

# Jason Near captures Canadian judo championship

Jason Near, a 17-year-old E.C. Drury High School student, has become the second athlete from that school in a week to win a national sports championship.

Near won a gold medal at the Junior-Juvenile National Judo Championships in Lethbridge, Alberta March 26.

Competing in the under 86 kilo (under 189 lbs.) class, Near topped the podium in a field of 11 fighters by winning all six of his bouts, four by

completed throws, which amount to clear-cut victories in judo scoring.

In the gold medal competition, Near defeated Quebec's Domenic Lefrancois in a tense bout that saw the Quebec fighter gain the initial advantage.

Lefrancois threw Near for a scoring point and was judged to have Near in a compromising position before Near could mount any scoring moves.

But Near rallied, faking a throw forward, anticipating Lefrancois' counter, and sweeping the

Quebec fighter's legs from under him. Near landed heavily on his opponent and was judged to have completed a match-ending throw to capture the gold.

Ontario team coach Mitch Kawasaki and national coach Andre Sandja have indicated that Near is a strong candidate to represent Canada at the Junior World Judo Championships in Cairo, Egypt this fall. This month Near is going to Tokyo to train for five months.



Jason Near



# SPORTS

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17—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, April 8, 1994

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1994

## Sports SHORTS

### Hockey Moms need volunteers

The Milton Hockey Moms organization is looking for new members interested in helping out with group fundraisers aimed at keeping the cost of minor hockey down for all participants.

The group is holding a pot luck dinner Thursday, April 14 at Hugh Foster Hall. It gets underway at 6:30 p.m.

The Hockey Moms fundraisers, such as dances and bazaars, have helped keep the registration cost for minor hockey in Milton at less than \$200 per child, although in other area centres it is often \$300.

Volunteers are asked only to attend one meeting per month and help out with organizing activities surrounding the primary annual fundraisers, the dance and bazaar.

For more information, please contact Carol Herbert at 875-0409.

### Guard gets a gold in figure skating

Erin Guard won a gold medal in preliminary elements at a recent Sarnia figure skating competition. She represented the Milton Skating Club at the event.

### Whitlock runs first in road race

Ed Whitlock of the Milton Runners Club placed first in the 60-plus age category at the 30 kilometre Around the Bay Road Race in Hamilton on the weekend. The race is known as a tough run.

Ed's son Neil also did well, finishing in 1:47.55 for 35th place overall in a field of 2,900 runners from Canada and the United States.

Other Milton runners and their times:

Bill Robertson	2:15.56
Cindy Johnston	2:25
Tina Braam	2:29.06
Sue Grinstead	2:30
Steve Sim	2:33
Nancy Cole Hryciw	2:42
Janice Snow	2:42.43
Anita Warner	2:43.43
Anna Morris	2:45.47
Martin Stanley	2:46.4
Jennifer Ryell	2:47.05
Chris McGonagle	2:50
Connie Hearty	3:01.01
Ed Braam	3:09.40
Petra Halk	3:15.59



Photo by RIZIERO VERTOLI

## End around

Bishop Reding Secondary School's Matt Parent (dark shirt) dekes around an opponent at the Halton high school all-star championship game in Oakville recently. Parent's Richardson division beat the Volpe division 114-86.

## Dennis stars as bantams win title in Opti tournament

By MURRAY TOWNSEND  
Special to The Champion

The seventh annual Milton Optimist Hockey Tournament capped a week of play Sunday with championship games. It wasn't a banner day for Milton rep teams, but there was one cause for local celebration.

The only Milton team to win their division, or even make it to the finals, were the Milton Jaycees bantams, who beat Orangeville 5-1 for the championship.

This was an interesting match-up because Orangeville had won the Tri-County finals, while Milton had gone to the semifinals in provincial playoffs. In the round robin game of the tournament, Orangeville beat Milton 6-3.

In the championship final, which turned ugly later when frustrations reached a fever pitch in the last half of the contest, Milton coach Frank Pender gave credit to goaltender Peter Dennis for playing an outstanding game.

The one goal Orangeville scored was late in the game when they had a three-man advantage (two Milton penalties and the goalie pulled).

Pender also said Bill Robbins had his best tournament of the year and leftwinger Trevor Petherick also played well.

This turned out to be a successful season for the bantams. The team they lost to by one goal in each

game of the OMHA semifinals, Port Elgin, went on to win the finals, sweeping Port Perry.

Oddly enough, the Milton team almost didn't get off the ground at the start of the year. Pender said they may not have been able to keep going if not for assistant coaches Barry McTrach, Keith Petherick, trainer Jim Kuhn and manager Bill Sharpe.

Here are the results from the Optimist tournament.

Round Robin and Playoff Results

### Minor Novice

Brampton 1, Fergus 0  
Acton 5, Milton 0  
Fergus 3, Acton 3  
Brampton 6, Milton 3  
Fergus 8, Milton 1  
Brampton 4, Acton 2

### Consolation:

Acton 4, Milton 0

### Final:

Brampton 4, Fergus 3

### Novice

Hespeler 3, Milton 1  
Brampton 2, Milton 0  
Hamilton 3, Hespeler 1  
Hamilton 8, Milton 1  
Hespeler 1, Brampton 0

### Consolation:

Hespeler 2, Milton 1 (Craig Hodgson)

### Final:

Hamilton 3, Brampton 1

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## Port Elgin puts midgets backs to the wall

A near capacity crowd at Memorial Arena cheered on the Milton Sandstone Transport midgets Friday night as they faced Port Elgin in games one and five of their best-of-seven OMHA championship finals.

That's not a misprint, you read it right. Game one was the completion of a game protested by Port Elgin. It finished tied 3-3. In game five, played immediately after, Milton crushed Port Elgin 7-2.

That evened the series at five points each, no longer a best-of-seven, but rather a run to see who will be first to get eight points.

On Sunday night, they played game six in Port Elgin, with Milton losing 7-5 after taking a 3-0 lead. That also put Port Elgin up 7-5 in the series.

Game seven went last night, with no results available at press time. Milton would have had to win to force an eighth game, which would be back in Port Elgin.

In the protested game on Friday, 11 minutes and 11 seconds had to be replayed — from the point at which a Milton player should have been ejected for three stick violations. Milton held a 2-1 lead.

The Sandstone Transport midgets came out

## MURRAY TOWNSEND ON THE LOOSE

flying, forechecking hard and dominating Port Elgin. Doug Frehs had two outstanding chances in the first minute alone.

But it was Port Elgin that scored first, tying it 2-2 with 5:58 left. Milton were all over them after that again, but Port Elgin goalie Jeremy Beaty thought he was the Easter Bunny, giving up goose eggs on the scoreboard.

Milton's Darren Murphy, who looked like he had jet packs on his skates in the early going, set up Vince Mongagner on a point blank chance. Ryan Haydar had an opportunity, as did Frehs again, but they couldn't put it by the Port Elgin goalie.

They went to a 10-minute overtime, fortunately not the sudden death variety, because Port Elgin went ahead with 2:36 left. A Port Elgin shooter picked the corner on goalie Kevin Wilson on a two-on-one break.

Milton came back quickly and had more scoring chances. The line of centre Frehs, John Moffat and Brad Jenkins was all over Port Elgin throughout the overtime, but couldn't beat their goaltender.

With under a minute to go, Ron Flannagan, Scott Guthrie and Haydar, with Kevin Boyle and Mark McPhail on the points, worked hard at pressing Port Elgin in their end. Guthrie finally scored the equalizer.

"McPhail passed it to me," said a tired Guthrie later. "The goalie went down and I put it through his legs."

Guthrie, who has stretched ligaments in some unpronounceable and unspellable muscle, was hurting badly, but didn't play like it. He appeared to be his usual self on the ice, skating and working hard.

About his ankle or muscle parts thereabout, he said, "It was sore as .... (some other pronounceable but spellable word)."

Milton won game five 7-2, but it didn't look promising in the early going, when Port Elgin scored the first two goals of the game.

Milton got one back when McPhail carried the

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