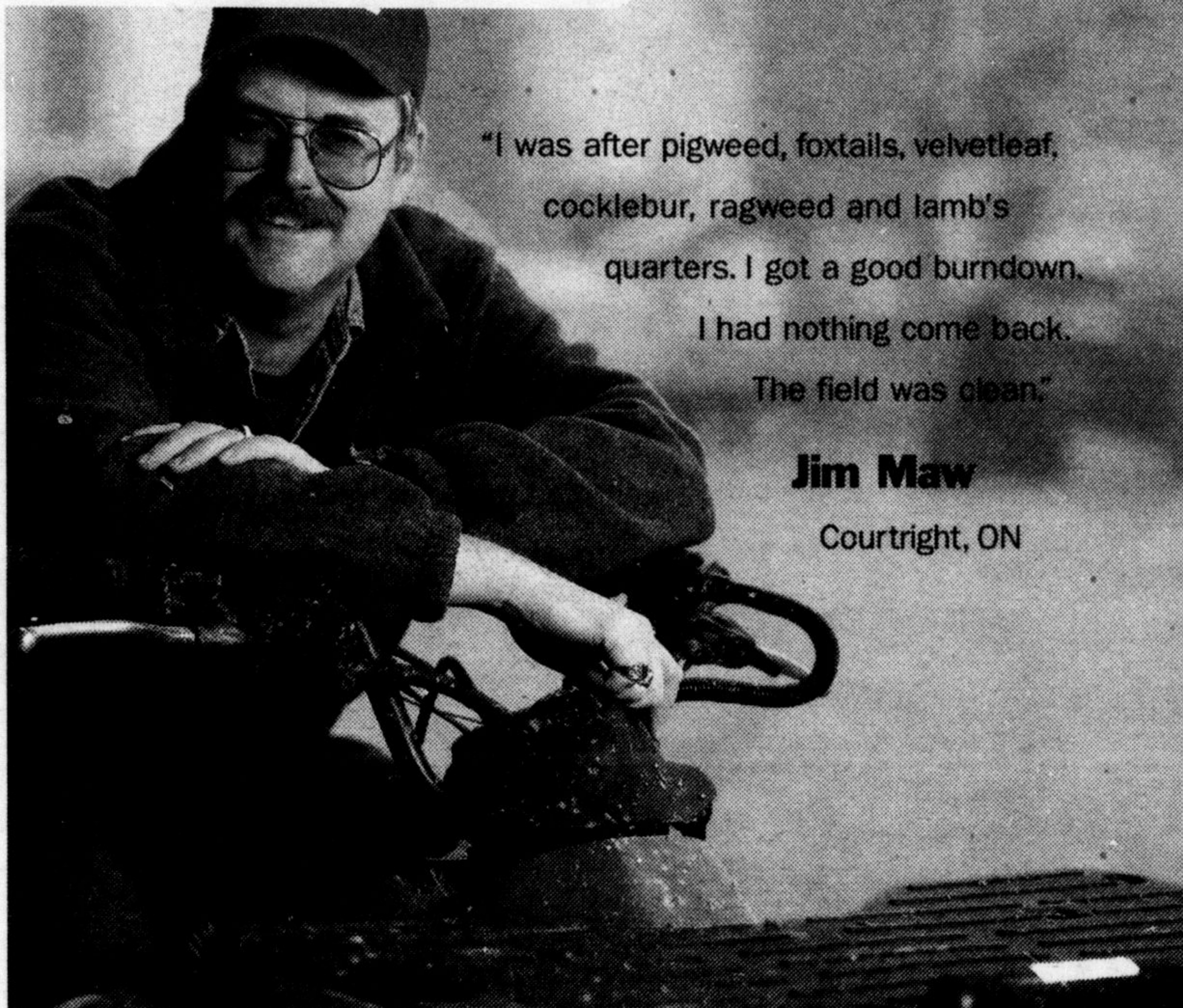
Also taking home hardware were Junior 1 teammates Valerie Massel and Christina Shipowick.

The third and final qualifying meet is slated for next month in Orangeville.



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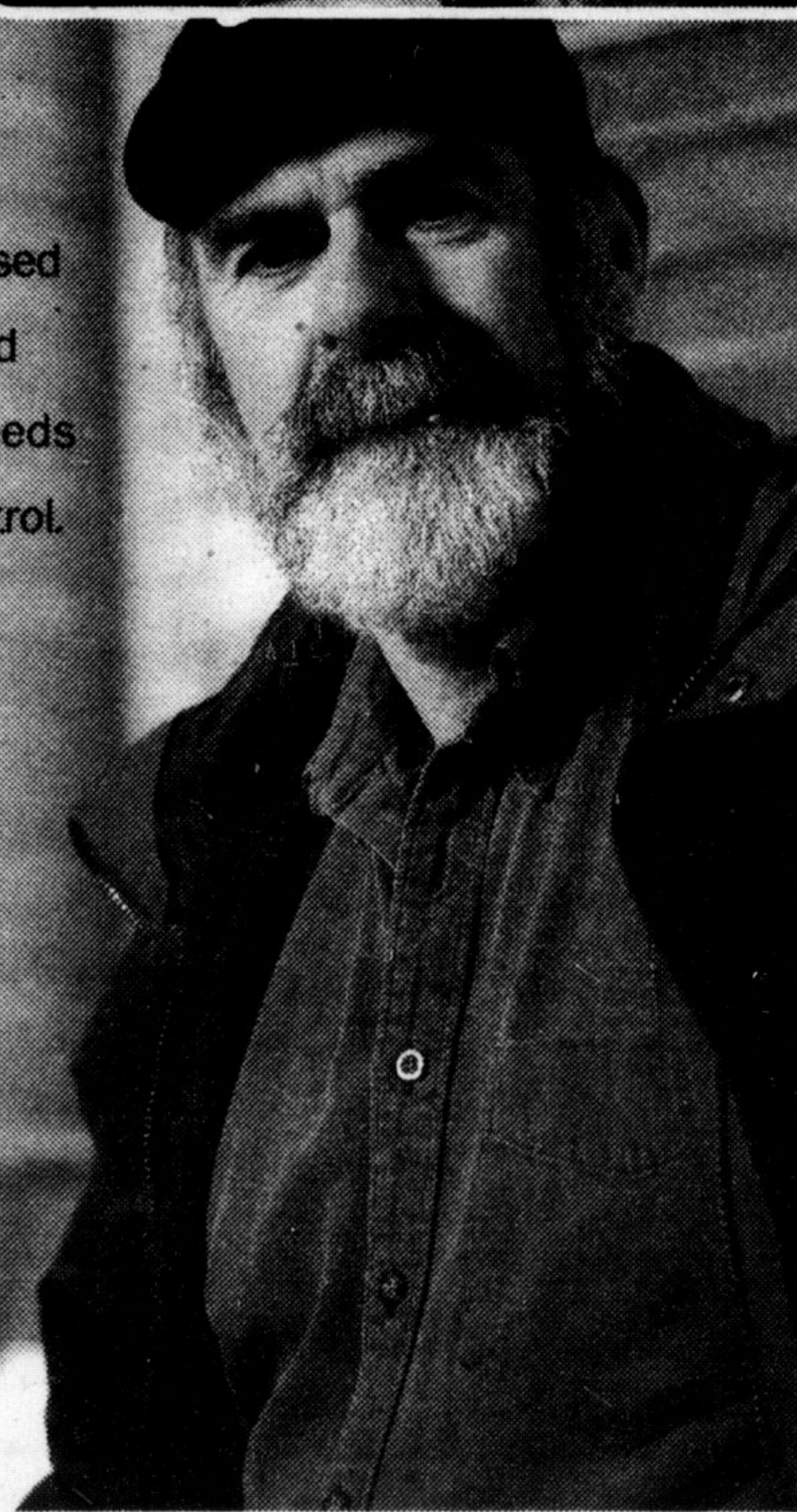
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