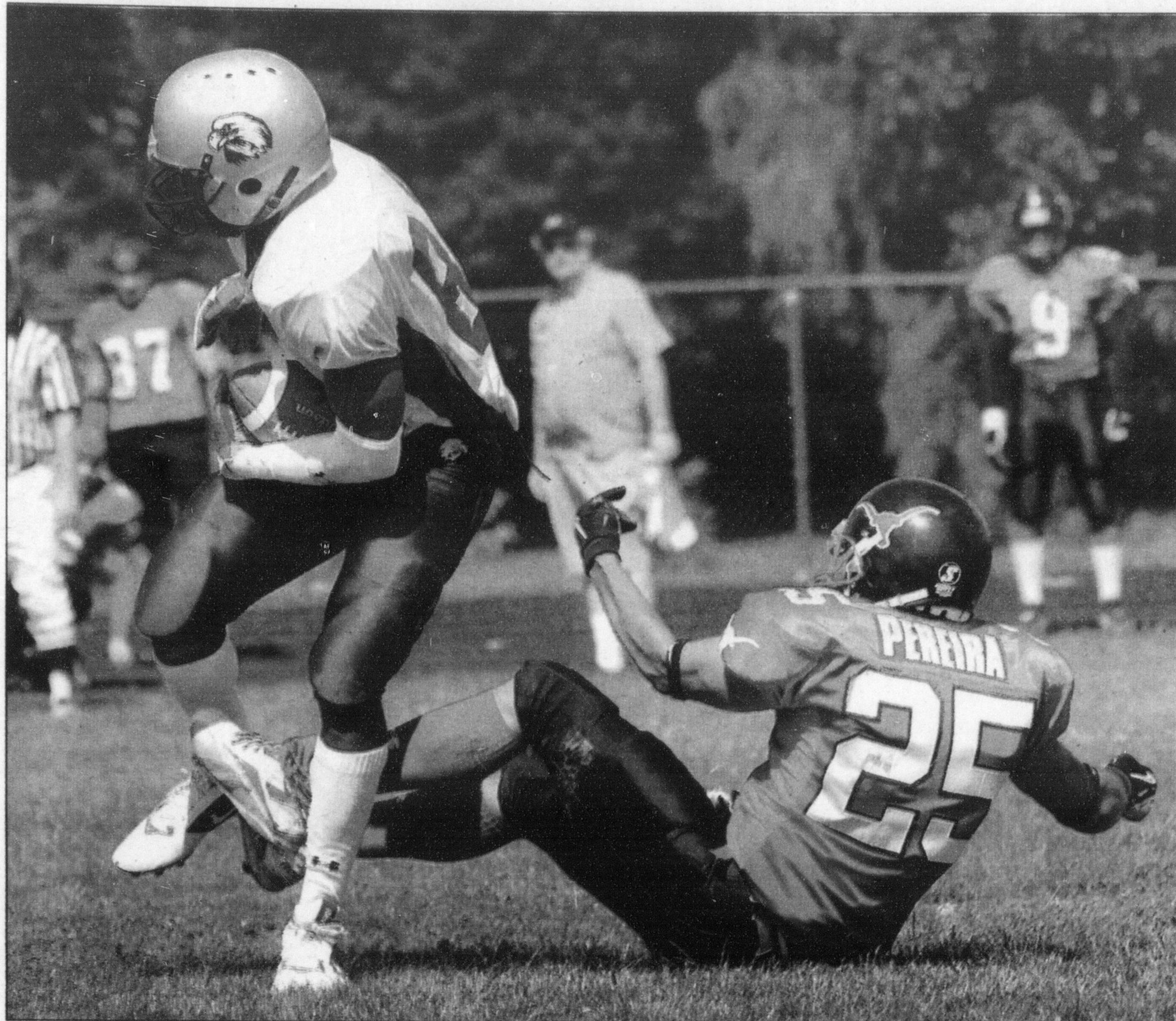


SPORTS

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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

NARROW ESCAPE: Marauder Jamie Radway escapes the clutches of Oakville Longhorns Marco Pereira to gain a few more yards Saturday at Milton District High School. Milton won the controversial encounter 14-5. For full results, see page A17.

Sr. Sox deliver sweep against Dundas

The Senior Red Sox capped Saturday's doubleheader sweep at Brian Best Park in dramatic fashion — nipping the Dundas Chiefs 2-1 in their last at-bat.

Continuing a breakthrough year at the plate, second baseman Kurt Mitchell highlighted a five-hit afternoon with a bases-loaded single that cashed in pinch runner Adam Ahearn for the winning run.

This came just moments after the

visitors evened things up, with their first hit of the game plus two walks and an error.

Pat Mastrogiacomo had a pair of hits and scored the first Red Sox run on the second RBI sacrifice fly of the day by Marc Sgrignoli.

Starter Adam Finkbeiner was hitless through four innings, while Steve Spiers, Adam Boyle and eventual winner Nate Tami shared the relief work.

Going the distance on the hill in

game one, Ahearn scattered four hits and two walks over the seven innings and didn't allow any Chiefs past first base.

He got flawless defence from his teammates and a 3-for-3 clinic from Mitchell. Taylor Lawton scored both runs, on a bases-loaded walk to Jeff MacLeod and insurance sac fly by Sgrignoli.

The Red Sox are now 16-6 in league play and 24-7 over this season.

A memorable day for Ionadi

Celebrates birth of daughter and Italy's World Cup victory

By Herb Garbutt
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

As Milton's Phil Ionadi was making last-minute preparations for a World Cup party, friend Peter Koutoulas turned to him and said, "Wouldn't it be cruel if Shannon (Ionadi's wife) went into labour during the final."

"Don't jinx me like that," Ionadi shot back.

"And what if it went to penalty kicks and you couldn't watch," Koutoulas suggested, as he continued to needle his fellow soccer enthusiast.

"You're terrible. Why would you say something like that?" replied Ionadi.

Less than 24 hours later, that scenario played itself out exactly as it had been jokingly described, when Shannon delivered Michela Rose — the couple's first child — at 4:35 p.m. — less than a minute before Fabio Grosso delivered the goal that clinched the World Cup for Italy.

"It's a day I'll never forget," said Ionadi, coach of the neighbouring Oakville Blue Devils of the Canadian Professional Soccer League. "It wasn't even 30 seconds after the baby was born that the nurse came in and said, 'Italy won the World Cup'."

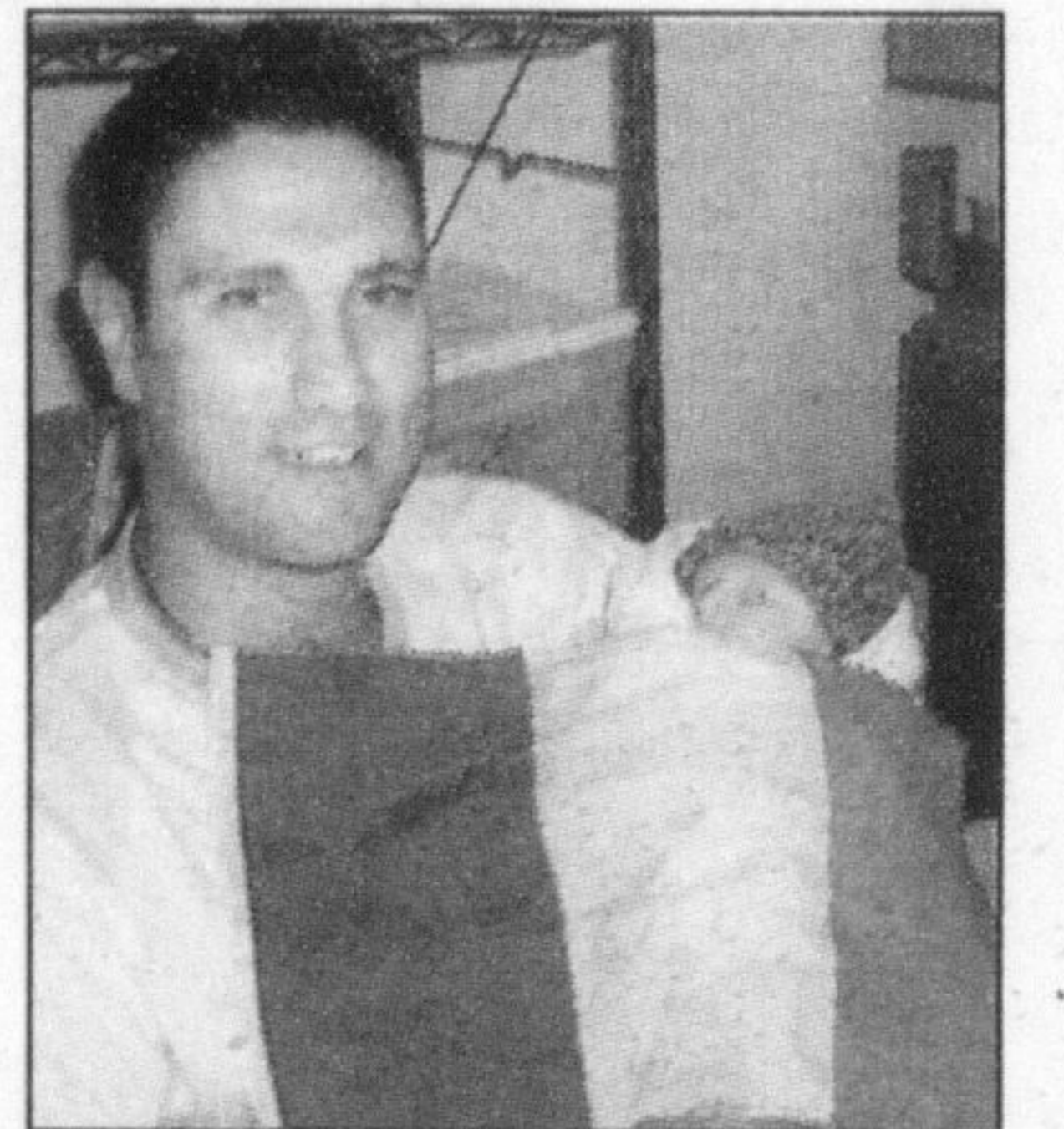
And the Azzurri fan base quickly grew by one, as a tiny Italian jersey was slipped on to Michela. Although at the beginning of the day, dreams of an Italian victory were at the top of Ionadi's mind, the big game quickly became secondary.

"Life changes very quickly," he said.

Shannon went into labour that morning. So as the World Cup final kicked off, the Ionadis were at Milton District Hospital anxiously awaiting their new arrival.

Although at one point Shannon gave her husband permission to check the television down the hall, there was no decision to be made as to where he'd be for the delivery.

"It's your first child. It's once in a lifetime," Ionadi said. "Hopefully Italy will be back in the final for the next World Cup. They'll have to win one for me. They owe me one."



Phil Ionadi and new baby girl Michela Rose



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