



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRUITS OF THEIR LABOUR: Milton Skating Club members Jordyn Harper (left) and Madelyn Dunley display their trophies from the recent Skate Canada Central-Ontario Sectional Championships in Oakville. Madelyn's first-place showing in the Pre-Novice Ladies division (among 68 entries) earns her a trip back to the nationals early next month at the Hershey Centre. Still too young for advancement to nationals, Jordyn took top honours in the 42-entry Pre-Juvenile Ladies class at sectionals.

Mission accomplished!

Conquering fear of swimming, Hutt successfully completes her first Ironman in Florida

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A quick scan of the 2,000-plus competitors poised to hit the water and Andrea Hutt's trepidation came rushing back.

"Yeah, when you see that many people ready for a mass swim it's pretty intimidating," recalled the 35-year-old Miltonian of her initial thoughts heading into her Ironman debut in Panama City, Florida November 7. "I definitely had some butterflies."

Of course that was hardly surprising, with a 2.4-mile swim ahead of her.

Just a year earlier a mere few lengths of the leisure centre pool was an ambitious goal, when Hutt first hooked up with the Milton Masters — determined to squash her fear of swimming and making the transition from team Adventure Racing to triathlons.

She admitted, "I really wasn't a strong swimmer at all. I could barely do a length. I'd always been kind of nervous in the water, but



ON THE MOVE: Andrea Hutt takes on the biking portion of the recent Ironman Florida.

I felt it was something I just had to overcome, and a good friend doing the Ironman last year kind of inspired me."

Armed with ample determination and plenty of support from both the Masters and some local triathletes — most notably Jane Wood — Hutt made extraordinary strides at the leisure centre and Kelso Conservation Area and successfully completed six triathlons before taming the summer-ending Half-Ironman 70.3 Muskoka.

Still, the high-endurance racer had doubts about making that final jump to full Ironman competition.

And the rough currents caused by the recent Hurricane Ida certainly didn't ease those concerns, nor did the occasional foot or calf grabs from fellow participants that one inevitably experiences during the event's initial leg.

"You get squeezed in there pretty tight with so many people competing. Fortunately I didn't take any whacks to the head. I got my feet and thighs grabbed a few times, but when I did I just swam harder, like as to say 'Give me some room,'" said Hutt.

Persevering through a particularly tough second loop, the local racer completed the swim in an hour and 48 minutes — a rather

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Another Milton OHLer shipped off to Michigan



Michael Sgarbossa

Yet another local OHLer now finds himself playing outside of the province's boundaries.

Less than three weeks after dealing veteran winger Josh Brittain to the Plymouth Whalers, the Barrie Colts have bid farewell to their other Milton forward.

In blockbuster deal to bolster their legitimate bid for a Memorial Cup berth, the Colts traded away local centre Michael Sgarbossa and smallish defenceman Ryan O'Connor to the

Saginaw Spirit in exchange for stand-out blueliners T.J. Brodies and Nick Crawford.

Dealt last Wednesday, 17-year-old Sgarbossa had seven goals and 13 assists in 19 games for the Colts this season — following a 43-point (10g, 33a) rookie campaign.

Like Brittain, Sgarbossa is now with a Michigan-based team that should make the playoffs but will be extremely hard-pressed to get out of the Western Conference, with

Windsor Spitfires looking every bit as strong as last year's club that won the national championship.

Recording four goals and two assists in 10 games since his trade to Plymouth, Brittain — a six-foot-four-inch power winger and third-round pick of the Anaheim Ducks — has 14 points (7g, 7a) overall this season. He'll be among three Whalers to compete in the OHL's second game of the Canada/Russia Super Series Monday in Windsor.

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