

Local team hoping to contend for lawn bowling cash tourney

The Milton Lawn Bowling Club will be hosting the largest cash prize men's bowling tournament in Ontario for 1996 this weekend.

The two-day event, which begins at 6:45 p.m. Friday and runs through Saturday afternoon, will include 18 top teams from across southern

Ontario. Representing Milton will be Ken Armstrong's team of Armstrong, Bob Woods and Jim Curley, who collectively took the Provincial Novice Championship in 1993.

A total of \$2,169 will be awarded. The winners of the first event will take the biggest slice,

at \$999. HJM Insurance and the Waltzing Weasel will once again sponsor the event, as well as J. Scott Early Funeral Homes, Terry Rowley Mechanical and Guaranteed Green.

The Milton Lawn Bowling Club is at 43 Commercial Street, across from Bob's Auto

Service. The public is welcome to attend, and organizer Ken Armstrong encourages those curious about the sport to take in some of the weekend action. The club will host a breakfast and barbecue Saturday. Refreshments will also be available.



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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Now that's a reflection of success. Milton's Katherine Rammo holds up the under 14 doubles trophy plate she won in recent national age-level tennis competition. She also fared well in singles play, coming second.

Golden moment, silver lining for Milton's Katherine Rammo

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
Special to The Champion

Milton tennis star Katherine Rammo came up on both ends of the revenge game last week at the Corel Under-14 Outdoor Junior Nationals. Her championship campaign featured both a golden moment and a silver lining.

The 12-year-old lived up to certain expectations and surpassed others during the week-long event at the Rideau Tennis Club in Ottawa. Competing in both singles and doubles play, she placed second overall in her solo effort and then went on to capture gold with Calgary partner Leanne Rutherford.

Katherine's second place finish was right on target with Tennis Canada's expectations for her last week. While initially ranked third, she moved up a notch just prior to the Nationals when top seed Milica Staminic chose to play elsewhere.

"This put some additional pressure on me right from the start," said Katherine.

In the end it took 14-year-old Etobicoke native Dora Bechliwanis — the number five seed — to knock off Katherine 6-3, 6-

0 in the championship finals Saturday morning. Having steamrolled her way into the final four and then bested unseeded Bosnian immigrant Boyana Peric 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 in the semifinals, Katherine said she was simply unable to adjust to her opponent's unique and effective style.

"Her shots had no pace to them and she returned everything I threw at her. I got impatient and couldn't adjust my game," she said. The championship loss was payback for Dora's twin sister Marta, whom Katherine destroyed 6-2, 6-1 in the quarterfinals. Dora's championship run included a 6-4, 6-4 semifinal triumph over number one seed Debbie Larocque of Quebec.

Despite breezing past Marta and two other Ontario opponents, Katherine said her best performance came against Boyana in Friday's semis. Added father Armas Rammo, "Had she (Boyana) been training in Canada for a while she would definitely have been seeded. Her father came up to me afterwards and said their match was basically the championship finals."

Katherine said her serving was in top form throughout the match and that her baseline game was "probably the best" of

any competitor in Ottawa.

Just hours after losing to Dora in the singles' finale, Katherine earned a little revenge when she and Leanne Rutherford downed the Bechliwanis twins in the doubles' championship match by identical 6-3 set scores.

This surpassed their third place ranking, set after Leanne Rutherford's request for Katherine as partner just two days before the event.

"Had I paired up with someone like Debbie (Larocque) I would have been the top seed," explained Katherine. Instead, she and her partner bounced out the top seed 7-6, 6-1 in the semifinals before upsetting the number two-ranked Bechliwanis twins in the finals.

She recognized this as her best Outdoor Nationals ever and sees it as a great warm-up for her world championship debut later this month, when she, Mary-Eve Pelletier and Dora Bechliwanis travel to Japan to compete in the NTT World Championships.

"I just hope we do the best we can. It's a team competition so we all have to play well," Katherine said.

Demand, interest there again for women's triathlon

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

Special to The Champion

It seems local triathlete Tina Braam and a small group of Milton females may just have started a nation-wide trend in women's athletics.

Along with husband Ed, Braam organized Women's Triathlon Milton late last summer in an effort to encourage more women to both enter the sport and generally become more active. At the time it was the only specifically-designed race of its kind for women.

After a class of 70 women from Milton and across southern Ontario made the inaugural event a local success, Braam decided to send in results and a brief story to the International Triathlon Union (ITU), of which she is an active member.

The result — Milton's event is the sole women's-only triathlon no longer.

"I'm not sure of the exact date or location, but I do know that they'll be having a similar event in British Columbia in September," said Braam, who has competed in the sport at both the national and world level for many years. She is also hoping that athletes in other countries have seen the article and may decide to visit Canada for some grassroots competition.

Milton's event will be held Sunday Sept. 1, with an 8 a.m. starting time at Kelsö Conservation Area. Braam had said before last year's event that she wasn't quite sure she'd organize another one, but after last year's response and rave reviews from many local women her doubts quickly disappeared.

"It was the women, they



"There's a real sense of exhilaration and personal victory that comes from competing."

- Tina Braam

were so delighted that there was a competition specially designed for them which was safe and not intimidating.

"So many participants came up to me afterwards and said 'This was great, there's going to be another one next year right?' It took only about three responses like this to convince me to organize it again," she explained.

This year's event will have a new twist to it, with the addition of duathlon competition as well. Braam explained that women who can't swim or simply feel uncomfortable in the water can now do a first-leg running portion instead.

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Cager clinics at MDHS for high school girls

Basketball clinics for high school girls of midget, junior and senior age at Milton District High School will be held Monday through Wednesday, Aug. 26, 27 and 28 at the school. Each session will run from 2 to 4 p.m.

All girls interested in attending are welcome. For more information, call Martha Gleeson at 854-2714.