



# SPORTS

## Coach Camani wants some community help

By MURRAY TOWNSEND  
Special to The Champion

MILTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL staff and students need a little help from their friends. Coaching help, that is. The head of physical education at the school, Brian Camani, is appealing to the community to provide that assistance so none of their athletic programs need be cut.

"The problem is, that because we offer so much we're in a position where we can't cover it all."

More and more students are playing sports, not just here but everywhere. Besides that, the quality of competition is improving, the number of sports increasing, and the stakes are higher in some cases because athletic scholarships to the U.S. may be offered.

With the social contract in effect, Camani says there are fewer younger teachers, perhaps fewer teachers overall, and less time for them to be involved as much as they once were.

Camani makes it clear, however, that it's not a matter of teachers not wanting to give of their time for extracurricular activities because their salaries have been reduced. In fact, he doesn't consider sports an extracurricular activity at all, preferring to call it co-curricular. "We like to think that what we're teaching the kids is an extension of their regular school program. It's part of the teaching and learning experience."

Camani notes that Milton schools have a reputation for excellence in many sports, and that some of the success at Milton District has come through the use of coaches from outside the school. So far, the experience has been a positive one. There is a teacher liaison in every case, someone who is with the team at all times, even if it's just to sit on the bench during practises and games. They handle the paperwork and other logistics, leaving the coaches to coach.

Boys baseball is a good example. Tim Black and Jim Ridley provided the team with more know-how and experience than were available within the school, and that was part of the reason they were undefeated during the regular

season. Senior boys football was another sport in which outside coaching had a positive influence, making the team more successful and providing the players with better training than would otherwise be available.

At E.C. Drury High School, Wendy Oldershaw, physical education head, says they've never had to go outside the school for coaches, and she prefers it that way. She does acknowledge that the pursuit of coaches can be difficult at times, and doesn't rule out the possibility of going outside in the future, but only with strict guidelines.

Bishop Reding Roman Catholic Secondary School currently uses two outside coaches, but physical education head Joe Galini admits that some teachers have been over-burdened, coaching up to four sports. He says it could develop into a problem in the near future.

There's no doubt that many of the coaches within the schools are already top of the line. You won't find better than Larry Jaraslawski or Phil Duffy at E.C. Drury, or Chris Dooley at Bishop Reding, among others. Those schools are fortunate to have teachers with a particular sport expertise. The beneficiaries of that are the students, who have a better opportunity to realize their potential as athletes, and as people.

That's what Camani wants for students at his school, and he's hoping it's available within the community. In some sports he's just looking for numbers, people who can help out and ease the burden. If someone has an interest or love of a sport, Camani would be willing to have them come aboard as an assistant, with the possibility of taking over the team in the future if they desired.

In other sports he's looking for people who can provide a little more. "There is a desperate need for a volleyball coach. We have a good pool of players who need direction and expertise."

He also mentions junior football, which has a number of different components in which coaching help is needed, track and field, and soccer, where both girl athletes and coaches have been lost to the school for next year.

He says anybody who is interested or has any questions can call Milton District High School at 878-2839, including over the summer. He will be returning all messages.



Milton District High School physical education department head Bryan Camani, here seen in a file photo with an athlete he coached, needs community volunteers to step forward and help out with sports programs.

17—The Canadian Champion, Friday, July 1, 1994

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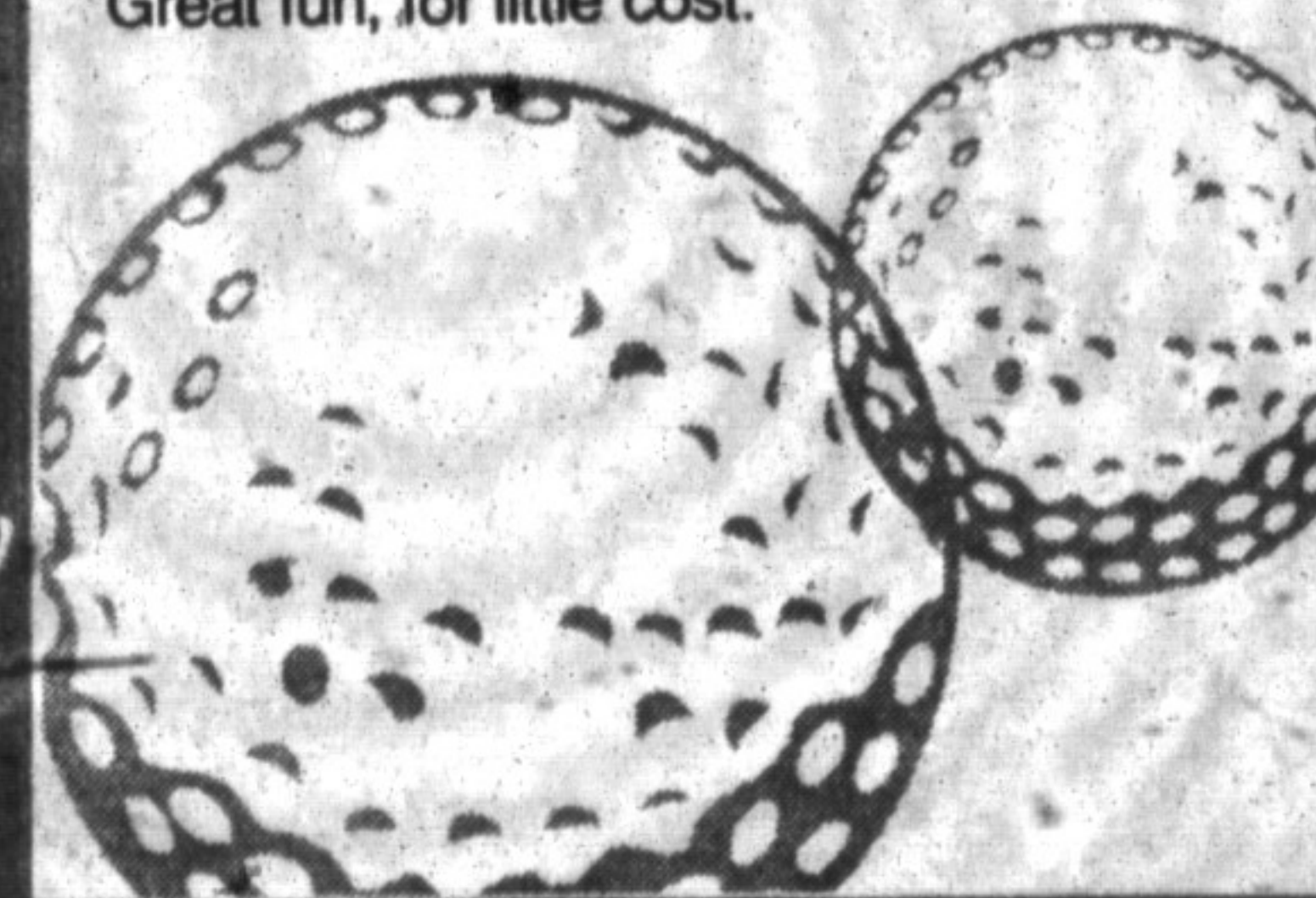
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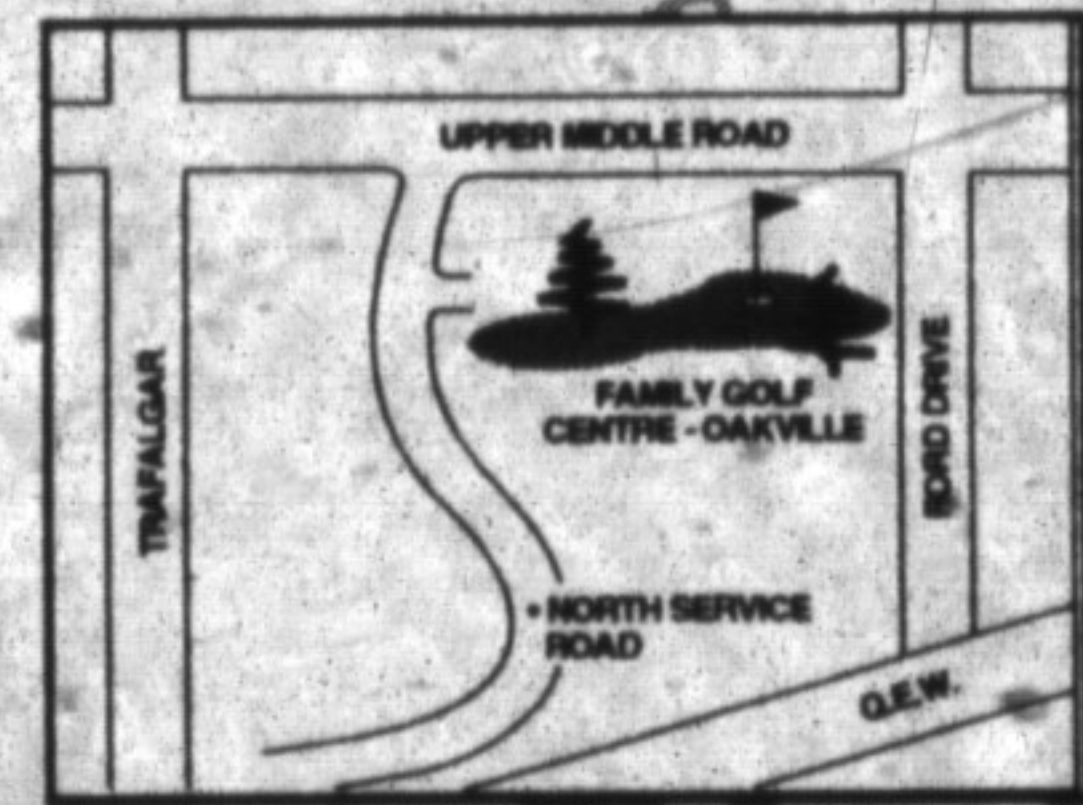
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