

Coach up for big award

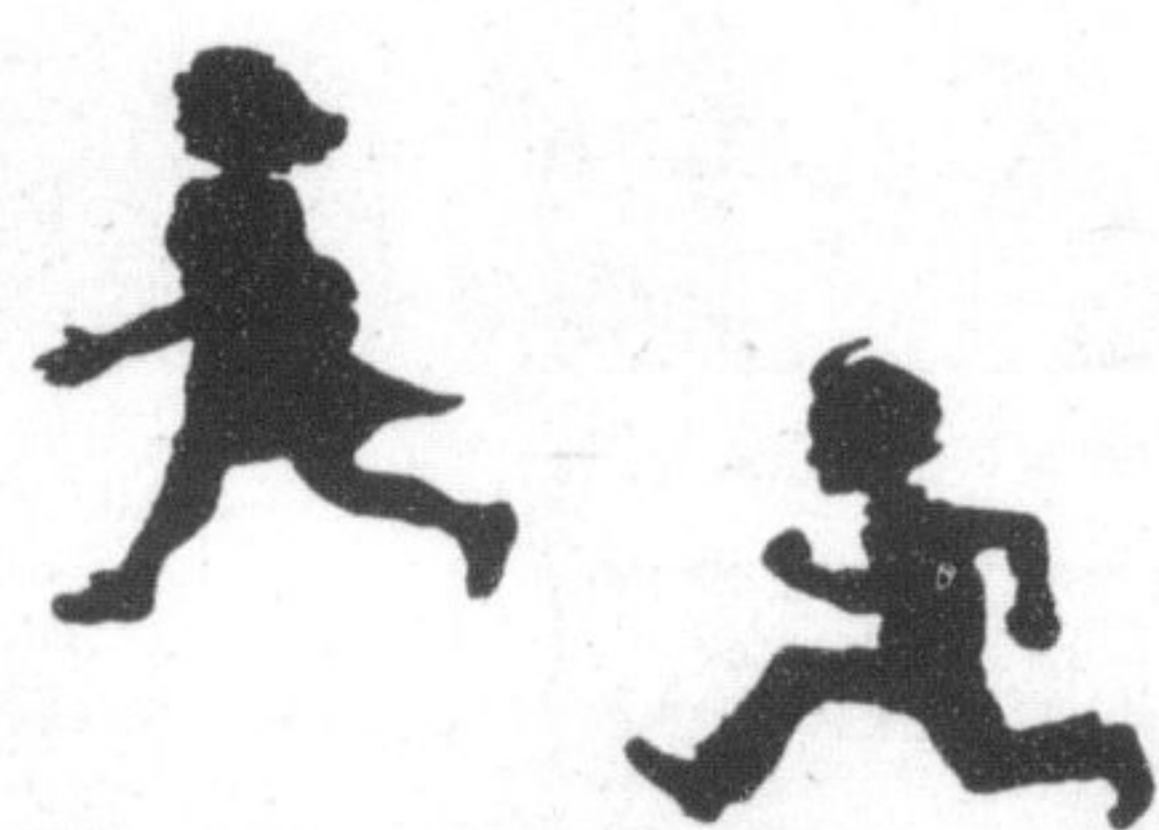
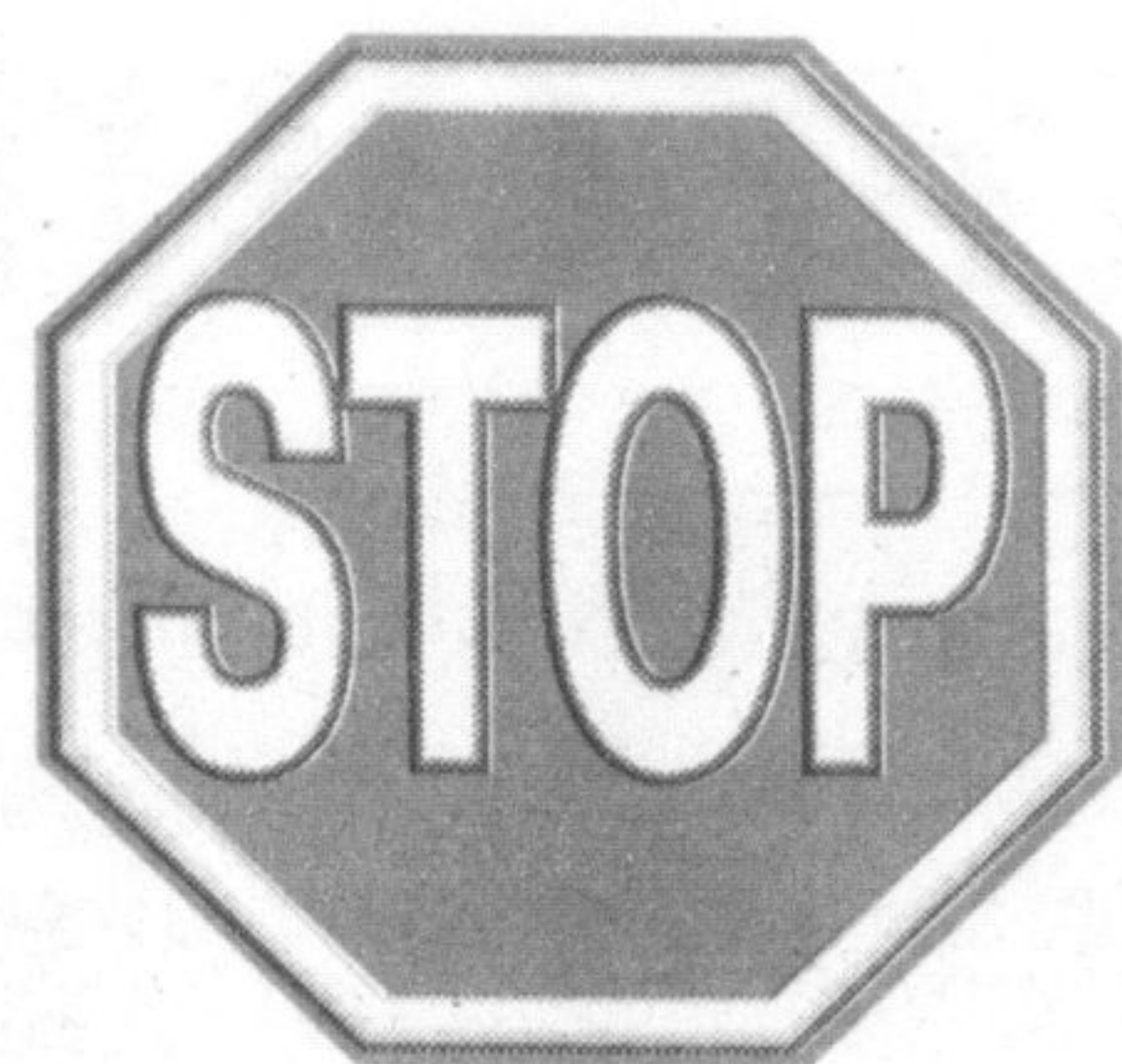
Emil Dimitrov's swimming expertise have been recognized at the national level with a nomination for the 3M Coaching Canada Awards.

The longtime instructor began coaching the Milton Marlins shortly after immigrating from Bulgaria. Over the past eight years, he's taken the local club from a predominantly community-based program to

a provincially-recognized team.

In 1998 and 2000, he was recognized by Swim Ontario for his achievements as age group Coach of the Year.

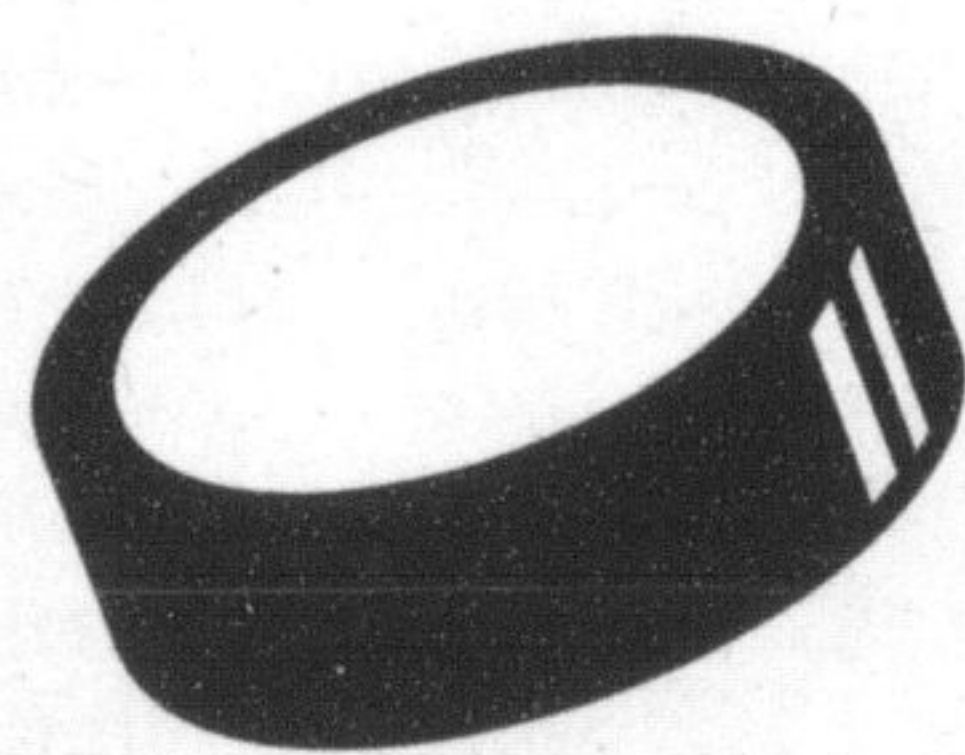
Dimitrov is one of 19 nominees in Ontario and among 97 in Canada this year. Four winners will be announced at an awards banquet in Mississauga October 20.



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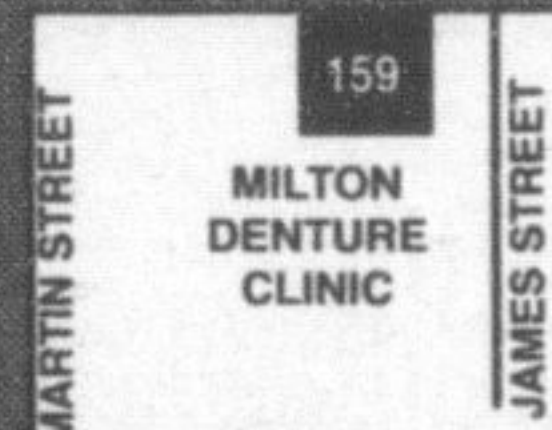


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓Milton racer back on track

Campbellville's Mark Marshall is now back in full force since missing two months of the motocross season with a broken arm. The 14-year-old racer recently competed at the cross-border Trans-Can championships in Walton, Ont. where he placed 12th in the 125cc junior division and 18th in the 250cc class. He qualified for the championships with strong showings in Barrie and Woodstock.

Milton Minor Baseball Association

NOTICE

We are accepting applications from anyone interested in coaching Rep Baseball for the 2002 season. Please note that if we don't have applications by September 8/01 there will be NO REP BASEBALL for the 2002 season. The reason for this is that time is needed to put together a team. It isn't fair to the coaches or players to be thrown together in the spring. Please take the time to consider helping in the upcoming year.

Please contact
Steve Wagemann 905-876-2640
or
Paul Perrott 905-876-1496

Bantam girls take second in playdowns

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Milton's bantam girls baseball team spent much of this past season just one spot down from the top of its league's pecking order.

Good or bad, that trend continued during the championship finals in Burlington August 22. Just a single win removed from shedding its runner-up status and stealing gold from elimination-facing Burlington, Milton coughed up leads in consecutive contests and was the last squad ousted from the double-knockout playdowns.

The back-to-back losses came exactly three weeks after the local bantams upstaged top-seated Burlington 11-8 in their final regular-season clash.

Both times, substandard defense kept the girls from securing the title. "They (Burlington) were just cooler in the field than we were," said manager Nick Wollaston.

The second defeat was especially heart-breaking for the eventual silver-medalists. Just one out away from ending the sixth inning still in front, the bantams blew a routine grounder which opened the door to a seven-run rally.

This proved to be the difference, as they were out-muscled 18-11.

Pitcher Ali Stoffels was in cruise control through the early stages of play before hurting herself on a third-inning slide into second base. From there — perhaps distracted by the pain — she was less than stellar, and not adequately supported in the field.

Rachelle Hannah and Haley MacDonald led with multi-hit performances in game two, which followed a closer but equally humbling loss for Milton.

Ahead until the midway mark of the contest, the bantams were hammered for seven runs in the fourth and disposed of 12-7. A couple of errors turned the tide in this one as well.

Katie Wollaston delivered rock-solid relief pitching and Justine Williams went 4-for-4 at the plate, but their efforts just couldn't overcome a lack of defensive prowess.

The abrupt ending to playoff action followed a three-win stretch for Milton. Two of those were high-scoring victories over North York.

Jan Wollaston's five-hit clinic and a solo homer by Laura Wellstead combined for a 15-9 comeback decision in game one while the return engagement — highlighted by Ashley Beehoo's effective mound work — ended 13-9 in the locals' favour.

These wins sandwiched a 12-1 merced triumph over Annette in which each and every player exploited a flawed defensive unit. Nicole Gooding stood out with three hits.

Milton's silver-medal playoff performance followed a second-place finish in the regular season, during which they posted a record of 13-4.

Please fax all of your
sports reports to
Steve LeBlanc any-
time at 878-4943.