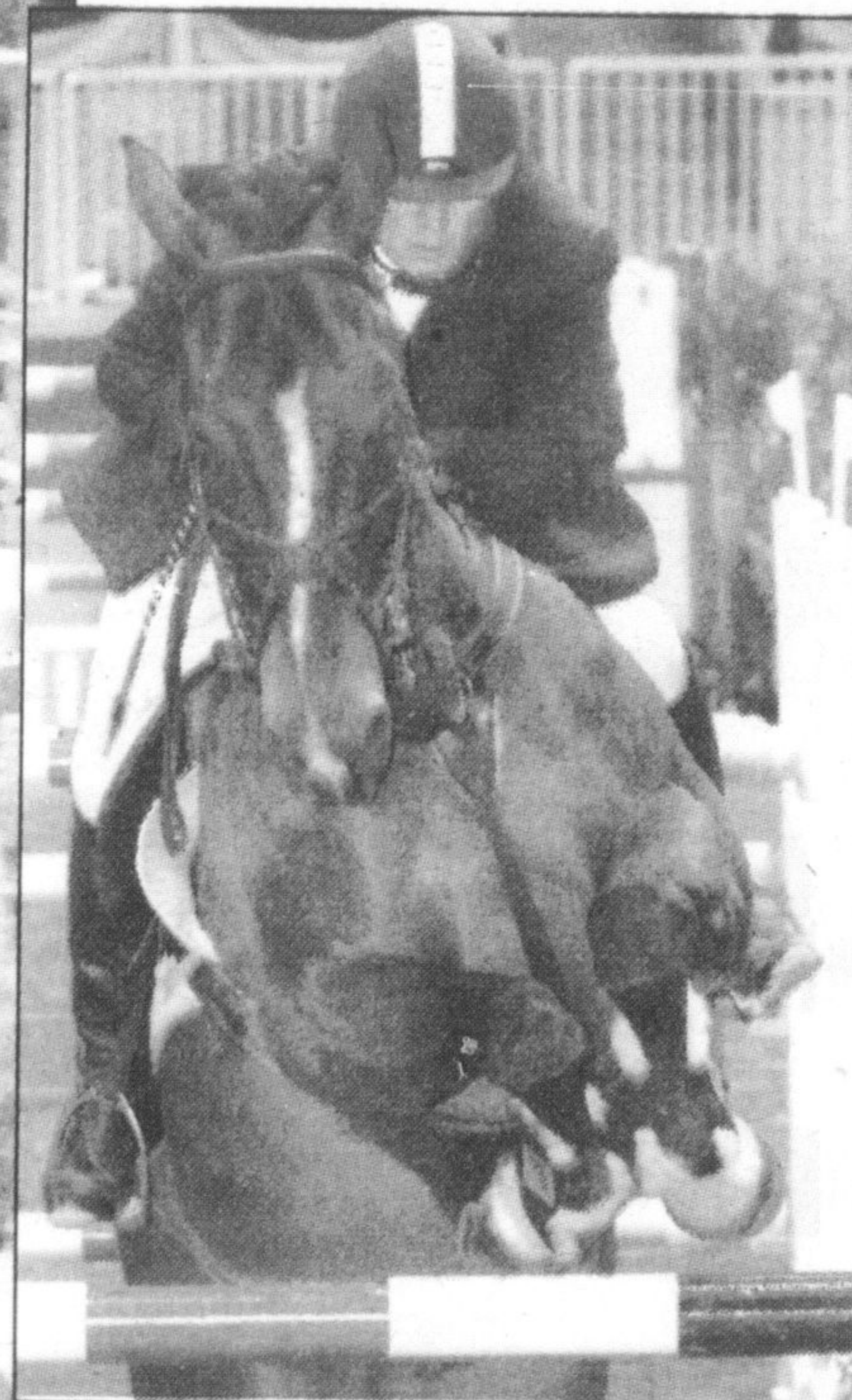


SPORTS

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EASY RIDERS: At left, Milton's Ainsley Vince and Catch 22 compete in the first round of the Canadian Show Jumping Championships this past weekend at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair at Toronto's Ricoh Coliseum. Above, Mike Grinyer of Campbellville guides Alcatraz over a jump in first-round competition. Grinyer and Vince finished ninth and 10th respectively, while Grinyer and Alcatraz also took third-place honours in the Kubuto Cup Finals Saturday.

GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

O'Shea and Argonauts advance to East final

Next stop, Montreal.

Rallying from a 10-point deficit with nine minutes remaining, Milton linebacker Mike O'Shea and his Argonauts punched their ticket to the East championship Sunday afternoon — delivering a 31-27 semifinal decision over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Toronto's late surge punctuated a thoroughly entertaining showdown in which the momentum shifted several times and pivotal plays were in ample supply.

"Looking back it was a great game for the fans, especially the second half," said O'Shea. "The offence and special teams certainly guided us to the victory today. As a defence, we will have to — and are capable of — putting in a better game to support the other two phases."

While not exactly at peak efficiency Sunday, O'Shea's defence came up with two crucial turnovers at



Mike O'Shea

crunch time. The first of these — a Jordan Younger fumble recovery made possible by a huge Chuck Winters strip — set the stage for the go-ahead touchdown pass by late replacement quarterback Michael Bishop.

Becoming just the third player in league history — and first-ever Canadian — to reach the 1,000

one of his trademark leg tackles to prevent a second-quarter first down and essentially help turn a possible Blue Bombers touchdown into a field goal.

With the win, the 14-year CFLer and his Argos will move on to face the Alouettes for the fifth straight time in the East final this Sunday.

The winner heads to Winnipeg to face either B.C. or Saskatchewan November 19 in the 94th annual Grey Cup.

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