



Andrew Dodson

Dodson and CP Canadians fall short in RBC Cup final — again

More than 120 teams would have loved to be vying for national Jr. A supremacy Sunday. But that likely came as little consolation to Milton's Andrew Dodson and the Carleton Place Canadians by the night's end. For the second time in as many years, the Ottawa-area

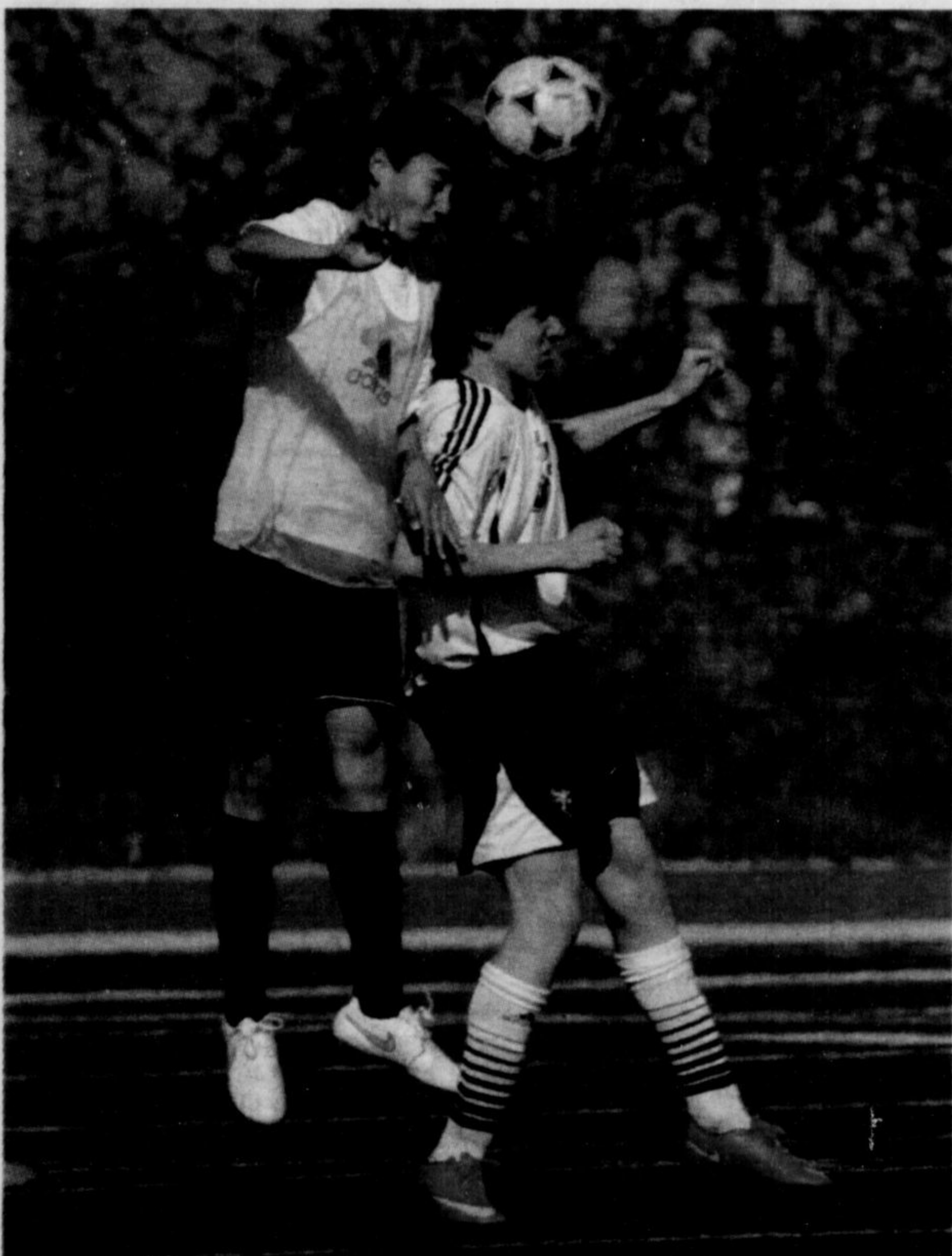
team came up one win shy of the Royal Bank Cup title — this time falling 5-2 (with empty netter) to the host Portage Terriers. Playing in every game of the nationals after being mainly a healthy scratch last year, 18-year-old right

winger Dodson highlighted the tournament with a shorthanded goal in a 4-3 overtime loss to the Melfort Mustangs to close out round-robin play. Carleton Place reached the final with a 2-1 double-overtime triumph against the Penticton Veeps.

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Now that's using your head

Bishop Reding's Parwiz Mohibi (left) heads the ball in an air battle with Ryan Key of Holy Trinity during junior boys soccer play last week. The host Royals were edged 2-1 and as of press time yesterday afternoon sat at 5-1-1. *Eric Riehl / Metroland West Media Group (Follow on Twitter @halton_photog)*

Springers punctuate season with eastern nationals gold

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN
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As two of just four all-around provincial champions in the 41-year history of the Milton Springers Gymnastics Club, Keiara Jones-Tyrell and Diana Dela Pena were already in pretty select company. But a trip to Moncton, New Brunswick earlier this month put them in an even more exclusive group. One that didn't exist until now. Punctuating the season in golden fashion, 14-year-old Keiara and 10-year-old Diana gave the club its first-ever overall titles at the Eastern Canadian Championships — doing so in the Open 8 and Tyro 7 divisions respectively. "It's an amazing accomplishment... a great way to cap off the year," said Springers head coach Craig Smith. "This has been my most fulfilling season as a coach, both from the program's development as a whole and how the season ended."



Diana Dela Pena (left) and Keiara Jones-Tyrell taste all-around gold after their stellar showings at the Eastern Canadian Championships in Moncton. *Steve LeBlanc / Canadian Champion*

An all-around silver medalist at last month's provincials in Windsor, Diana figured a trip to the eastern national

podium was within her reach. But standing atop it was probably too much to hope for. Not so as it turned out, as she delivered first-place finishes on bars and beam en route to overall supremacy. She rounded out the weekend with a third on vault and fourth on floor. Her scores on bars and floor were both personal bests, as was her overall tally.

"I was kind of surprised (to claim all-around gold)," said Diana, who became the club's third-ever provincial champion last spring. "I just tried to listen to my coaches' instructions and do my best."

Having dominated provincial competition all season long, Keiara headed to Moncton as a distinct medal favourite — especially after adding some strong showings in Las Vegas and Chicago to her unbeaten run within Ontario boundaries.

With that in mind, she met her all-around eastern national triumph with relief as much as happiness.

"I didn't put a lot of expectation on myself, but it was good to finish well," said Keiara, who along with Di-46

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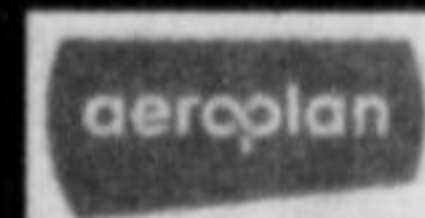
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