

Another Ontario title for locals

Anderson and Devonshire reclaim provincial fours gold with McKerihen-skipped team; 6th win in past 8 years

Back together — and back on top.

Reuniting for this season's provincial fours championship run, Steve McKerihen's Etobicoke-based lawn bowling team — which includes Miltonians David Anderson (vice) and John Devonshire (second) — reigned supreme for the sixth time in eight years earlier this month in Burlington.

Sparked by a hard-fought opening-round win over a team from Hanover — scoring three points in the last two ends to win 16-10 — the perennial champs went unbeaten in six matches to reclaim the gold.

This cemented this year's run in decisive fashion, disposing of a Kitchener team 18-4.

"We grabbed an early lead and every time they had an opportunity, we took it away," said Anderson, whose contingent also includes lead Fred Wallbank, who along with Devonshire will be competing in triples at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India this October. "Basically everything was going right for us."

That was pretty much the case throughout the weekend, with McKerihen winning convincingly at every turn.

Said Anderson, "I know it's a cliché, but it really was teamwork that won it for us. If one guy was having an off game, someone else was there to pick up the slack.

"We don't really have any superstars, so it's a case where the sum is greater than the parts. That's always been the hallmark of our success."

As decisive as this year's championship win was, it paled in comparison to the 25-1 dismantling of McKerihen and company laid on Ottawa's Brian McCartney in 2006.

The reannointed Ontario champions advance to the Canadian championships August 14 to 22 in Edmonton, where they'll look to add to another hefty haul — having clinched three golds and two bronze on the national stage.



PERENNIAL CHAMPS: David Anderson (at right) and John Devonshire are headed back to nationals.

MICHELLE SIU / METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP



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Former Springer lands head coaching job at U.S. university

When Towson University's director of athletics needed a new head coach for his gymnastics program, he didn't have to look too far.

Just a half-hour away at the University of Maryland — where she'd served as an assistant coach for five years — native Miltonian Vicki Chlisczyk was the natural choice.

"Vicki emerged from a strong pool of candidates because she brought such great experience," said Mike Hermann, in a press release announcing Chlisczyk's appointment to the Tigers' head coach post last week. "Her experience will enable her to have a quick transition to her head coaching responsibilities. She has strong recruiting ties and understands the level of gymnastics required to be competitive in our region. I'm confident that the Towson gymnastics program will continue to be a shining star under her leadership."

Officially beginning her new position

Monday, 33-year-old Chlisczyk cut her teeth under University of Maryland's Bob Nelligan, who hired her back in 2005 and was replaced after 31 years by son Brett this past season.



Vicki Chlisczyk

"Vicki has been a tremendous asset to our team in many ways, but especially through her contributions to our balance beam team. Our work on the beam came a long way, in large part to her efforts," said Bob Nelligan, whose Terrapins finished fifth in the East Atlantic Gymnastics League this past season and was ranked top-25 nationally for most of the year. "When she first arrived at Maryland I was impressed, and she quickly gained the team's respect because of her dedication, fairness and support."

Under the tutelage of Janet Campbell with her hometown Milton Springers, Chlisczyk developed into a leader and promising coach

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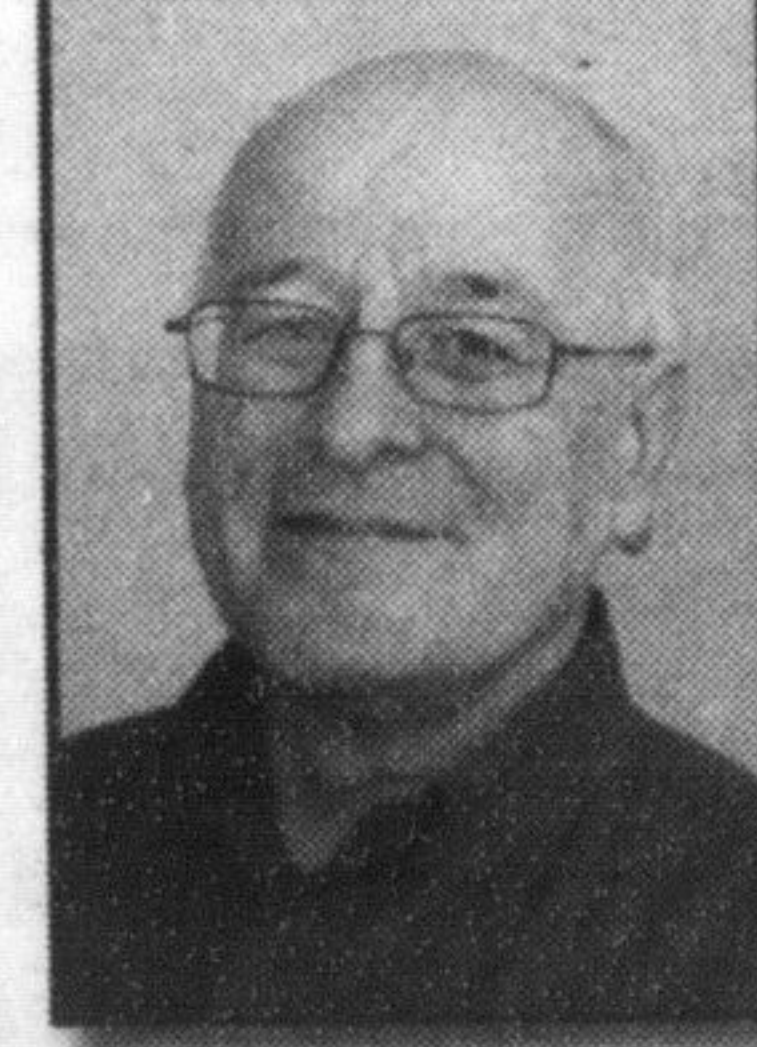


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