

## Terrace Bay - Schreiber

## NEWS

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## Schreiber boxer going to New Zealand to represent Canada at Commonwealth Games

By Monica Wenzlaff

On January 25, Dominic "Hollywood" Filane of Schreiber will represent Canada in the Light Flyweight Boxing Division at the Commonwealth Games being held in Auckland, New Zealand.

"The Commonwealth Games have been a dream for me," said the 20-year-old Filane. "Hopefully I'll win 'cause it'll be a good birthday present for my dad."

Filane became the Canadian Light Flyweight Champion on November 5, 1989 in Hamilton when he defeated Barry Christie, Hamilton's "hometown boy". The fight is Filane's most memorable because he had lost to Christie before in a decision he thought he should have won.

"There was a lot of excitement because it was the biggest tournament...and also because he had beaten me and I figured he didn't," said Filane.

Filane trained intensively for two-weeks before the Commonwealth trials. Then, on Dec. 5 in Ormoco, New Brunswick, he qualified and took his place on the Canadian team.

Filane began boxing at age 14, when Kevin Cocks started a boxing club in Schreiber.

"I couldn't sing or dance and I was getting too small for hockey, so I figured I'd try boxing," he said.

He trained with Cocks but couldn't find anyone to fight because he weighed only 70-lbs. After a year, Filane finally found competition, when Trevor Phillips, another boxer his size, appeared in Thunder Bay. The two fought three times in the "Mighty Might" class, a division

created for them because of their size. Filane won two of the three fights.

At 16, Filane became the Ontario Junior "C" Light Flyweight Champion.

"Kevin Cocks took me from a little boy who knew nothing to winning the Ontario Championships," said Filane. "When I get out of the ring, he's the guy I phone next after my mom."

After winning a bronze medal in the Canadian Championships in 1985, Filane stopped boxing for three years because he was under the legal limit weight of 48 kg (106 lbs.) in the Light Flyweight class.

Last year, while attending Seneca College in Toronto, Filane decided to start boxing again. He contacted Ontario coach Adrian Theodorescu and began training with him.

"He took me under his wing and really took care of me," said Filane.

*You definitely feel confident when he's in your corner.*

Theodorescu coached both Lennox Lewis and Edgerton Marcus, winners of gold and silver respectively at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.

"You definitely feel confident when he's in your corner," said Filane.

Filane trains daily for approximately 2 1/2 hours. His workout includes stretching exercises, a three to five mile run, bag work

and boxing with his coach to improve his technique and style. He follows a strict low fat diet to keep his weight at 48 kg, and says he misses eating ice cream the most.

Filane was disappointed when Theodorescu wasn't chosen to coach the Canadian team. "Whatever he's been doing for me has been working," he said. "With him there, I feel like I have a third arm."

He hopes the Canadian coaches will relate to him as well.

"Presently, Filane is in Hawaii with the Canadian team for two-weeks of intensive training to prepare for the Commonwealth Games. They will arrive in Auckland five-days before the Games open to become accustomed to the time difference and the climate.

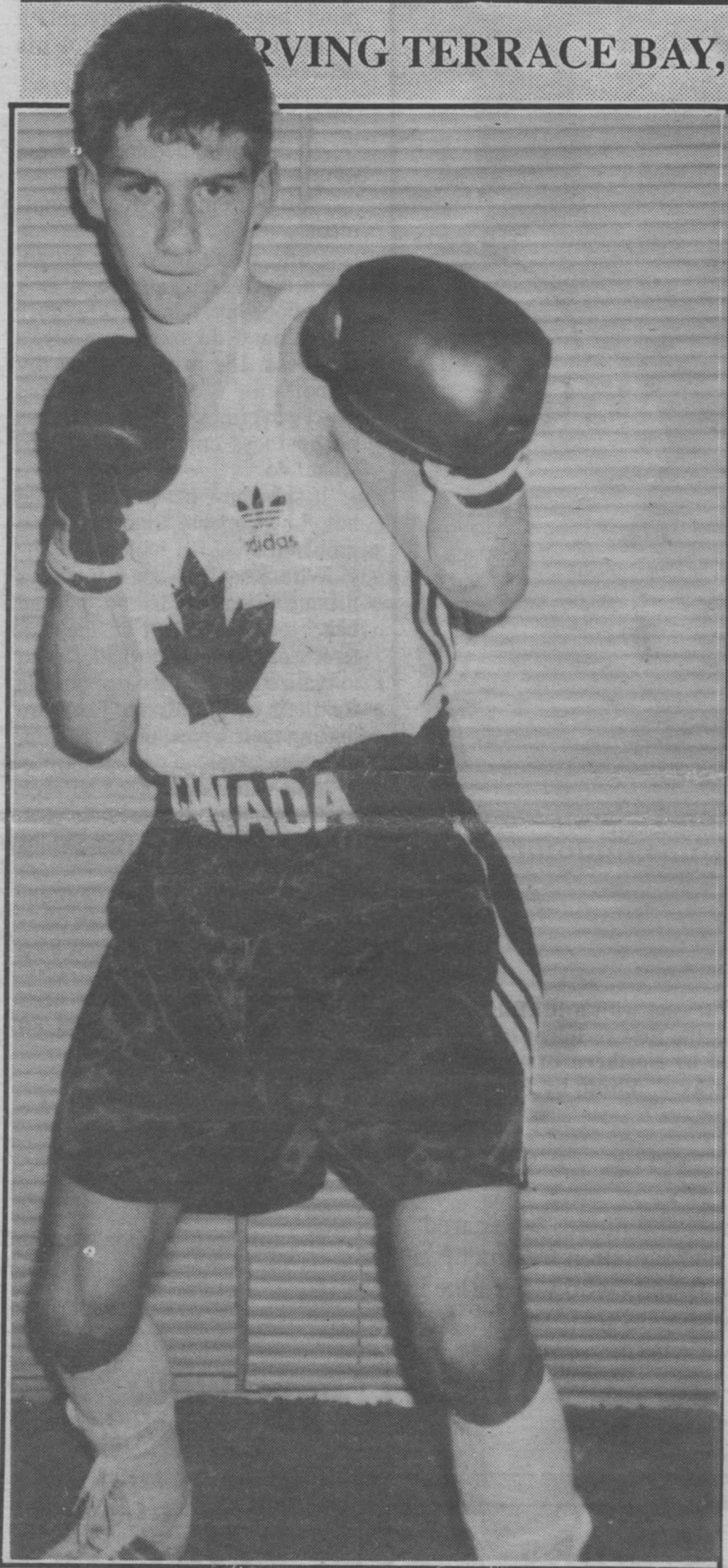
Filane will not return to Canada until February 14. Immediately after the Games, the team will compete in the President's Cup in Indonesia. They will also travel to Thailand and Las Vegas.

Filane will soon set his sights on the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain.

"The Olympics are the ultimate goal," he said. But for now, he is concentrating on the Commonwealth Games and the competitions immediately after.

Filane said the support he's been given by his family and friends in Terrace Bay and Schreiber gives him confidence.

"I would like to get Schreiber known," he said. "Here, you're really appreciated, and you want to bring some recognition back to the town."



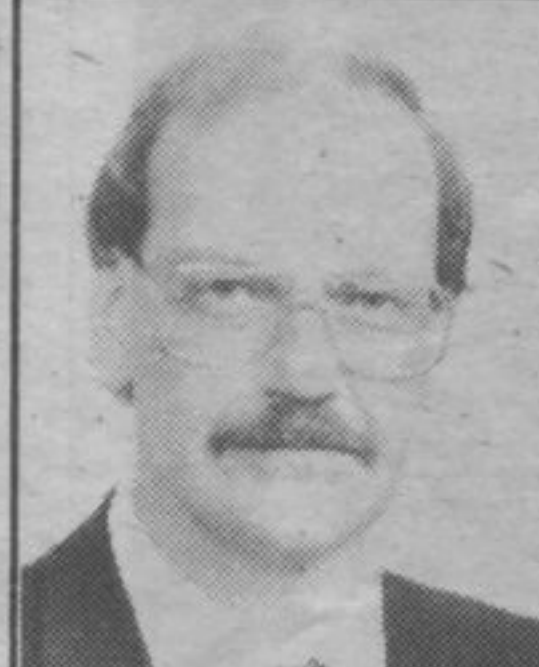
Dominic Filane will be representing Canada at the Commonwealth Games in Auckland, New Zealand later this month. He captured the Canadian Light Flyweight Championship last November and after the Commonwealth Games will be setting his sights on the 1992 Olympics being held in Barcelona, Spain.



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