

There was both agony and ecstasy for local teams this past year. At left, Marauder Jeff Keane kneels in dejection following the winning touchdown in Milton's NFC title loss to Tri-City. Above, the Senior Red Sox show off the OBA 'B' championship trophy. Below, Jamie Pedra (left) and Marcas Gray celebrate a touchdown en route to Bishop Reding's Halton 1-AA title victory.



YEAR'S TOP SPORTS MOMENTS

It was another sensational year for athletes in Milton — one of the best sports towns in Ontario. Local teams and individuals shone throughout the region, province, country and even the world. Here are the top 20 sporting moments (in order that they occurred) from 2005 in Milton, with apologies to those who earned distinction but were not included.

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Local horsemen delivered a one-two punch at Standardbred Canada's O'Brien Awards banquet, as **Luc Ouellette** and **Joe Stutzman** walked away with national driver and trainer of the year honours.

...

Re-establishing herself in the pool after a somewhat sub-par stretch, University of Toronto's **Jennifer Porenta** earned a gold-medal sweep at the OUA championships. She highlighted her efforts with record-breaking swims in the 100 and 200m freestyle to book-end a six-win provincial campaign.

...

A rejuvenated **Gary Ferrier** became E.C. Drury's first two-time OFSAA wrestling champ, capping his gold-medal run with a win over previously unbeaten Kyle Bershantsky of Sarnia. His triumph led the Spartans to all-around silver — for a record-breaking eighth straight team medal at the provincial showcase.

...

Contributing both face-off and defensive prowess, **Nicole Gooding** helped the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks beat the seemingly unstoppable Alberta Pandas 4-1 — who'd won 110 consecutive games — for the CIS women's hockey title.

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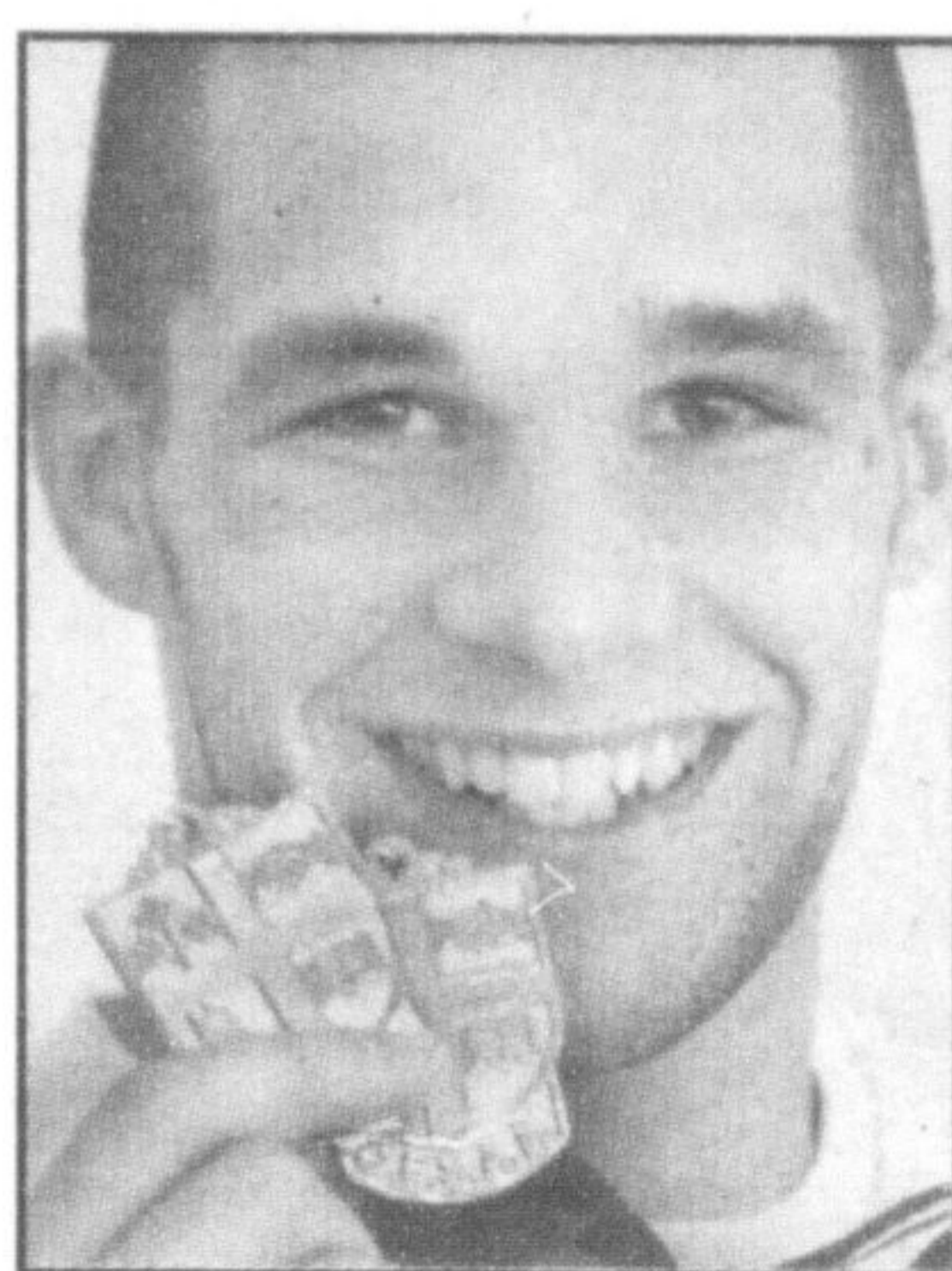
Seventy-four-year-old **Ed Whitlock** once again became the world's only septuagenarian (70 and up) to run a marathon in under three hours — doing so for the third in 2:58.40 during

a special challenge race against Dutchman Joop Ruter in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

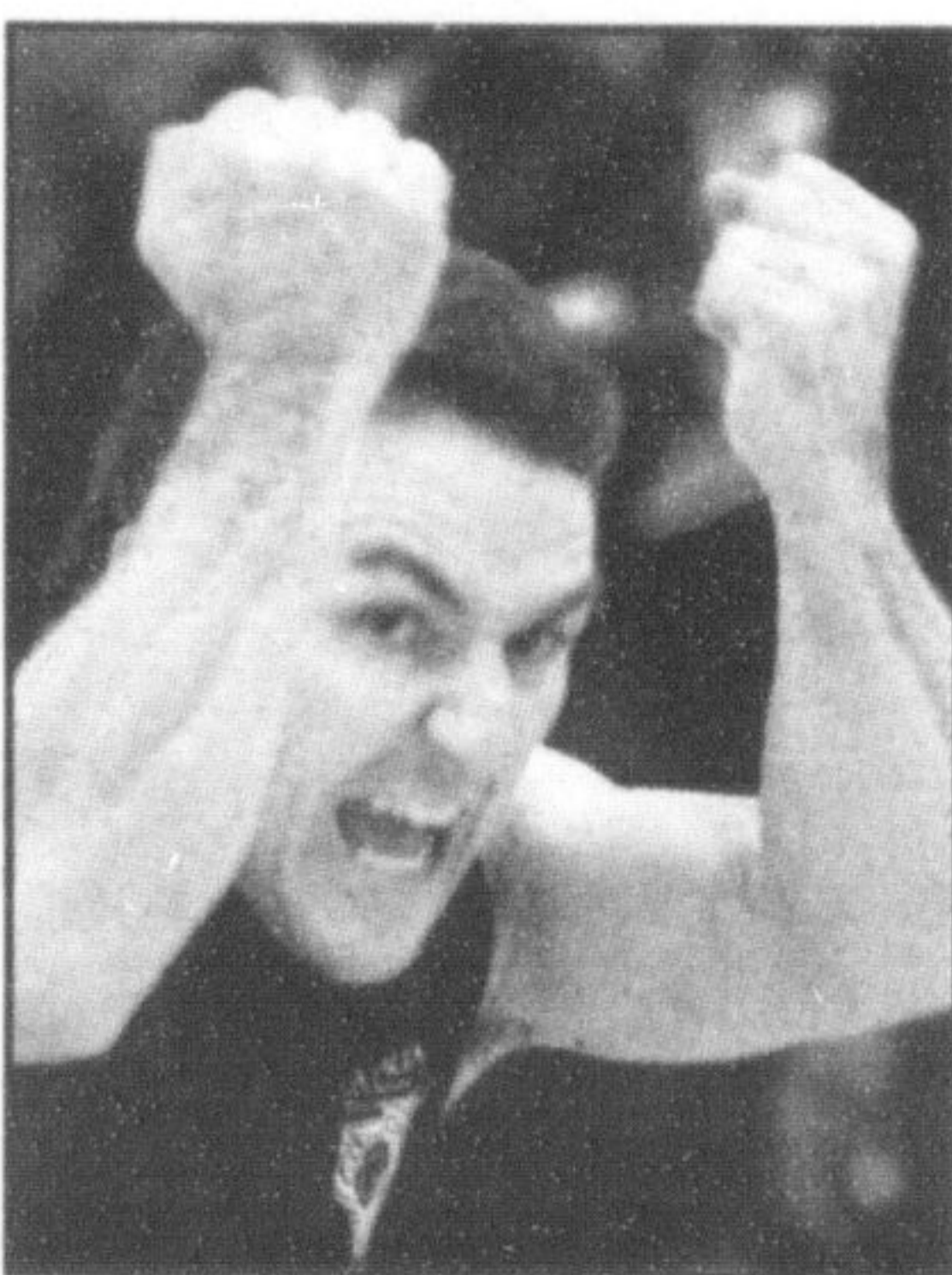
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Matt O'Meara was drafted third overall by the Saskatchewan Roughriders in the CFL Entry Draft. The selection followed an impressive university career for the big offensive lineman, who won three straight Yates Cups (provincial championships) with McMaster.

...



Gary Ferrier



Elvis Stojko

Dan Rogers and **Rob Sgarbossa** helped the Georgetown Raiders knock off St. Michaels 3-1 in the All-Ontario Dudley Hewitt Cup finals and book passage to the national Royal Bank Cup in Weyburn, Saskatchewan.

...

Led by a six-goal, 18-assist playoff campaign by **Scott Bertoli**, the ECHL Trenton Titans won their first Kelly Cup — punctuating their title run with a six-game decision over the Florida Everblades, who are co-owned and managed by native Miltonian Craig Brush.

...

Longtime softballer **Neil Teague** belted his way onto the Canadian all-star team at the prestigious Yvon 'Pif' Depatie Invitational — the largest softball tournament in North America — in Fleurimont, Quebec. He earned the selection with a 7-for-9 plate performance through the first three games of the international showcase.

...

Harry Barnes added to his seemingly endless championship collection with first-place honours in his age group at the World Masters Triathlon Championships in Edmonton. He topped the 55-59 year-old men's division by

nearly five minutes.

...

Soccer twins **Erick and Eros Olazabal** helped Team Ontario's Under-14 squad capture national gold in Trois Rivieres, Quebec — with Eros notching the game-winning goal in a 2-0 championship shutout and Erick keeping British Columbia strikers at bay.

...

Giving new meaning to the term 'taking it to the limit', **Mark Burger** and Georgetown partner Marcus Dagenais tamed the seven-day, 610-km TransRockies Challenge — considered the planet's ultimate mountain biking endeavour. Not only did the first-timers complete a race with a fairly low success rate among rookies, but they nearly cracked the top half in the elite category.

...

The **Milton Marauders'** hopes for an NFC champion repeat and return trip to the nationals were nixed when they lost a 13-9 decision to the upstart Tri-City Outlaws in the league finals. The heartbreaking loss spoiled a perfect season for the local gridiron warriors.

...

With all elements of their game gelling, the **Senior Red Sox** staved off elimination five straight times to capture the OBA 'B' championship. Surprisingly enough, their title-clinching win was the most decisive of the weekend — with an 8-1 rout of the London Lakeside Lizards cementing top honours for Milton.

...

Up-and-coming teen golfer **Ryan Corbin** fin-

ished an impressive sixth out of 84 top young competitors during international play in Kyoto, Japan. He shot rounds of 74, 74 and 76 to place top-10 among the cream of the crop from China, Japan, Korea and Thailand.

...

Locally-trained **Elvis Stojko** led a Céad Bua Fighting Arts Centre trio with silver in traditional kung fu soft style forms at the World Kickboxing and Karate Association championships in Niagara Falls. Teammates Richard de Borja and Mike Morris placed third and fifth respectively.

...

Fueled by a three-touchdown performance by Marcas Gray, **Bishop Reding's senior football team** upstaged T.A. Blakelock 25-7 for the Halton 1-AA title at Ivor Wynne Stadium.

...

Realizing his dream of qualifying for the pro tour, **Danny King** delivered a razor-thin one-stroke victory at Titleist and FootJoy Canadian PGA Club Professional Championship in Florida — netting \$14,000 and an automatic berth to next summer's Bell Canadian Open at Hamilton Golf and Country Club.

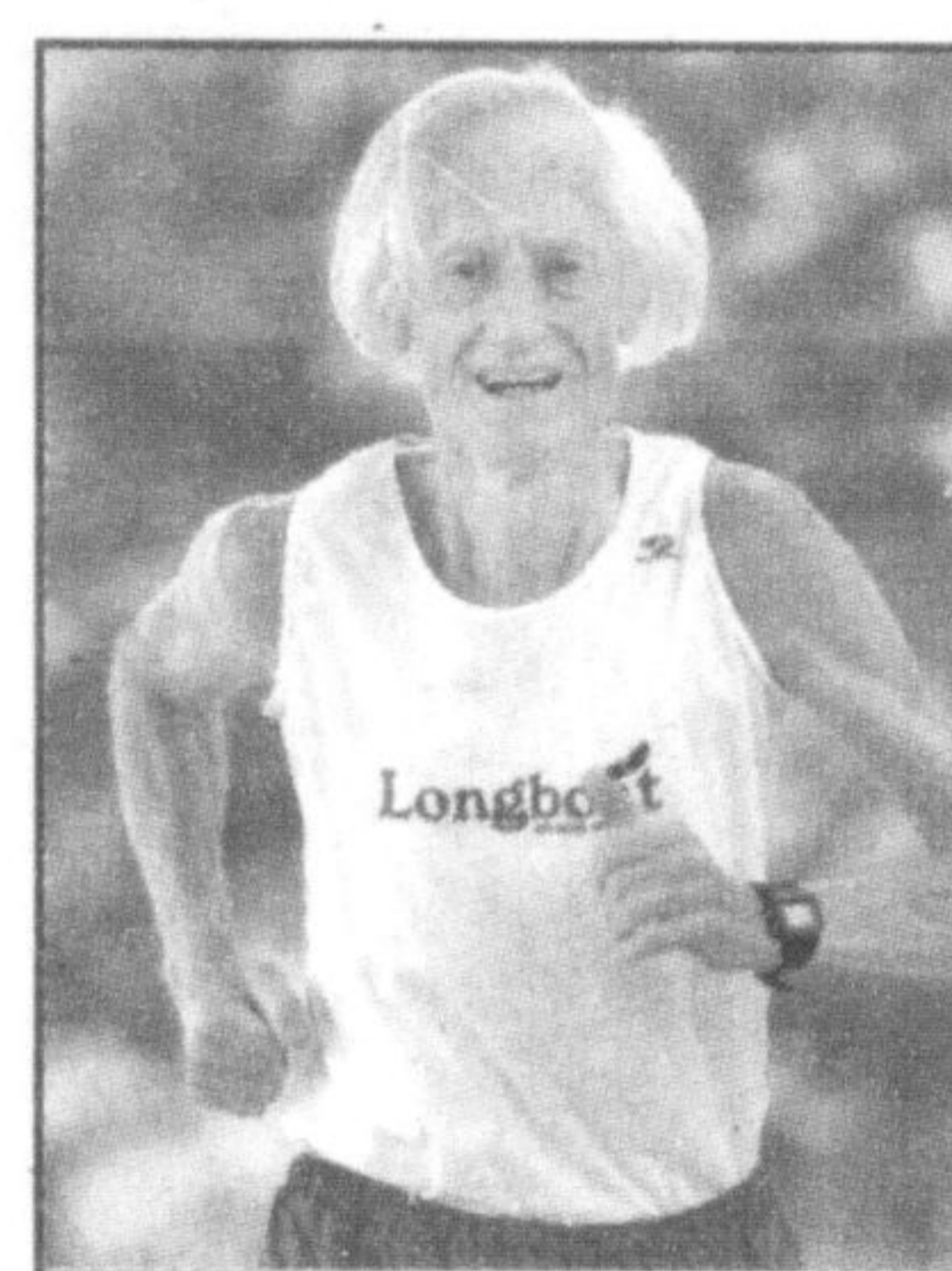
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Leigh Armstrong, playing lead, helped John Epping's Ontario rink claim gold at the Canadian Mixed Curling Championship in Whitehorse, Yukon. The team lost its first three matches but won the next 10 to reign supreme.

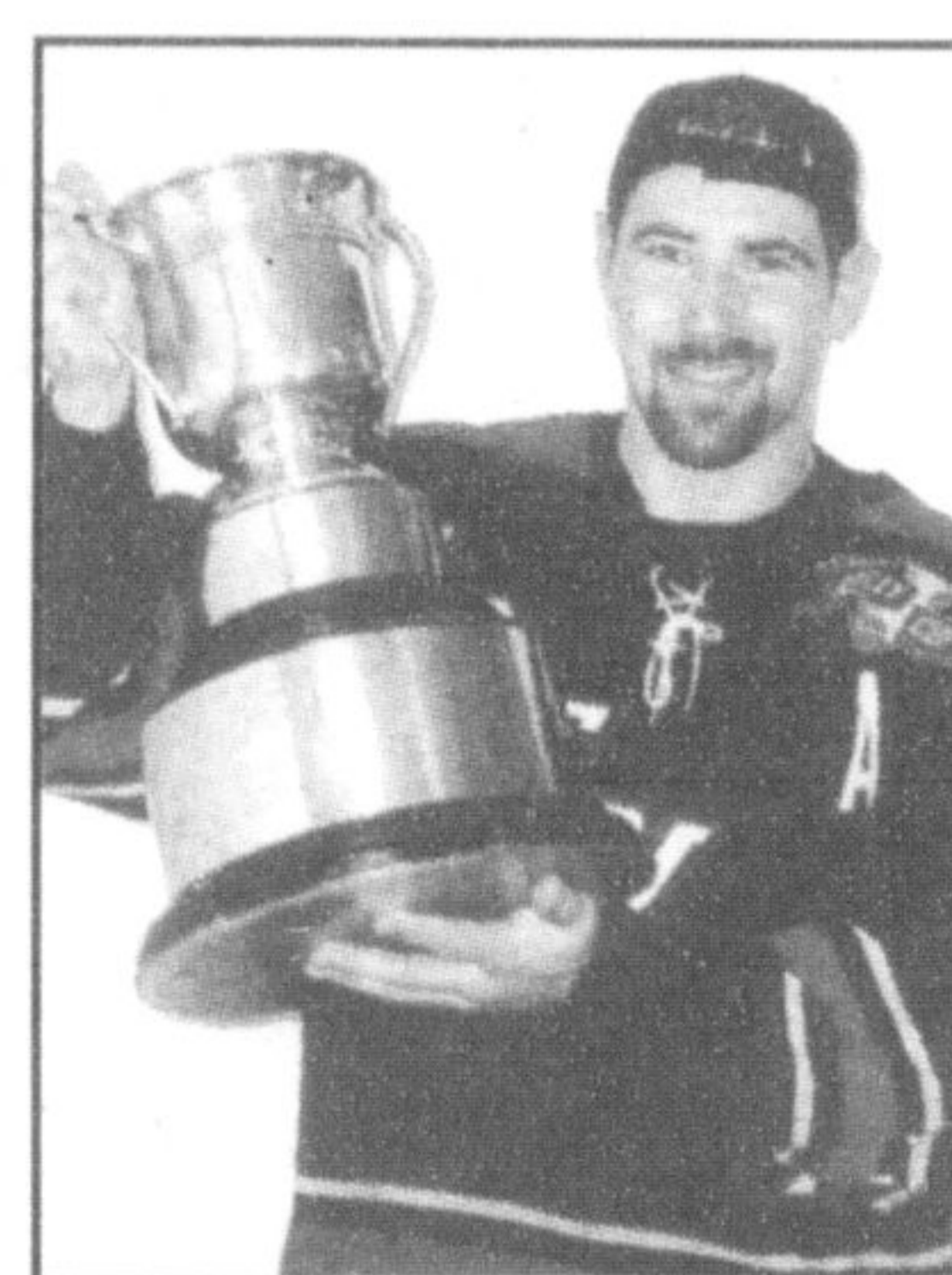
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Right in the middle of the team's best season in recent years, IceHawks head coach/general manager **George Dupont** was suspended for the season (including the playoffs) for what the OHA ruled as the paying of two players in contravention to their status as amateurs. A \$12,000 fine against Milton accompanied the suspension, which is under appeal.

20 05 IN REVIEW



Ed Whitlock



Scott Bertoli