

# Rutz ready to take her lacrosse talents to Notre Dame

## Lands scholarship with D2 Falcons

By Steve LeBlanc  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

With her stock continuing to climb, perhaps it's only fitting that the next chapter in Ashley Rutz's field lacrosse career should come with a team that's also on the rise.

Given the circumstances, it's hard not to see her recent signing with Notre Dame College Falcons — who announced their acquisition last week — as anything but a marriage made in heaven.

After all, the Ohio-based Division 2 school is fresh of its best season since joining the women's lacrosse scene in 2005 — finishing with more than twice as many wins over the two previous years combined with a 12-4 record — and has every starter set to return.

At least one of them will more than likely have to take a step back now that Rutz is in the mix.

"We're so excited to have Ashley as part of our program,"

said head coach Candace Taglianetti. "We anticipate that she'll have no problem in her transition to collegiate lacrosse and we expect great things from her."

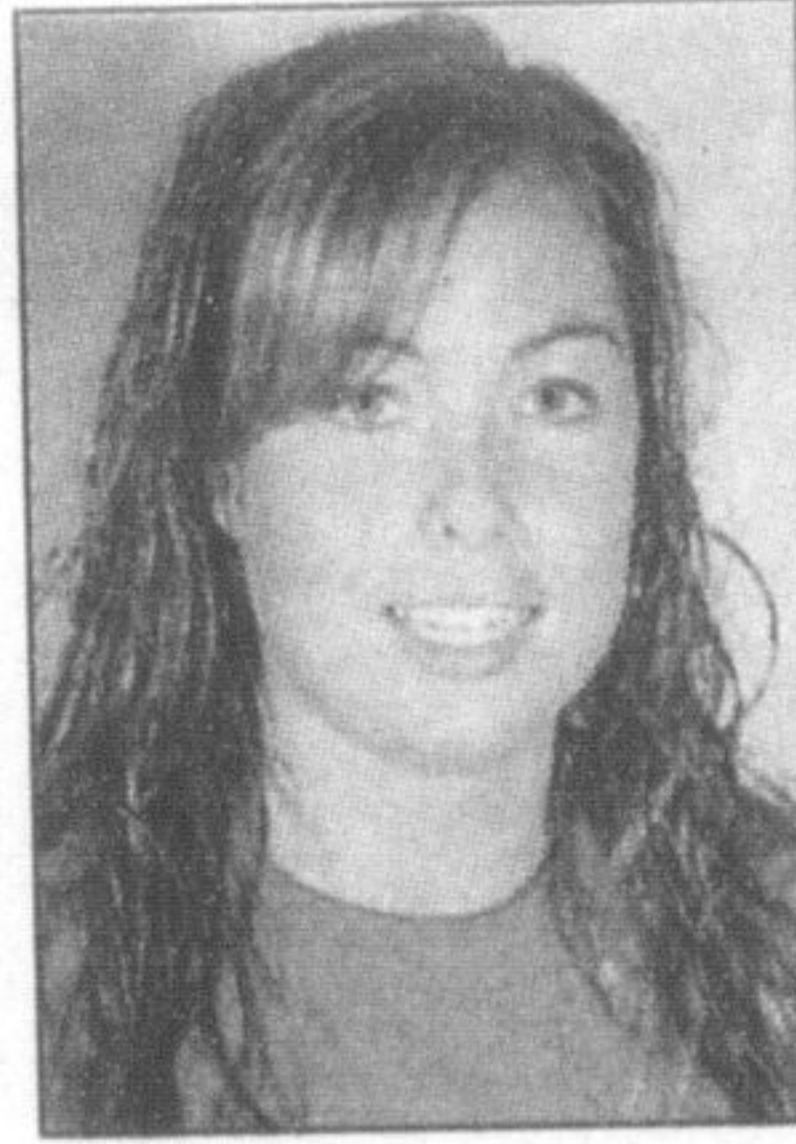
Landing a near full scholarship with Notre Dame, Rutz expressed plenty of enthusiasm herself about becoming a Falcon.

"I'm so excited to be going there, and look forward to making an impact with them."

Milton's 19-year-old lacrosse star should have no problem doing so, at least if history and a standout semester at a Maryland prep school are any indication.

Delivering a sensational springboard to the NCAA, Rutz played her way to all-star status in the Interscholastic Athletic Association with St. Timothy's School — located just outside Baltimore.

Shining at both ends of the field, she closed out the year with a total of 50 points — 32 goals and 18 assists — and



Ashley Rutz

amassed a whopping 79 groundballs to make a significant dent in her opponents' offensive efforts.

"Defence has always been my strong suit and that's probably the role I'll play at Notre Dame, but I'm definitely more confident in my offensive play after this year," remarked the provincial team veteran.

A prosperous campaign at St. Timothy's, she noted, was due in no small part to improved conditioning — no real surprise, with training equipment and facilities far more accessible than they once were.

"It was so much easier this past year. Before I'd have to go to Mississauga to train."

While Rutz has hooked up with the Falcons, she recently parted ways with another team.

Her resignation from the Canadian 19-and-under women's squad — for reasons she's choosing not to divulge — means she won't be part of August's World Cup at Trent University in Peterborough.

"It just wasn't the team for me," noted a tight-lipped Rutz, who'd solidified her national team spot with an impressive showing in Australia back in early January. "They supported my decision and we left it on good terms."

Notre Dame College's newest recruit will instead spend the summer playing for the Burlington senior team in preparation for her induction to the NCAA.

"I'm just going to keep training hard and work toward my goal of becoming an All-American," she said.

## Springers impressive at Brampton all-star meet

The Milton Springers' Invitational squad closed out the season with some impressive results recently at the Brampton All-Star Meet.

As always, the seven and eight-year-old gymnasts were judged against a set standard rather than the competition, and half-a-dozen of them secured overall gold. Doing so were Level 2 seven-year-olds Kirsten Angus, Anna Chisholm, Hannah Clark, Jessica Clark and Mary Rodenburg and Level 2 eight-year-old Tendai Dodo. Enjoying a silver lining was Level 2 eight-year-old Brittne Spriel.

Meanwhile, Milton's older competitors also fared well — particularly nine-year-old Traci Armstrong and Keira Brodie, who both took top honours in Level 3.

Ten-year-old Emily Homer and 11-year-old Victoria Tran struck silver in Level 4, while all-around bronze was secured by Level 3 10-year-old Madeline Boyd and Rachel Leang in the 12 and 13-year-old Level 3 ranks.

Also competing were: Amanda Forsstrom (4th, Level 4 11-year-old), Olivia Lister (5th, Level 4 11-year-old), Allie Schmidt (5th, Level 5 11-year-old), Baylee Kraus (6th, Level 4 11-year-old) and Rachel Marsbergen (7th, Level 4 12-and-a-13-year-olds).

## FREE Sunday Night Concerts

Enjoy 10 performances every Sunday night from Canada Day to Labour Day Weekend for FREE!

### Charlie Major Sunday, July 1

Juno and CCMA award-winner Charlie Major kicks off the summer concert series.

Presented by



### Jason Blaine Sunday, August 5

Nominated for the Best New Country Artist at the 2004 Canadian Radio Music Awards, as well as CCMA nominations for Independent Single of the Year and Rising Star (2006). Presented by



### Lost Vegas Sunday, July 8

A classic rock performance featuring the best from Elvis to AC/DC.



### James Sawyer Sunday, August 12

This talented singer/songwriter has an eclectic sound and debut album "Next to You" that simply entices all audiences.



### Rick Sonata Sunday, July 15

Tribute to Frank Sinatra. A true headline performer, Rick won the World Tribute Artist Championship and he'll win your hearts with his stage presence and vocal talent.



### Fresh Horses Sunday, August 19

Tribute to Garth Brooks. This crowd-pleasing six-piece group specializes in performing all the hits of Garth Brooks.



### Stephen Kabakos Sunday, July 22

Tribute to Elvis. A World Champion Elvis Stylist, Stephen delivers a high-energy performance mastering the look, sound and vocals of the King of Rock & Roll.



### Hotel California Sunday, August 26

Tribute to The Eagles. Hotel California's tribute to the Eagles draws crowds of all ages and features hits such as Life In The Fast Lane, Take It Easy, Desperado, Get Over It and many more.



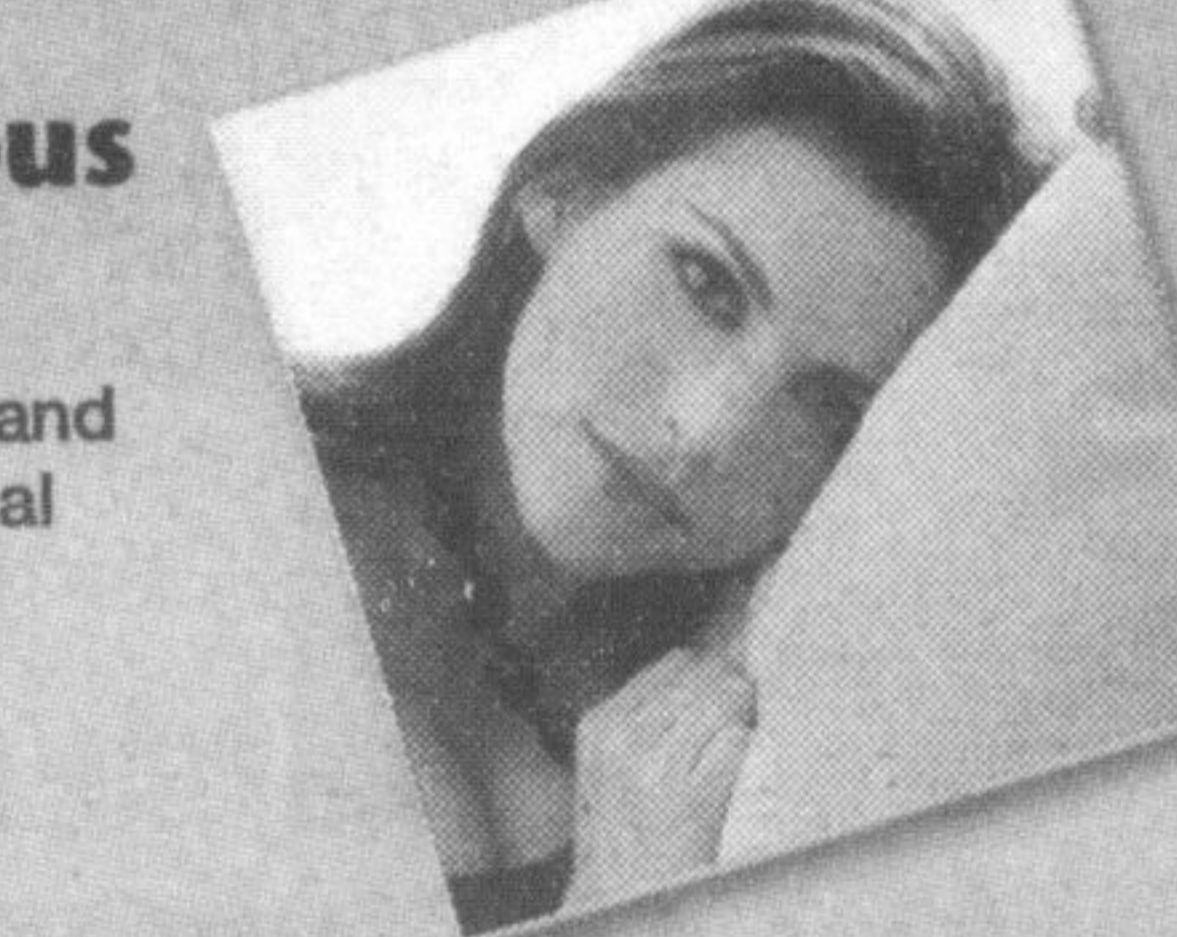
### Steven Demetrious Sunday, July 29

Steven and his country-rock band will perform an up-pace arsenal of songs geared to audiences of all ages.



### Jessie Farrell Sunday, September 2

Jessie is passionate about her music, you can tell by listening to her powerfully-candid melodies or by witnessing one of her live performances. Her country-pop cross genre appeal will provide a great close-out to our summer concert series. Presented by



### MOHAWK RACETRACK

Guelph Line & Hwy 401  
1-888-675-RACE • TheRaceTrack.ca  
SLOT HOURS - 24/7  
FREE PARKING & ADMISSION  
Starting at 7:20 pm

## Prepare for a Career in Canada

If you're a foreign-trained professional looking for a job, improve your English and Canadian job search skills with...

### CAREER LINC for

- Internationally Educated Professionals
- Residential Construction

8-week programs are FREE to qualified applicants and take place in Burlington.

For more information, call 905-333-3499, ext. 264 or visit [www.thecentre.on.ca](http://www.thecentre.on.ca)

Funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada

