



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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Anderson looking to keep up strong mental play at nationals

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

David Anderson is no stranger to bowling over the opposition - only now he's doing it solo.

The Milton Lawn Bowling Club member - who narrowly missed qualifying for the Commonwealth Games earlier this year - has been coming into his own as a singles competitor as of late, and recently advanced to next month's national championships in Winnipeg.

His Ontario title victory - the first in individual play - was punctuated with a 3-0 sweep in second-day playoff action in Agincourt. The championship-clinching win was forged in highly notable fashion, as Anderson battled back from two sizable deficits to knock off long-time fours partner and mentor Brian McCartney of Oshawa 21-17.

"We'd been pretty evenly matched when we had played before, but I'd beaten him the other two times so I knew I had a good chance," said the 38-year-old Miltonian, whose last trip to the pairs nationals in 1994 was marked with a silver medal.

Anderson's rally was sparked by a crucial three-point shot halfway through the match. He recalled, "I took out two of his bowls and that gave me a lot of confidence. I just went on adrenaline from that point on."

Semifinal play was even tighter, as the eventual champ mounted an early lead but then had to hang on to eclipse three-time provincial gold medalist Bill Cleddinning of Simcoe 21-19.

"He's got a habit of chipping away at you, and that's what he did. Fortunately, I held him off," said Anderson.

The Miltonian credits last month's provincial triumph with a stronger mental game, which he hopes will continue in Winnipeg August 18 to 25 - when he heads into play as one of the youngest competitors.

"Obviously I'm shooting for gold. That means an automatic berth onto the Canadian team, which is a big motivation."

A spot on the national team opens the door to international competition. Anderson is tentatively scheduled to be part of the Canadian team's trip to Hong Kong in November.

His last global competition - to the 2000 World Championships - was met with 10th-place finishes in both pairs and fours play.

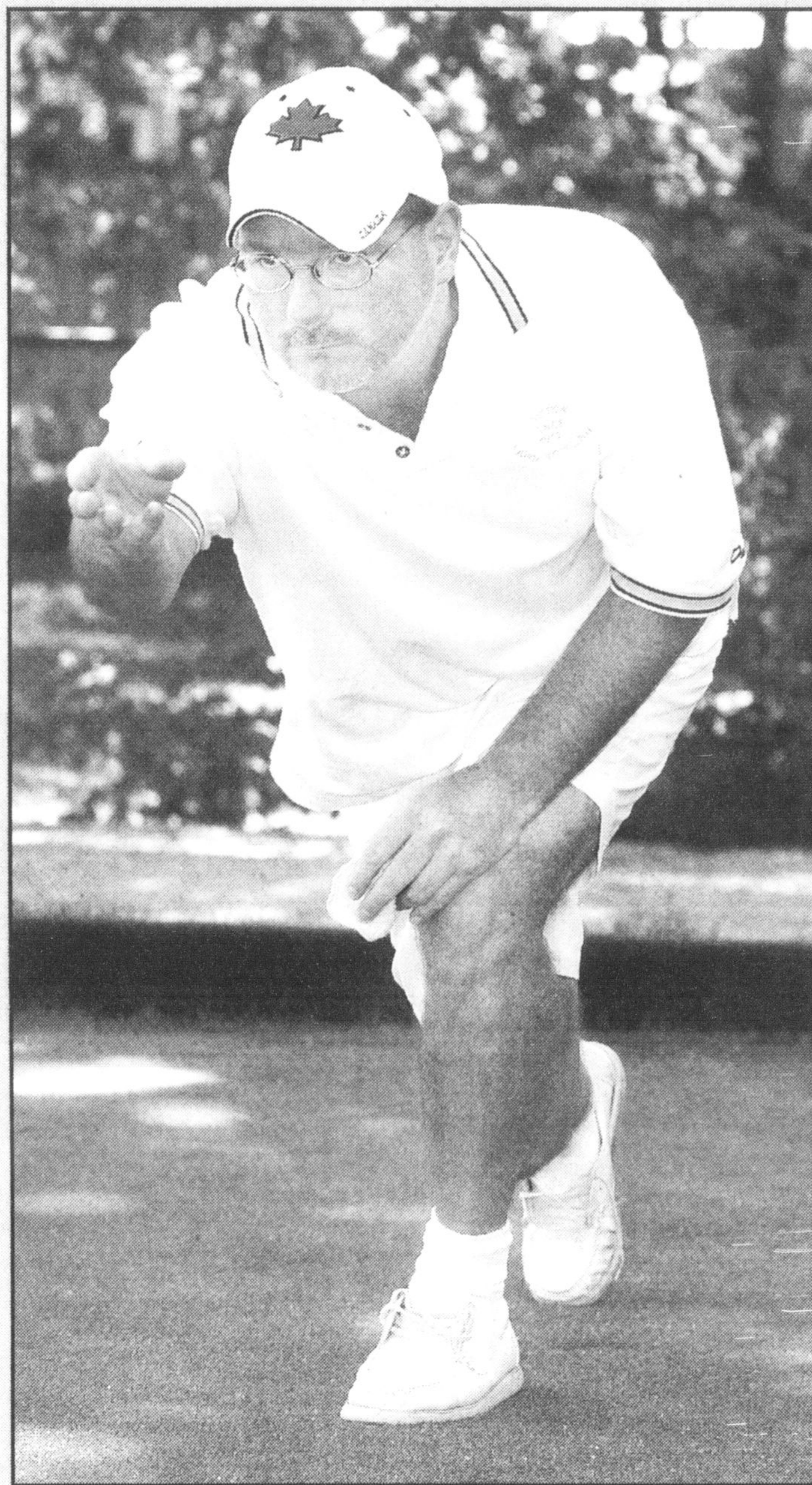


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

David Anderson has advanced to the lawn bowling national championships in Winnipeg next month.

Milton Magic good as gold

The Milton Magic Polybelting Under 10 soccer team are gold medal winners after winning a tournament in Aurora.

Their only loss in five close games against tough competition came in their opener, 1-0 to Brampton United.

After that there was no stopping them. They dominated Pickering for a 2-0 victory in their second game. Katie Kluge set up both goals, one by Eleanor Levman and the other by Stephanie Angot.

In their other qualifying game they tied Oakville 0-0.

That set up the semi-final match-up with Brampton. It looked bad for Milton until Alex Shroder scored with only a few minutes remaining in regulation time to tie it 1-1. Twenty minutes of overtime couldn't decide the game so they went to a shootout. Devan O'Connor and Lauren Kelly scored for Milton to put them into the finals.

The championship game was against the Oakville Diamondbacks and again neither team could score during regulation time. After no overtime goals were scored the shootout once again would decide matters. O'Connor and Kelly both connected again, along with Carly Fullerton.

Milton defenders Sarah Stockall, Sarah Bonin, Shroder, O'Connor and Fullerton did an outstanding job throughout the tournament, allowing just two regulation time goals in five games.

Junior Mystics win one, lose one

The Milton Mystics Junior fastball team was one for two this week in league play.

They were defeated 6-1 by Cayuga, which was a close game until the sixth inning when Cayuga put together five hits in a row and scored three runs. Leading the offense for the Mystics was Sarah Mooney with a single, double and RBI. Tara Elkie scored the lone run.

In Grimsby, Milton walked away with a 6-4 victory. Katie Mackrory went the distance in a strong pitching performance, striking out six and walking just one. Laura Ann Sheehan went 3-for-4 to lead the hitting, with two singles, a triple, and two runs scored. Sherylene Leslie had a double and two RBIs. Mackrory had two hits and scored a run.

The Mystics will host their annual tournament at Lions Park this weekend. The tourney's top two teams will play in the championship game Sunday at 4 p.m., and the third and fourth place finishers will vie for the consolation championship at the same time.

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