

## MSS runners win OFSAA berth

Midland Secondary School won its first-ever ticket into the Ontario cross-country running championships after its Midget Boys team placed second at the Georgian Bay Secondary Schools Athletic Association championships Wednesday at Springwater Park in Midhurst.

Midland's team of Ian Porter (6th), Bill Richardson (18th), Bill Black (20th), Bruce Marsden (22nd), Dave Hutchinson, Art Perrault and Ted Chisolm scored 66 points, well back of the 28 points accumulated by Thornhill's Thornleigh Collegiate.

The runner-up finish gave the MSS team a berth in the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association championships, to be held next Saturday at the Boyd Conservation area near Woodbridge.

More than 115 runners took part in the Midget Boys division of the GBSSA championship. In total, more than 500 runners representing about 20 schools attended the event.

The MSS Junior Boys contingent also fared well, missing an Ontario championship berth by only six points. Juniors Dave Larmand, Jeff King, Ken McGrath and Kevin Thomas all finished in the top 33 positions. If each of the boys had finished one spot higher, according to MSS coach Elmver Vuorimaki, the team would have qualified.

Other MSS runners participating in the event were Wendy Scott, 35th in the Junior Girls event; Midget Suzanne Foster, 55th; and Senior Boys Chris Shearer (45th) and Dwight Copegog (54th).

In past years, MSS has had only individual runners qualify for the provincial finals: Angela Schmidt, who was among the province's top female performers five years ago, and Ernie Desroches, who suffered injuries in an automobile accident just before last year's OFSAA event.



### Hot week for skating

These power-skating youngsters from the Midland Figure Skating Club may not be able to land a triple axel, but they do share the skating spunk that has made local native Brian Orser (inset) one of the world's best senior mens' competitors. Orser, the reigning Canadian champion,

is in Ottawa this weekend for Skate Canada, an international competition which caps off National Skating Week. Meanwhile, the MFYC marked the week with a fund-raising Skate-a-thon at Midland Arena Wednesday.

## Guthrie hopes A's find new coach

by Garry Forbes  
Bruce Guthrie doesn't like telling his friends what to do.

The 24-year-old

defenceman, sidelined the past four weeks with a painful upper-chest injury, has been behind the bench of the Midland

Athletics in their last couple of OHA Intermediate A hockey league games.

He'll be behind the bench again tonight in Orillia, probably again Sunday at Midland Arena when the Athletics meet the powerful Georgetown Raiders, but definitely not anymore after that.

The Athletics have been without a coach since Bob Monteith resigned a couple of games into the season. Veteran defenceman Hugh Robertson has been handling most of the practice sessions while manager Shawn Stewart, trainer Randy Vincent and Guthrie have all made appearances behind the bench.

Guthrie has been most effective, and, if it wasn't his friends he had to direct, he might even enjoy it. The pressure of it all should be over by next week,

though. By that time, Guthrie should be in uniform again, and, the club hopes, a full-time coach will have been found.

"It's pretty hard for me," the Wyebridge native said Wednesday. "A lot of the guys are older than I am -- and they're friends. And how do you tell somebody else what to do, and tell them about their mistakes, when you know you make the same mistakes yourself?"

Guthrie, new to the Intermediate ranks,

played last season with the semi-pro Saginaw (Mich.) Gears of the International Hockey League. He was considering a return to the club before his injury, a separation of a joint in the upper ribcage-collarbone area which resulted in pinched ligaments.

Guthrie says he'll probably stay in the area after his injury is fully healed, providing he can find a job. If not, the Athletics will be without a solid young defenceman...and a top-flight fill-in coach.

### Midland Oldtimers enter tourney

Sixteen teams will take part in the Elmvale Oldtimers hockey tournament that will be played Friday, 14 games on Saturday, and nine games on Sunday.

Some of the places represented will be Millbrook, Coldwater, Stroud, Innisfil, Base Borden, Wasaga Beach, Agincourt, Hamilton, Gravenhurst, Rice Lake, and Orillia, in addition to Elmvale.



### Running battle

The Midland Secondary School Midget Boys' cross-country running team scored a second-place finish in Wednesday's Georgian Bay Secondary School's Athletic Association championships at

Springwater Park in Barrie. The effort qualified them for the Ontario championships - a first for MSS.

## Buttineau just misses

Lyle Buttineau of Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School narrowly missed qualifying for the Senior Boys' Ontario championship after a 14th-place finish at Wed-

nesday's Georgian Bay Secondary Schools Athletic Association the Junior Girls Cross-Country championships at Puddicombe (39th), Springwater Park in Mike Pilon (67th), and Midhurst. Perry Beausoleil (87th) Other ESPSS runners in Wednesday's event Boys division.