

SPORTS

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Young Morgan makes Springers history

Becomes club's first gymnast to capture overall Ontario gold

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Celena Morgan had already enjoyed a taste of overall gold this season, but was hungry for a higher-level serving.

And that's exactly what she savoured late last month in Grimsby.

Heading into the Ontario gymnastics championships with plenty of momentum — having secured all-around victory in her third and final qualifying meet, following back-to-back second-place finishes — the Milton Springers' youngest provincial participant pulled off a golden upgrade in the Level 6, 10-year-old division.

In doing so, she became the club's first-ever overall Ontario champion.

"It felt pretty great (to win)," said Celena, who last spring placed seventh in her first trip to the provincials. "It's exciting to make history for the Springers."

Added seasoned coach Janet Campbell, "We knew Celena could be a contender this year and she was completely focused and calm — almost relaxed — in Grimsby. I was the one who had butterflies. She finally 'hit' all her routines."

Part of one of the most competitive classes of the weekend, Celena came out on top by a mere fraction of a point — needing medal-winning efforts in all four events to do so.

Along with her overall triumph, the eventual champ took top spot on bars, much like she did at the final qualifier. That represented the biggest improvement made this season, as the Springers' young representative had fallen twice at the first two meets.

"I felt more confident and just did better," said Celena.

That was the case in her three other performances as well.

• see WELL-ROUNDED on page A23



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

GOLDEN GIRL: Milton Springer Celena Morgan proudly displays the all-around provincial championship trophy and five medals she secured in Grimsby.

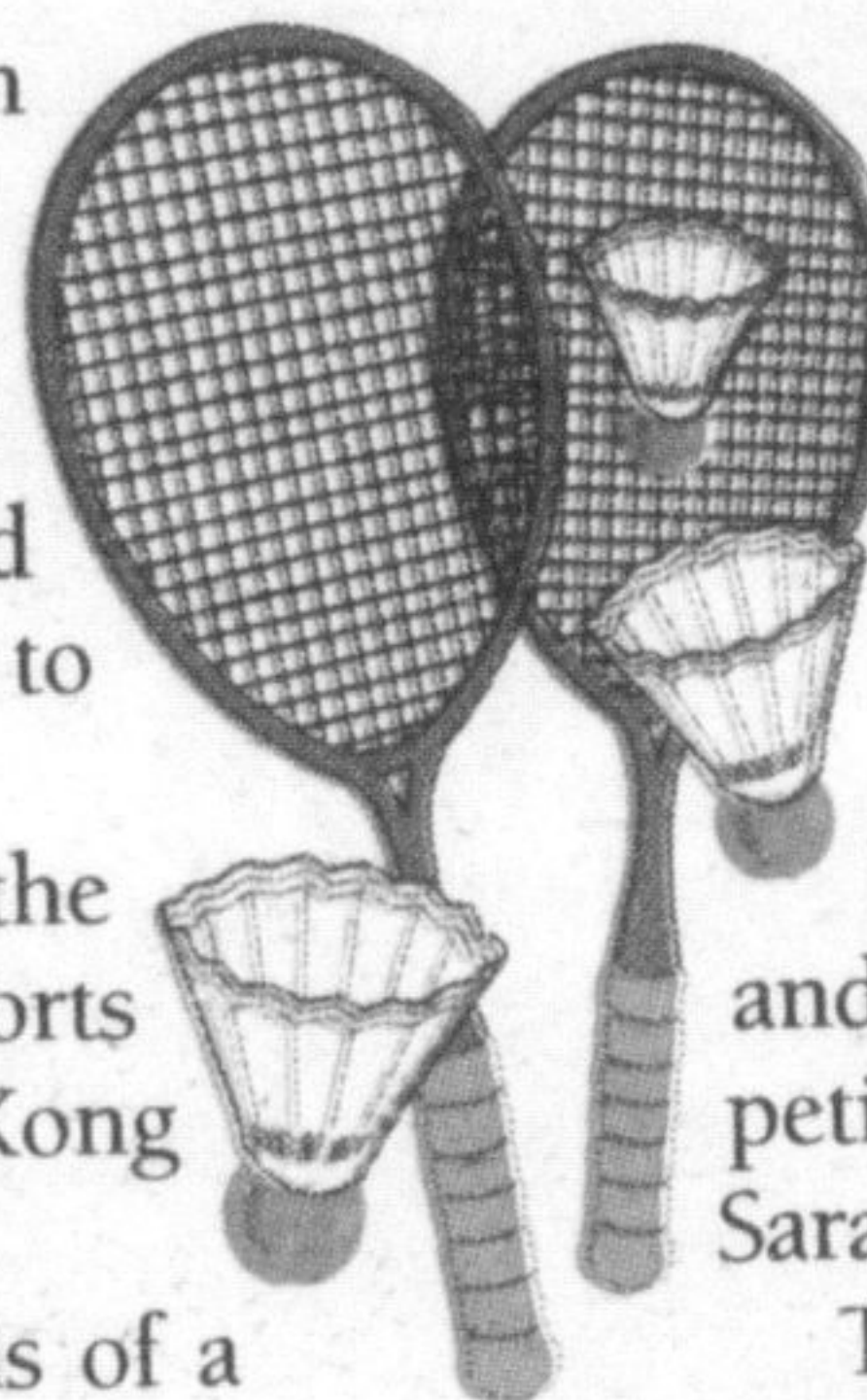
BR badminton duo net OFSAA 'C' silver

Bishop Reding has its first-ever OFSAA badminton medal, following some impressive play by their mixed doubles team late last week in Waterloo.

After being relegated to the provincial championships' 'C' flight, first-time OFSAA participants Lee Mathé and Krista Dermott engineered three straight match victories to reach the division finals Saturday.

Despite some rock-solid play, particularly from Mathé, the Royals just couldn't withstand the fundamentally-fierce efforts of Windsor-area opponents Ayoun Basharat and Molyka Kong — losing straight 15-7 sets in the 'C' gold-medal clash.

The BR duo's silver-medal showing comes on the heels of a



second-place finish at GHAC last month at E.C. Drury.

Meanwhile, school-mates Erika Minkhorst and Michelle Serafini finished fifth in the women's doubles 'C' flight, with their lone victory of the provincials coming in a 15-13, 15-11 decision over Central Ontario-area combatants Kelsey Neerhof and Amy Vandertoorn.

Second-time OFSAA qualifiers who missed last year's showcase due to other athletic commitments, Minkhorst and Serafini were beat twice — in both 'B' and 'C' flight competition — by the eventual 'C' champions, Bridget Jeffray and Sara Jones of Goderich District High School.

The BR women's partners have won GHAC the last two years.

MILTON YOUTH SOCCER CLUB

ALLSTAR TRYOUTS

Milton District High School • South Field

Saturday May 12 & Sunday May 13

(Girls Under 16, Boys Under 9, 10 & 13)

EC Drury High School

Saturday May 19 & Sunday May 20

(Boys Under 12)

| SATURDAY | | | SUNDAY | | |
|-------------|------|-----------------|-------------|------|-----------------|
| TIME | TEAM | COACH | TIME | TEAM | COACH |
| 9am-10:30am | GU16 | Patty Clancy | 9am-10:30am | GU16 | Patty Clancy |
| 12pm-1:30pm | BU9 | Emil Mlinarevic | 12pm-1:30pm | BU9 | Emil Mlinarevic |
| 1:30pm-3pm | BU10 | Dan Dotson | 1:30pm-3pm | BU10 | Dan Dotson |
| 3pm-4:30pm | BU13 | Sal Marra | 3pm-4:30pm | BU13 | Sal Marra |

| SATURDAY | | | SUNDAY | | |
|--------------|------|-------------|--------------|------|-------------|
| TIME | TEAM | COACH | TIME | TEAM | COACH |
| 10am-11:30am | BU12 | Joanne Rowe | 10am-11:30am | BU12 | Joanne Rowe |



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