

McCann is preparing for Ontario Winter Games

By JEFF PASQUALE

Perhaps Brigitte McCann should stop underestimating herself.

McCann is a member of the Milton Springers' Gymnastics Club and has qualified for the Ontario Winter Games, being held the weekend of March 10 in North Bay. McCann has already gone further than she thought she would.

"I thought it would be really

tough to make the regional squad," said the 13-year-old gymnast.

The team was chosen from the best scores of a pair of regional qualifying meets from among the A stream gymnasts. The top score in each of the four A divisions, as well as the next two best, all made the regional team. McCann was second in the Argo A division, but her score was the fourth best overall, there-

fore she made the squad.

McCann's optimism hasn't improved much now that she's heading to North Bay.

"This is going to be quite an experience," said the Grade 8 Holy Rosary student. "I don't expect to do anything, but it should be fun."

The games will be concentrating on the team competitions, although there will be individual medals as well.

McCann has increased her usual 20-hour practise week, although she is refining some of her routines.

"The bars is my best piece of equipment, the vault is my worst. I've really been practising on the vault a lot. For my other routines I've added a little more difficulty," she said.

Although this is only McCann's first year of A competition, it will also probably be her last of serious competing.

"I start high school next year, and I won't have the time to do as much practising as I do now."

Right now what she is hoping to do is get gymnastics introduced as a competitive sport at Bishop Reding, but the athletic department there is resisting.



Brigitte McCann, of the Milton Springers Gymnastics Club, is heading to the Ontario Winter Games in North Bay. Here she is getting in a little extra practise so she will impress the judges.

Local boys qualify for provincial finals

A pair of Milton gymnasts, competing with the Burlington Boys Gymnastics Club, have qualified for the provincial championships, on April 29-30 in Newmarket, thanks to their performances at a pair of qualifying meets.

Michael Cerka, 9, and Scott Mitchell, 12, both made the Central and Southwestern Regional team Sunday. The way the boys made the team was by averaging their scores from both the qualifying meets. The top six gymnasts and two alternates made the provincial squad.

Cerka, a first-year competitor in the cadet A division, showed a consistent effort in all six disciplines to earn the silver medal overall with a score of 51.85. Cerka had first-place performances on the parallel bars and floor, second on the horse, third on the high bar, fourth on the rings and sixth on the vault.

Mitchell's average in the tyro B division was also good enough to qualify him for the provincials. This year has been a big step for Mitchell, who only last year was competing in the pre-competitive level.

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- 1) Have you pictured a cruise as a way of life for the rich, the elderly, and the retired? Well, that's not so, according to CLIA (Cruise Line International Association), which indicates a younger and unmarried lineup of guests are gradually changing the image of cruise ships. Some lines charge a small extra fee for a single in a cabin while others will match you with a cabin mate. There is even a single parent plan where a parent can take along a child by paying 1/3 of the regular single rate. The cruise market is ever changing with newer, and bigger ships coming on stream every season.
- 2) The NO-Show problem with the three Canadian air carriers was at its worst over the holiday season. Multiple bookings is the main problem and the carriers are working with their automated systems to put a stop to it. It not only affects business, but sure doesn't help the service to the flying public.
- 3) Canadian visitors to Florida exceeded 1.6 million in 1988 and with the average increase pegged at close to 10%, it will grow to over 1.8 million this year. Will you be one of those?
- 4) There seems to be some confusion in the minds of travelers about the impact of the Free Trade Agreement on goods bought in the United States. There is a booklet available called Free Trade and the Traveler which is available from local custom offices and in airport departure lounges.

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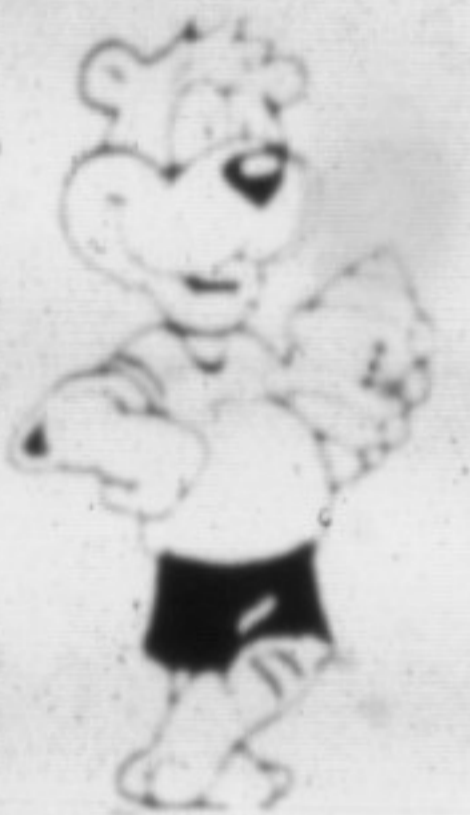


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