

Business Person of Year nominees more than entrepreneurs

By Stephanie Thiessen
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

It starts with a dream, a passion or sometimes just a way to make ends meet. Every entrepreneur has a story to tell about how they got where they are.

But what sets some businesspeople apart from the rest of the pack? The Milton Chamber of Commerce explored just that in selecting its nominees for Business Person of the Year.

Finally, it narrowed its list down to three deserving nominees: Carolyn Anstey of Main St. Yarns, Troy Newton of Troy's Diner and Melissa Janjevich of McCuaig Insurance Ltd.

The award is part of the chamber's 2005 Community Awards, and the winner in this category and several others will be announced at a gala April 8 at Granite Ridge Golf Club, 9503 Dublin Line. Tickets cost \$75.

Carolyn Anstey

For Anstey, the switch from shopper at a wool store to proprietor of a wool store happened surprisingly fast. It was a day in May 2004 when she showed up at Nantyglo Wool Shop, only to find it had closed.

"Where are all the knitters going to go?" she wondered.

It wasn't long before the wheels were set in motion. Anstey decided to open her own shop at the Carriage Square location, and just three months later, Main St. Yarns welcomed its first customers.

"One minute I didn't know what I was doing, the next I was getting ready to open a business," Anstey said.

The avid knitter said she was honoured by the nomination because it means people see her as a businesswoman.

"A lot of people look at this type of business as a hobby — but it's a business just like any other," she said.

Troy Newton

For Newton, the past seven months since opening Troy's Diner on Main Street have gone by in a whirlwind. Each Saturday and Sunday morning — as well as at various other times during the week — people line up for his famous all-day breakfasts. In fact, he seldom has a spare moment over the weekend.

"It's a great problem to have," Newton said.

Having regular customers when the diner's been open for such a short time is great, he said, and almost every day he's given new Coke paraphernalia to add to the restaurant's collection.

"The people here are fantastic," he said. "Milton's been really good to me."

Being nominated for Business Person of the Year is an honour, he said, and a surprise. He said he couldn't believe it when he got the call.

"I couldn't ask for more, that's for sure."

Melissa Janjevich

Janjevich followed in her father's footsteps when she became an insurance broker and joined Main Street's McCuaig Insurance, which her grandfather took over in 1957.

She's also following in his footsteps by way of this nomination. Peter McCuaig received the award for Business Person of the Year in 1991.

Janjevich said she enjoys helping people understand their insurance options.

"I like being the nice person at the other end of the line," she said.

Community involvement is something that's important to Janjevich. In 2004 and 2005, she co-headed the Terry Fox Run in Milton, putting countless hours into the task.

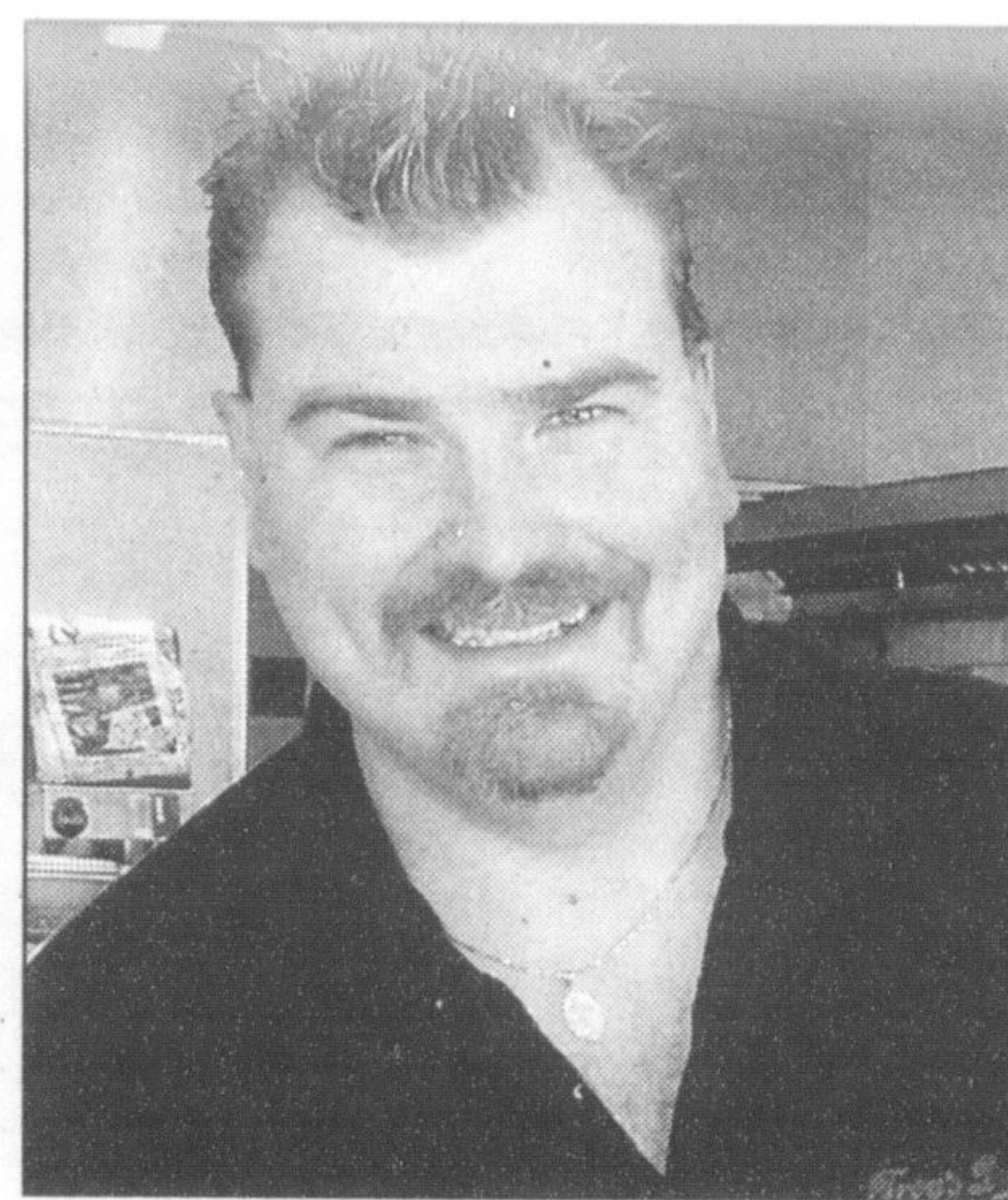
"I'm very humbled," Janjevich said of her nomination.

Gala tickets are available by calling the chamber at (905) 878-0581.

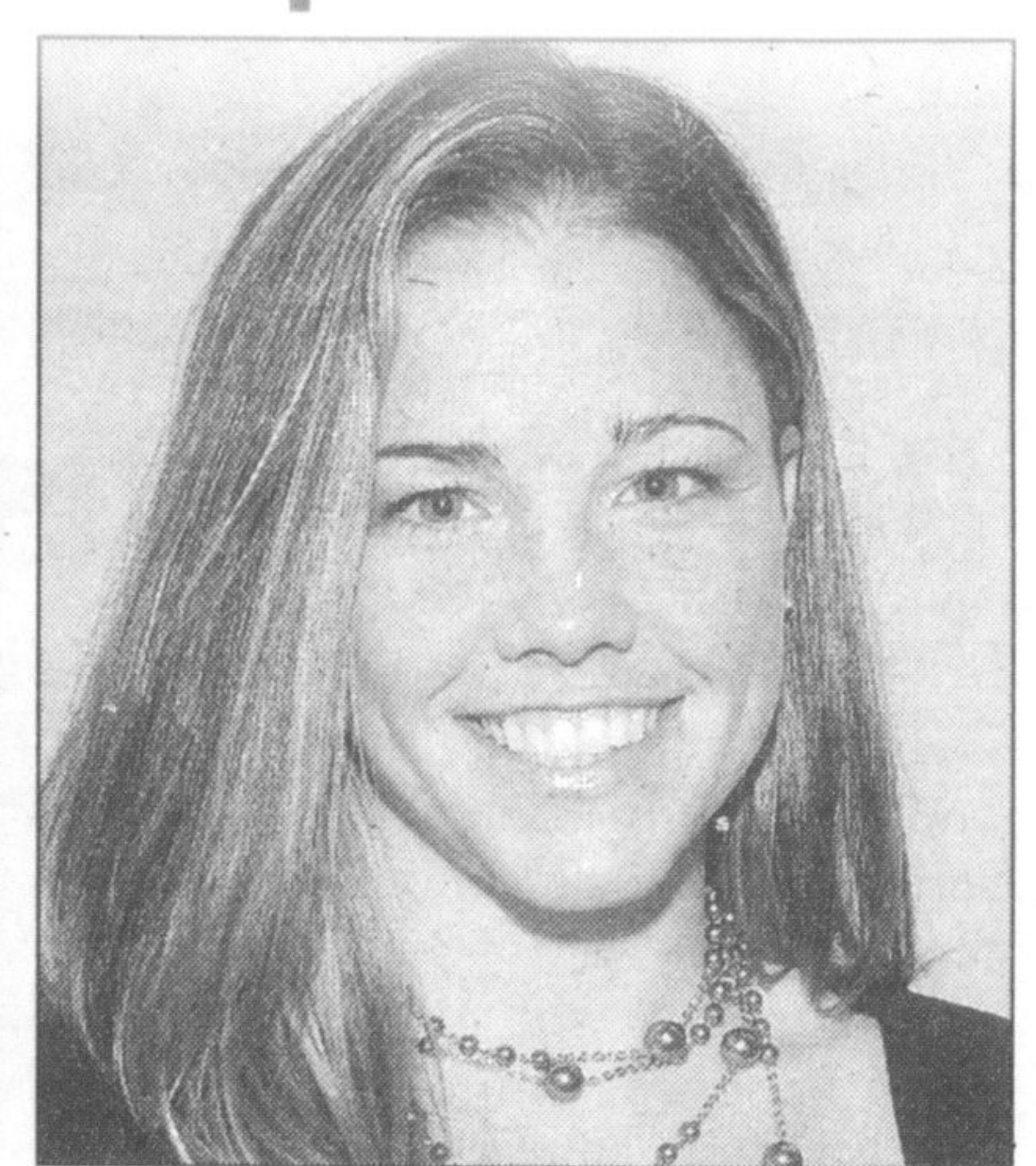
Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.



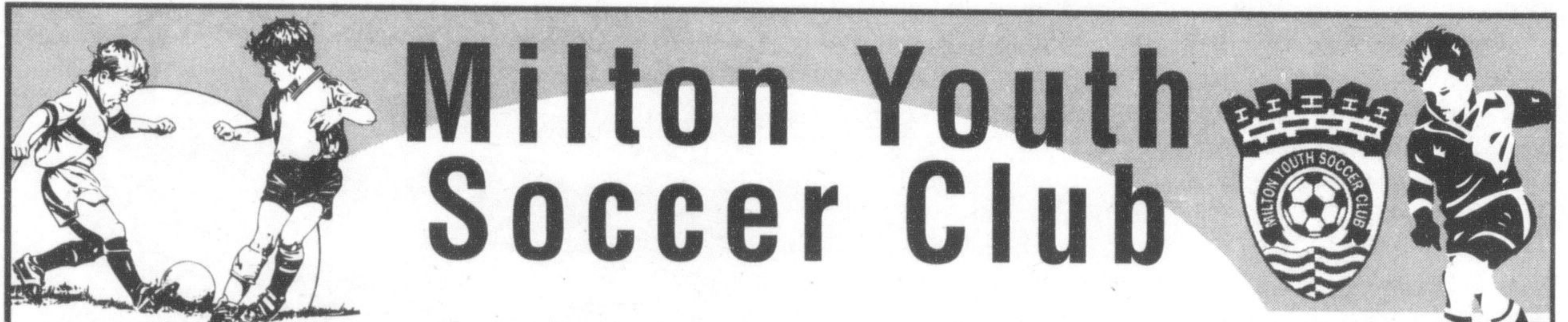
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Troy Newton



Melissa Janjevich



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(Last chance to register without late fees)
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Milton Youth Soccer Club office
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If interested please contact Head Coaching Convener,
Martin Warner, at: headcoach@miltonmagic.com
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Girls Under 14 (born in 1992 or later)
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Get ready for a blast Friday

A new company in town will start its business with a bang Friday.

Greiner-Pacaud Management plans to detonate three 120-foot-tall silos on its Chisholm Drive property — the former Consumers Glass site — to make way for a 35-acre business park.

Explotech, specialists in the blast control industry from Ottawa, and crews from Dykon Blasting Corp. in Oklahoma have designed a strategic detonation to cause the silos that contain 12,000 tons of concrete to buckle over and topple like trees.

The blast will take place at 9 a.m.