

# SPORTS

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ASHLEY CAMARA / SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

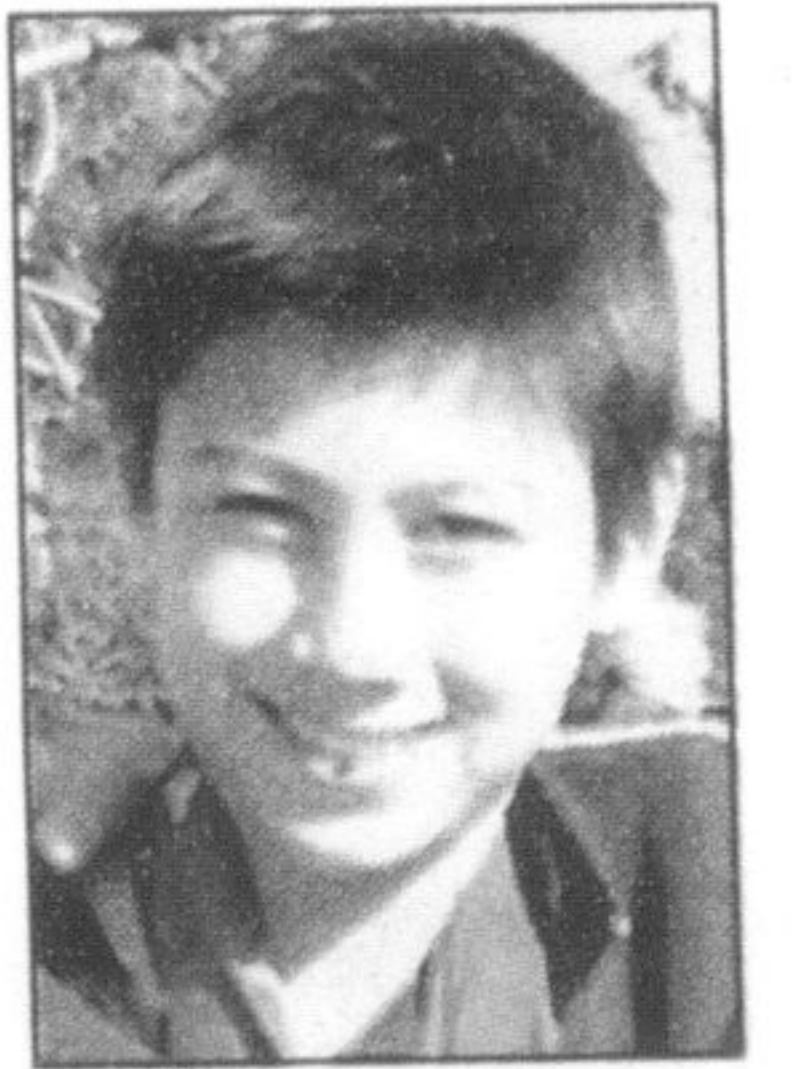
**TERRITORIAL DISPUTES:** Milton Winterhawk Nick White looks to negotiate his way past an Ancaster Avalanche opponent during additional entry pee-wee play at this past weekend's annual April Fools Classic at Milton Sports Centre. Milton lost the game 3-0. The hosts wound up with two championships when all was said and done. See page 21 for full results on those title victories.

## On a roll!

*Gymnast headed to Ontario championship with lots of momentum*

High-stakes success is often a matter of simply peaking at the right time.

With that in mind, Keanu Nunes has to be feeling awfully good about the chances of maintaining his 'golden boy' status at the Ontario gymnastics championships.



Keanu Nunes

The 11-year-old Miltonian already has two provincial titles under his belt, and will look to add to that haul next weekend in Oakville. If recent results are any indication, he should be right in the thick of things when it comes to contention for overall victory.

Now at Ontario's Level 3 ranks — following Level 1 and 2 championship drives over the past two years — Nunes has bolstered his efforts throughout this season and punctuated his three-event qualifying campaign with all-around gold late last month at Gymnastics Mississauga.

Thriving in the fiercely-contested Level 3 10-to-12-year-old boys division, the Mississauga Team Futures standout was first on rings, floor and the pommel horse en route to his overall triumph. A silver on the parallel bars plus third-place finishes on vault and the high bar helped him upstage host club member Mark Syptak.

His golden showing in Mississauga followed a silver-medal performance at the second qualifying meet in Ottawa and a modest fifth-place showing at the series opener in Burlington.

That season-long improvement mirrors last spring, when — having just joined the 10-to-12-year-old loop — he made a somewhat surprising run to the Level 2 championship.

The E.W. Foster fifth grader's resumé also includes an impressive appearance at January's Jurassic Classic Invitational in Calgary, where he helped Ontario to team gold, and a successful qualifying bid for the Rising Stars Program.

## Dawgs sink teeth into OBA title

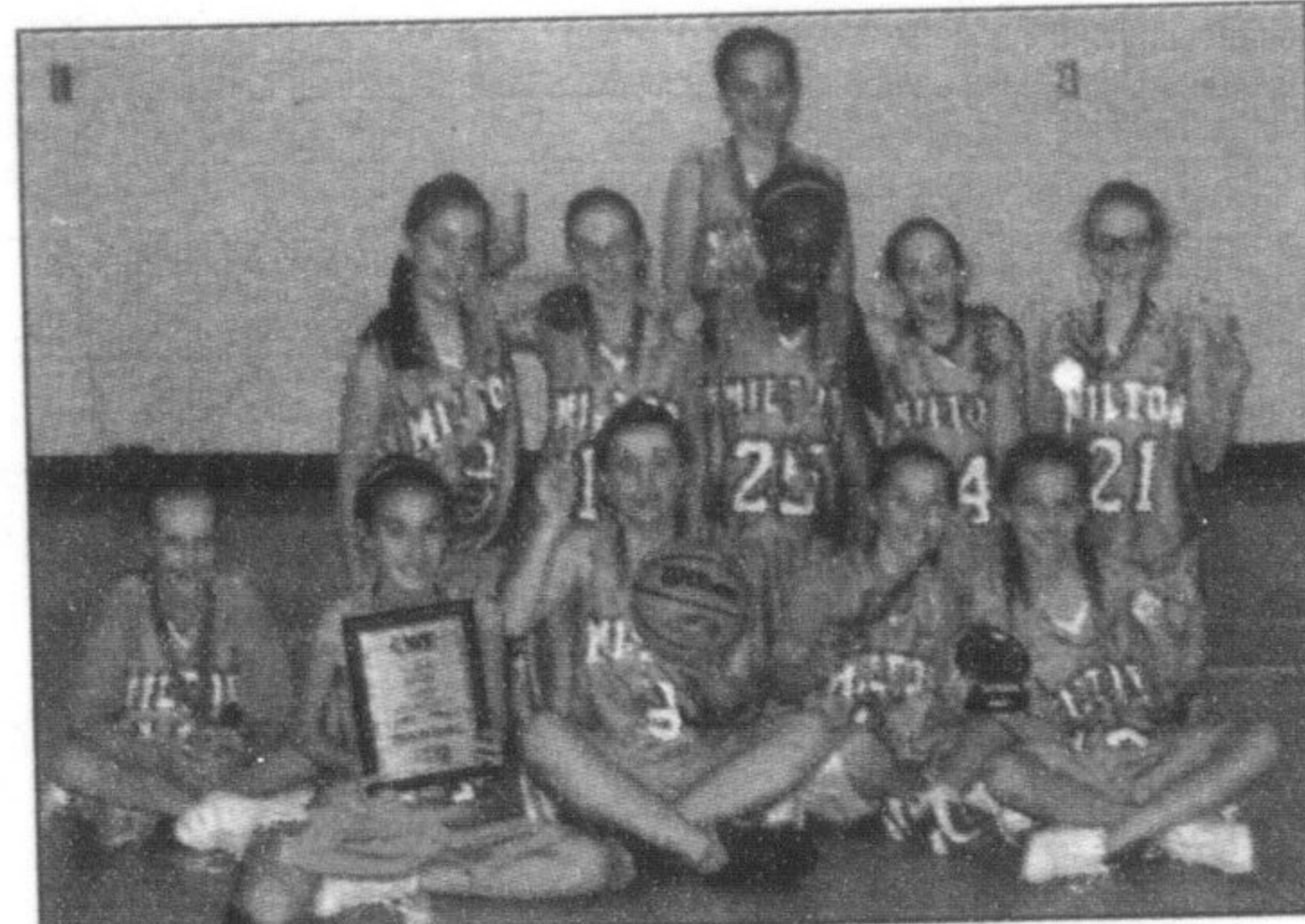
*Major atom girls deliver decisive run to Division 5 crown*

Milton's Under-12 major atom girls basketball team threw a giant-size monkey wrench into the provincial rankings recently in London.

Refusing to merely keep things respectable or even settle for a lesser-grade medal, the fifth-seeded Madd Dawgs struck gold in Ontario's Division 5 with five straight victories.

In fact the lady cagers didn't just secure the title, but did so in commanding fashion, with their unblemished run cemented with a 37-16 championship win over Welland.

Milton scored the first 10 points in the final and never looked back, leading by double digits throughout the last three quarters.



**WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS:** Milton's major atom girls celebrate their OBA Division 5 title win over Welland.

That was due to balanced scoring and stand-out efforts from offensive sparkplugs Tessie Ecclestone and Marina Furik, who also took home tournament MVP honours and an accompanying invite to the Olympia Sports Camp.

Natalie Samuels, Rachel Hollywood and

Corrine Lintack provided effective rebounding, while rock-solid defence was turned in by Danielle Vis and Hayley Schroder.

The Madd Dawgs enjoyed strong performances from up and down the lineup throughout the weekend, with their only legitimate challenge coming in the semifinal, when they outdistanced Oakville 26-18 after being tied at half-time.

Their three round-robin victories, including a tournament-opening rout of top-ranked Peterborough, all came in lopsided fashion.

"The girls worked hard this season and it all came together at the provincials," said co-coach Kelly Hooper, who led this year's team alongside Chris Bay and Brooke Johnson.

Rounding out the championship squad were Sara Blay, Robyn Gaetan, Rachel Linguard and Amy Lintack.

This marks the second straight year in which the major atoms reigned supreme at provincials, with last season's team doing so at the Division 4 ranks.

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