

Milton-area venues set to host pentathlon provincials

Ontario showcase runs July 12

Like a little variety in your sports? If so, Milton will be the place to be next Saturday, July 12 — when the Leisure Centre and Old Orchard Farm co-host the 2003 Ontario Modern Pentathlon Championships.

The five-event competition offers ample doses of both skill and speed.

The latter takes centre stage during timed swimming, horse riding and running, while participants' accuracy and co-ordination are put to the test in pistol shooting and fencing.

Milton Leisure Centre will host the first three events of the day-long competition, starting with indoor pistol shooting of paper targets at about 8 a.m. A 200-metre swim and fencing will get started at about 9:30 and 11 a.m. respectively.

From there, the festivities move over to Moffat's Old Orchard Farm (near Brookville), where pentathletes will finish up with a 10-jump horse ride and a 3-km run in the afternoon.

A collective points system will be used to determine winners in the youth, junior, senior and masters divisions.

This marks the first time in five years that Milton will host the pentathlon provincials, and the first time since a local fencing/pentathlon club was formed last fall.

"I think it's safe to say that we're going to have more local competitors this time around," said Miltonian Stephen Willson, who'll be among about three dozen participants next Saturday. "We're hoping to get a good turnout (of spectators) and offer a four-week beginners program that people can sign up for that day."

Among other Milton-area pentathletes looking to show strongly are promising teens Samantha Stubbins and Vadim Shelekhov —

both hopefuls for this year's Pan Am Games — as well as accomplished local instructor Jose Hernandez.

A native Mexican who's now coaching the upstart program, Hernandez heads into next weekend's event with a fair amount of momentum — having placed eighth at last month's national fencing championships in Kingston. His hopes for a medal in men's épée were finally dashed with a direct elimination loss to Montreal's Nicolas Bertrand, who went on to take silver.

Club-mates Willson and Dimitry Zaretsky took 43rd and 61st spot respectively, while Shelekhov placed 10th in junior épée (15 years and under) and 24th in cadet épée (18 years and under) the day before.

In team épée competition, Hernandez, Willson, Zaretsky and Shelekhov combined for a ninth-place performance — missing the top-eight by one measly hit.

Local Jr. A duo honoured

Milton Jr. A hockey graduates Rich Meloche and Vic Oreskovich both earned distinction late last month at the OHA's annual general meeting in London.

Meloche — who amassed 49 goals and 105 total points with the local juniors in his final year before heading off to Division 1's Bowling Green University — was named as a runner-up for the Provincial Jr. A League's Player of the Year award.

One of only five Milton players over the past decade to break the century points mark, Meloche was a playoff standout and was also named to the

2002-03 North/West All-Star Team.

Meanwhile, Oreskovich was the recipient of the B.J. Monro Memorial Trophy — presented annually to the top professional player.

Arguably Milton's most promising rookie in recent memory, 16-year-old Oreskovich amassed 75 points this past season.

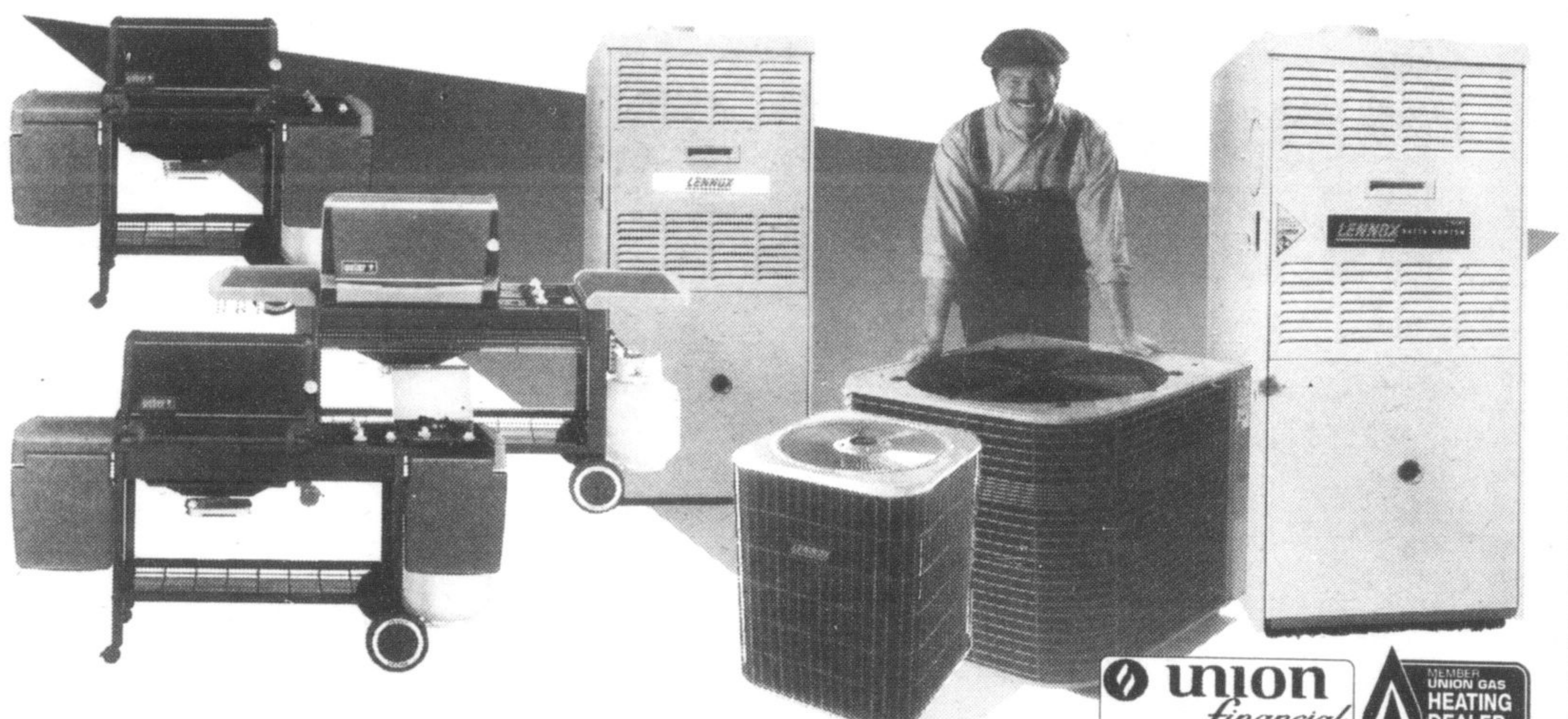
He also competed with Ontario's Under-17 team at this year's Canada Winter Games. The young forward is headed to USHL's Green Bay Gamblers this season before accepting a full scholarship with Notre Dame University in the fall of 2004.

MILTON INTERCHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

STANDING AS OF 30-JUNE-03

1	SOUTH SIDE '1'	8	8	0	0	16
2	NEW LIFE DEAF	8	7	1	0	14
3	MILTON BIBLE	8	7	1	0	14
4	ST. GEORGES	10	5	4	1	11
5	NEW LIFE "A"	10	5	4	1	11
6	SOUTH SIDE '2'	8	5	3	0	10
7	HOLY ROSARY	9	4	5	0	8
8	KNOX	8	3	5	0	6
9	NEW LIFE "B"	9	2	5	2	6
10	ST. PAULS	11	2	8	1	5
11	BOSTON	8	1	6	1	3
12	GRACE	9	1	8	0	2

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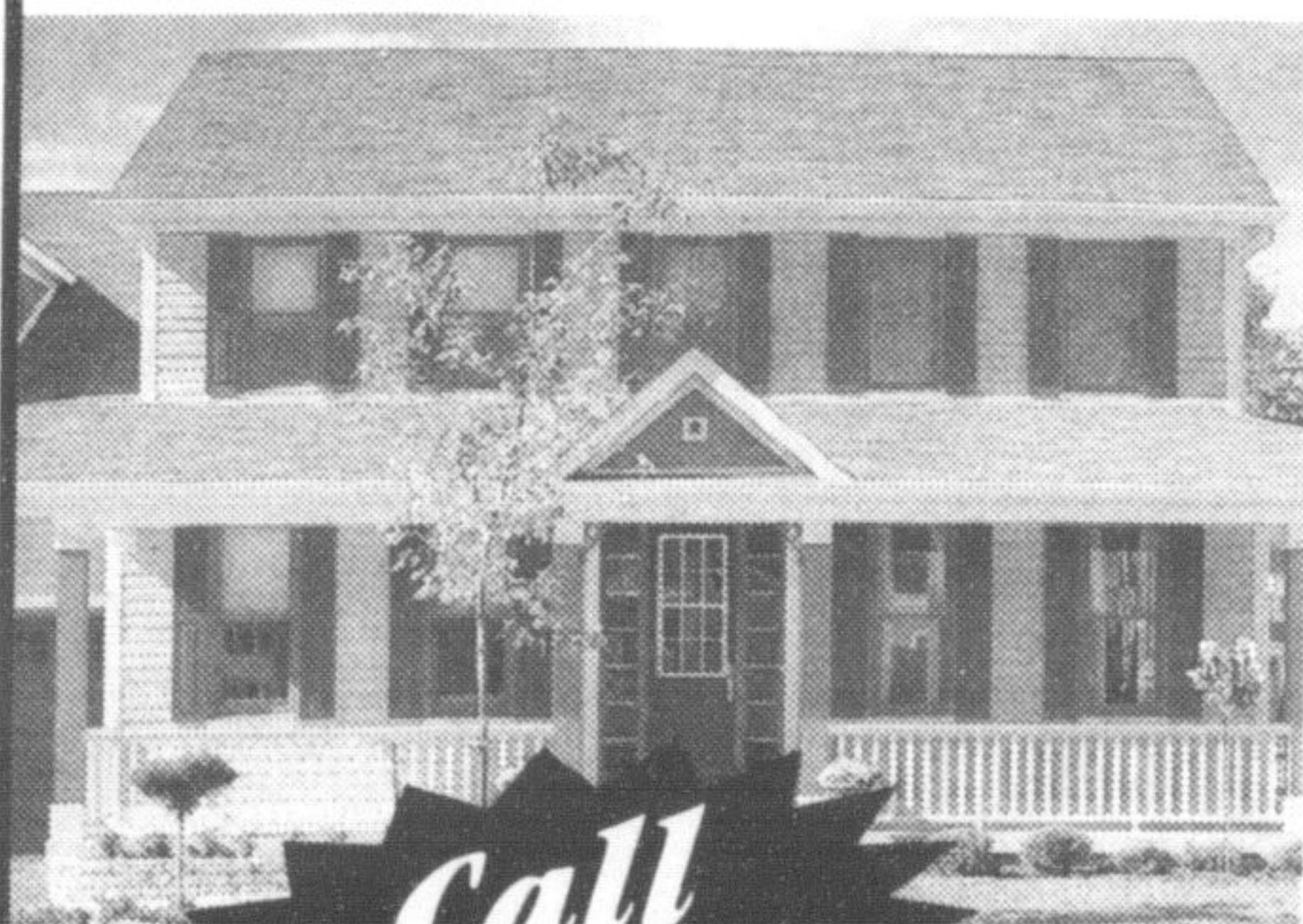
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