

# Nemeth delivers gold-medal effort during precision skating nationals

*Local skater leads team to sensational season*

By **MURRAY TOWNSEND**  
Special to *The Champion*

It's been some kind of year for Lindsay Nemeth. The 19-year-old Milton resident is captain of the Burlington Ice Image junior synchronized skating team, which entered five competitions and won every one of them.

That includes the Canadian National Junior championships in Quebec and the Spring Cup International in Italy.

Nemeth has been involved in the sport for five years, and this is her third with Burlington Ice Image.

She started out her figure skating in Milton and then went to Oakville to work on her ice dancing.

They had a synchronized skating team there, so she decided to give it a spin, just as something extra.

"It was something different from individual skating. I could still do that, but be on a team, as well," she explained.

She could have hardly imagined that it would lead to the success she's had within the sport. In fact, she no longer participates in regular figure skating, having passed all her dance levels.

A couple years later after starting in Oakville, she moved to the Burlington team.

They were ninth at the Canadian Junior championships her first year, fourth the next, and of course this year they were first.

The difference this year, according to Nemeth?

"We had quite a few new skaters this year. There are 22 girls on the team and every one is a strong skater. All the girls have great attitudes, all really positive. Everyone seemed to mesh together, with a common goal. We worked 100 percent at each practise to get there."

### Plenty of work involved

Add to that a choreographer, fitness trainer, and two Ukrainian dancers who worked with them, and you get the idea this is not a leisure time activity, but a full-time commitment.

They practise nine hours week at least. They had try-outs last May, starting training in August and just finished this month.

As captain, Nemeth's duties are varied.

"It's mostly motivating the team and setting a good example for them because I have a really good relationship with the coaches and managers," she said. "They see that and behave the same way. Also organizing team get-togethers, and if the girls have concerns quite often they will come to me."

Despite winning the Canadian championships, the team did not get to go to the world championships.

The Canadians only finished two weeks before, which didn't leave much preparation time, so it was decided that last year's winners would go

They did get to go to Milan, Italy, however and spent



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Lindsay Nemeth proudly displays the gold medal she earned at the national championships recently with her Burlington precision skating team.

11 days there, touring the country and competing against countries from all over the world.

And beating them.

Nemeth will be too old for the junior team next year, and is undecided about her future with synchronized skating.

It all depends on where she is going to go to university. If it's close to home she will most likely skate with the Burlington senior team.

"This year is really a great way to end it off if I can't skate next year. The girls were great, we won everything and we got to go to Italy. I'm pretty satisfied."

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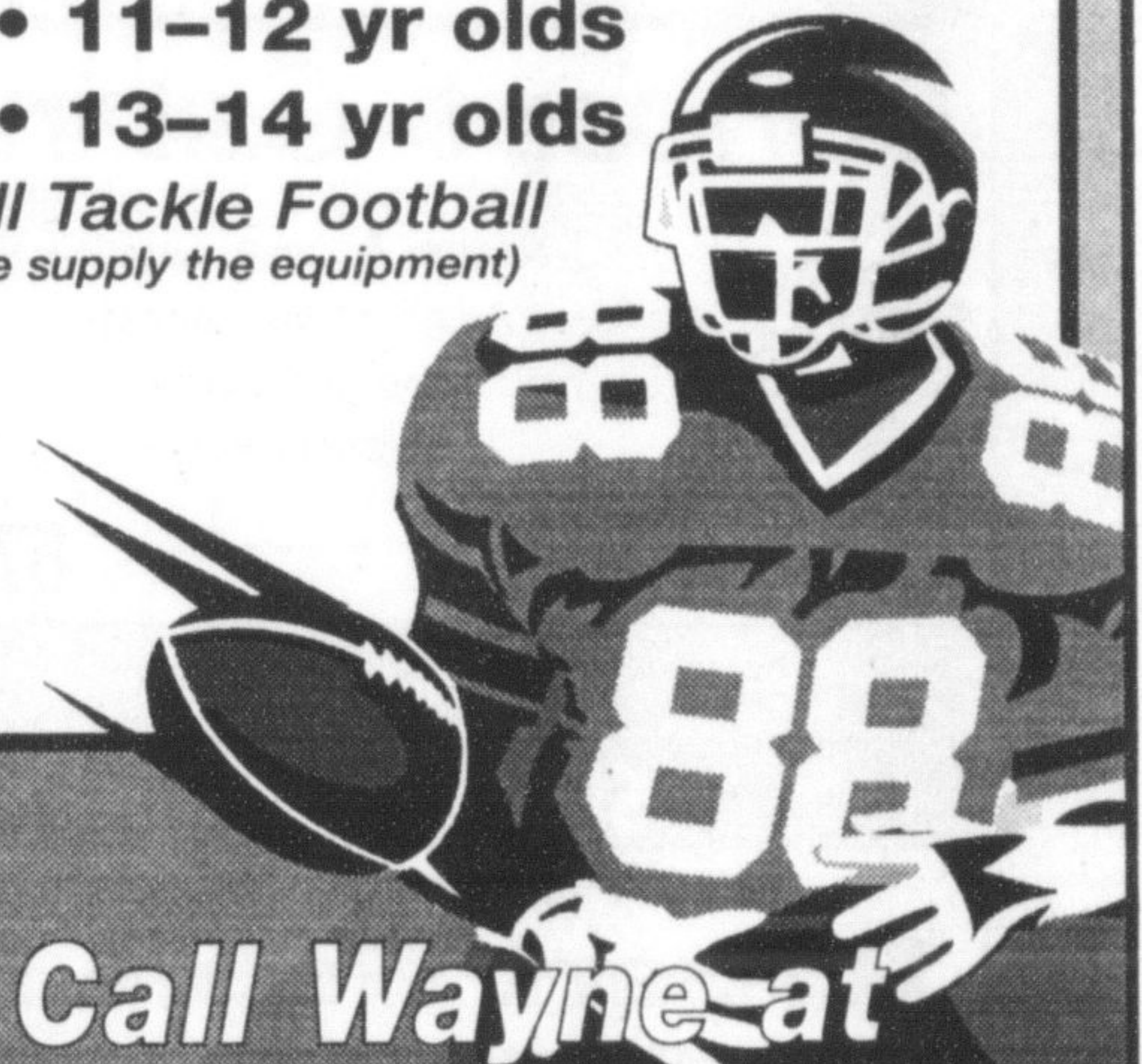
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