

Juveniles even with Windsor

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

The Milton juveniles' powerplay proved to be both a blessing and a curse last weekend in OMHA semifinal play against the AAA Windsor Spitfires.

In the best-of-five series opener at Milton Sports Centre Saturday afternoon, a first-period mauling of Kyle Burrell allowed teammate Julian Ricci to score with the man-advantage.

Sparked by the early lead, the Winterhawks would strike three more times and enjoy a flawless performance from Jon Sweetland en route to white-washing Windsor.

Milton's other marksmen were Barry Kosmalski, Matt Stockton and captain Rick Nadalin — who also picked up an assist. Scott McLaughlin helped set up the last two goals and was among the focal points of a particularly rough final frame.

The Winterhawks wouldn't escape the series opener completely unscathed, however, as their high penalty count earned head coach Jim Kosmalski a one-game suspension.

Whether or not that factored into things the following afternoon in Windsor, Milton's juveniles just didn't seem to be on the same page at crucial points of game two.

Individualistic play led to two shorthanded goals against and an eventual 3-1 defeat.

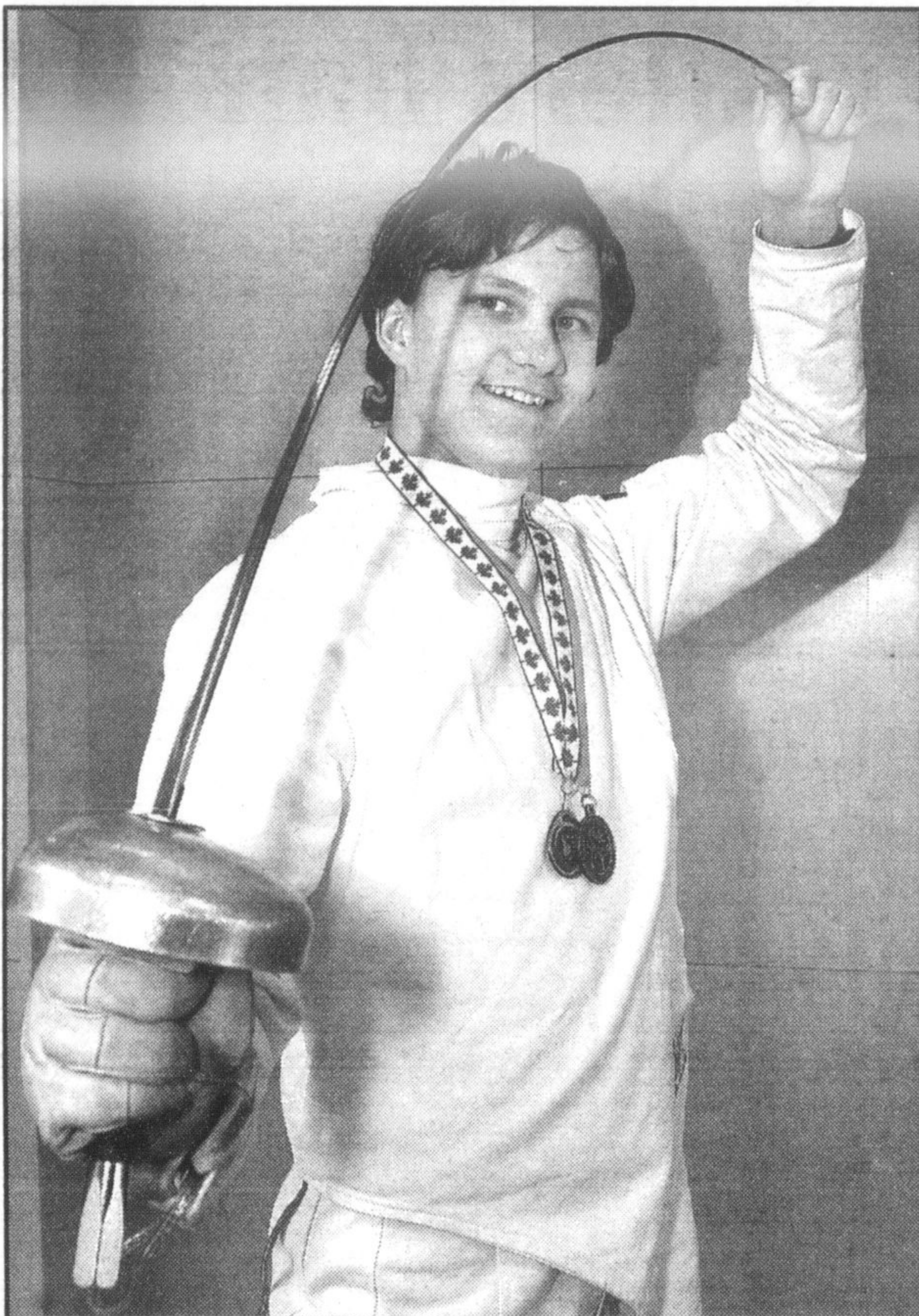
"We had our chances, but we got away from the game plan. When we do that, bad things happen," noted interim skipper Dave Burrell, whose juveniles represent Milton's last remaining hope for an OMHA championship this season. "But we'll bounce back."

The Winterhawks looked poised to put a stranglehold on the series when Jon Ram broke a scoreless stalemate in the second period Sunday. But a couple of disastrous giveaways on the powerplay spoiled a fairly gritty effort and some strong cage work by Mark Rosselle.

In what's quickly becoming a series trend, the Spitfires were assessed a rash of penalties Sunday, which cost their coach a one-game suspension of his own. That sentence will be served tomorrow afternoon, when the two teams continue the series at Milton Sports Centre. Game time is 3:30 p.m. The winner will have a chance to lock things up in Windsor Sunday afternoon. Game five, if necessary, will be played March 6 at Milton Sports Centre at 3:30 p.m.

If victorious, Milton will move on to play either Ajax or Richmond Hill in the OMHA finals.

• for more rep hockey results, see page 35



Skilled swordsman

Fifteen-year-old Vadim Chelekhov of the Milton Fencing Club proudly displays the two gold medals he's won in national pentathlon competition within the past year — the most recent coming late last month as a junior at the winter nationals at the University of Guelph. He won last summer's pentathlon nationals as a youth. Meanwhile, club-mate Zdenko Mikovsky struck gold at the winter nationals in the masters men's division, while capturing bronze in youth girls and senior men's competition respectively were Samantha Stubbins and Stephen Willson.

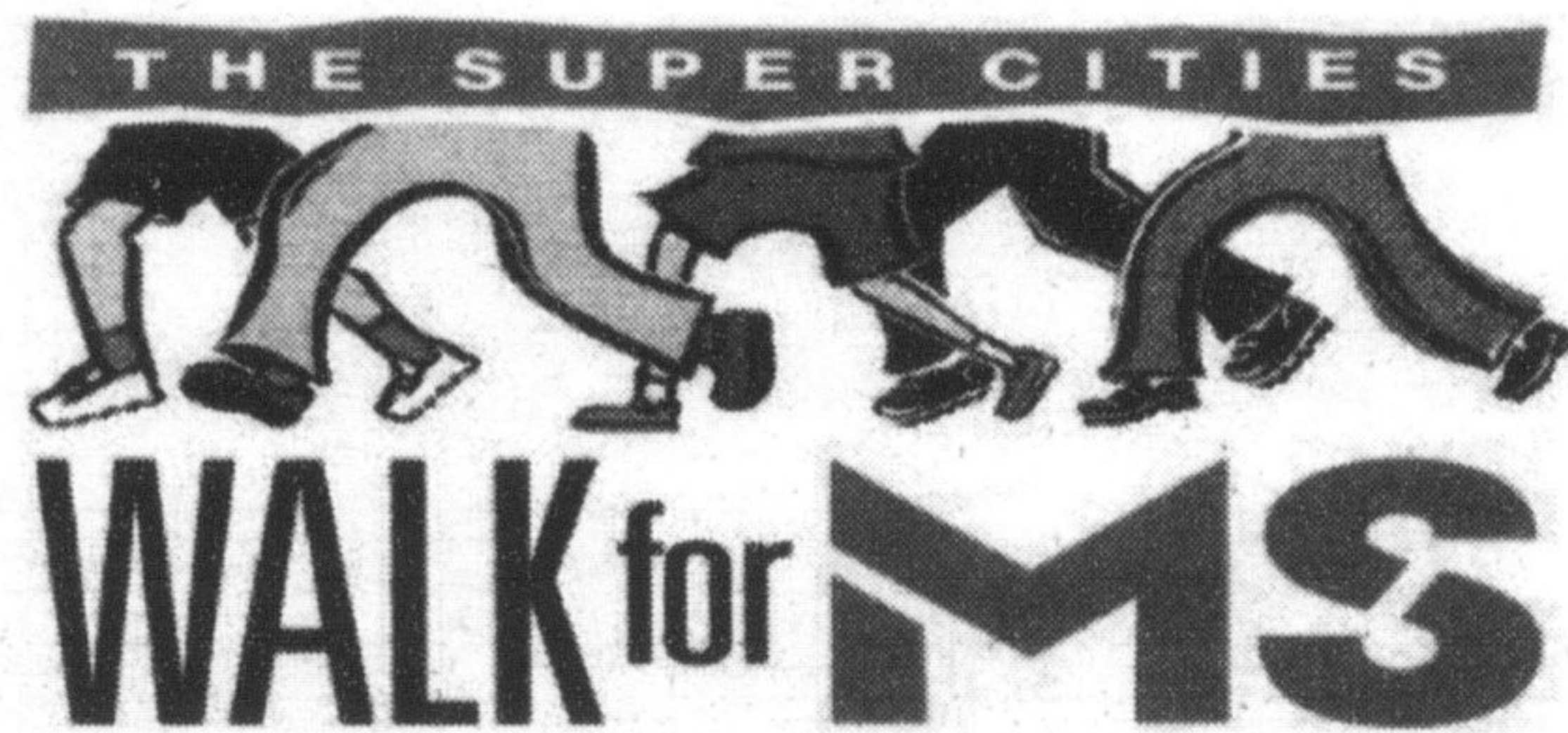
Photo by **GRAHAM PAINE**

✓ Correction due

A sports photo cutline in the February 13 Champion contained incorrect information.

The Milton Winterhawk goaltender in the picture was identified as Jason DaSilva, when in fact it was tandem partner John Schaap who was between the pipes for the AA novice team.

The Champion regrets this error.



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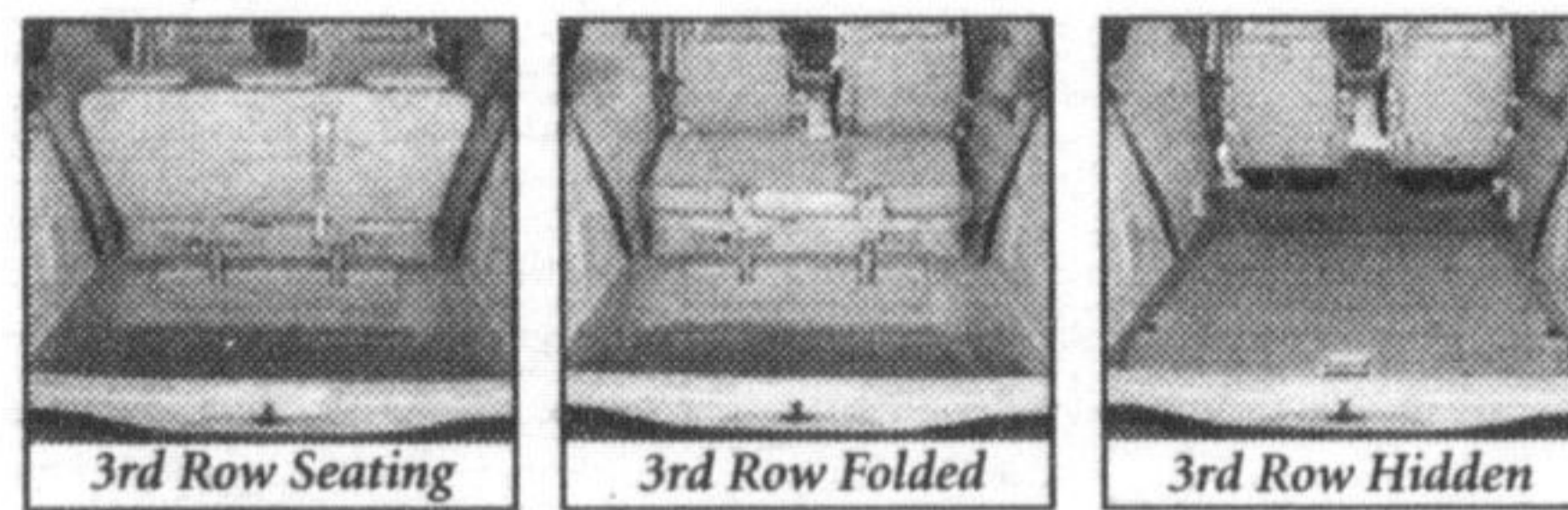


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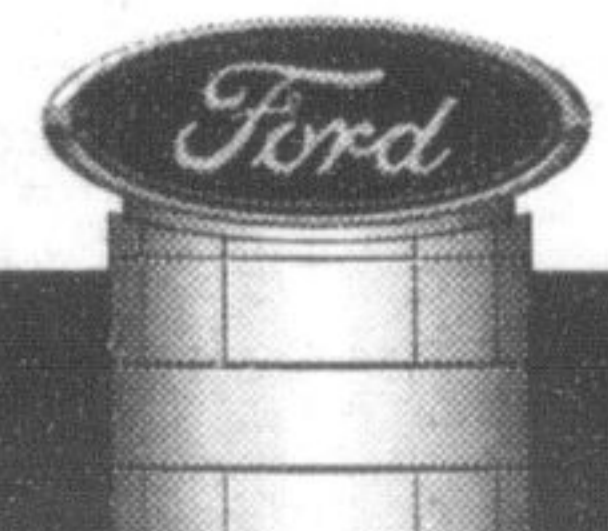
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