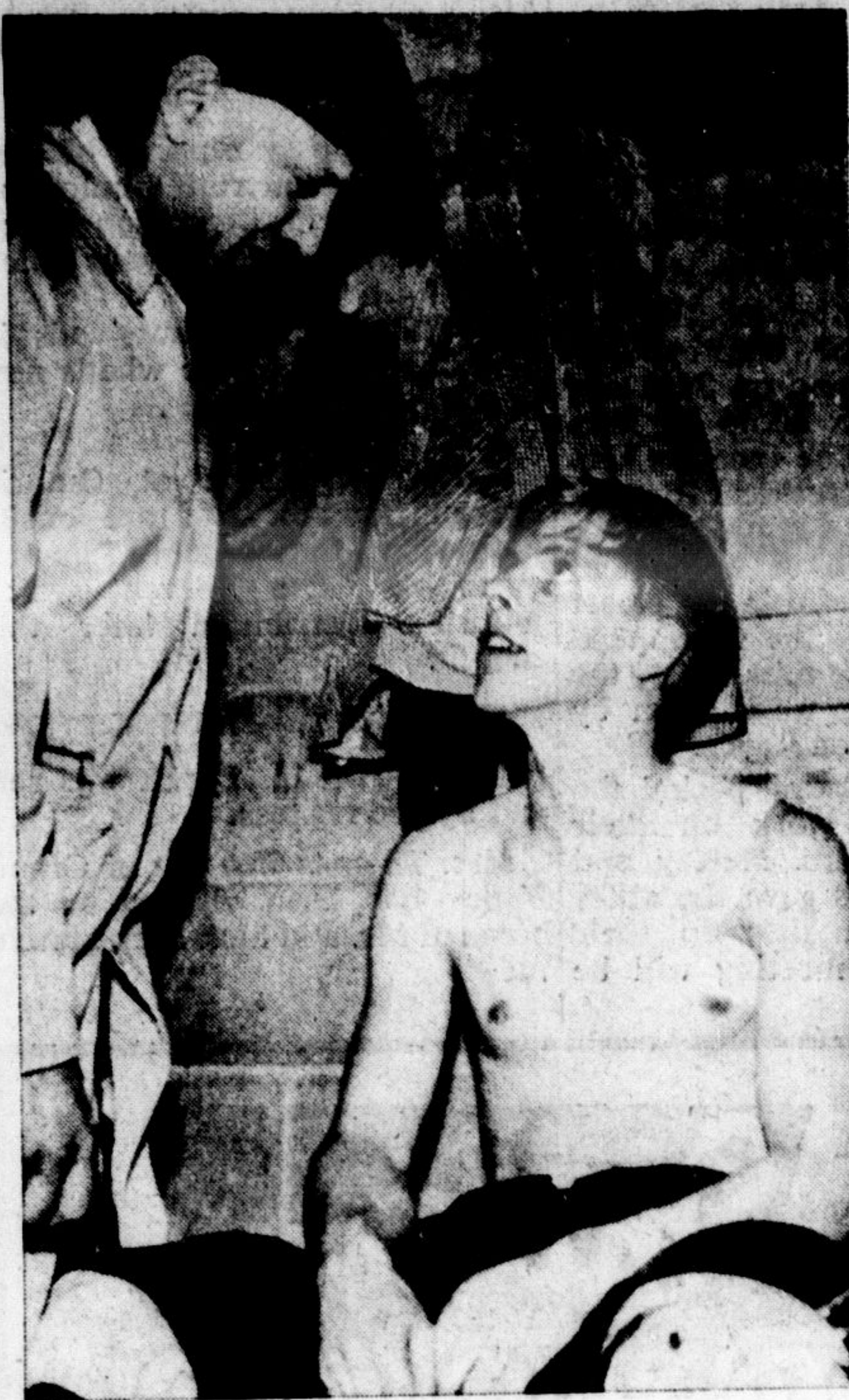


# Merchants Walk Ledge of Elimination - Victory Needed Tonight



—Staff Photo

The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, April 7th, 1965



## SPORT LITES

By BRIAN MCCRISTALL

**GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES**, or so the story reads, and Merchant coach Enio Scisizzi can thank his lucky stars for a particular trio of gifts — Frank Marchiori, Paul Legree and Joe Hore. The three Lakeview residents have been major assets in the locals' bid for a league championship. All three have been mentioned as possible pro material and Frank and Joe in particular are ranking high on the list of big league bird-dogs.

At the outset of the season Milton's popular mentor declared "your imports have got to be your big guys, or you're in trouble." Most of the Milton performers have come through in grand style but the Lakeview trio have stood out like the Queen Mary in a bathtub. No one player is quite as important as a goaltender and in Italian-born Frank Marchiori, the Merchants have probably the best net-minder in Junior "C" competition. Frank is so good, that with only one year left in Junior competition, N.H.L. scouts are still interested in him.

Usually a youngster must have at least three years of Junior left, but the curly haired twentener is still considered a prospect. Frank hasn't been as slow developing as his age might suggest. Four years ago he hadn't seen the inside of an arena and this year he got to wear his first pair of goal skates. "Jo Hore's mother started up a team in Lakeview and I was asked if I'd like to play goal," Frank reports. "I'd played most of my goal on the roads but I tried out and we won the T.H.L. championship in our first season."

The fact that he'll probably be asked to a Junior "A" camp next fall seems to amaze the friendly youngster. "Gee, it would be terrific to play hockey for a career, I never thought I had a chance," he said. This fall he tried out with the Dixie Bee Hives — "if you could call it a try out" he said — and after being cut from the squad he figured his hockey playing days were ended. His former juvenile coach recommended that he try Milton and fans, players and officials are very happy that he did.

Milton's development from a less than mediocre team to the league finals all seems to stem from the date that Joe Hore started to play defence. As a forward, the hustling dark haired lad was reliable offensively and a sound scorer, but the team ran into a string of injuries and from that time forward the Merchants' fortunes changed for the better. "I never really knew anything about hockey until I came to Milton," Joe noted. "Enio taught all of us more in the first week than I'd learned in 10 years."

The biggest thrill for Joe to date has been "playing in front of the big crowds."

"We've never played before more than 400 people before, and now there's more than 1,000 — it really makes you feel good — you think the fans are interested in you." The reason for the team's late season success has been "our terrific team spirit," Joe stated. "I think Georgetown had a better team than us but we just played hard and we really wanted to win," the defence star said.

Paul Legree has impressed almost everyone in town since he started to wear a Milton jersey. He's the talkiest member of the trio (and probably on the team) and everything he says is packed with humor. As a defenceman he's especially steady and has a fine shot. During the first half of the season he was rated the club's most valuable player and although he's continued to play well, some of his mates have earned an extra share of the glory.

Outside of Bill Anderson, Paul has received the most serious injuries on the team. His ever-present smile is just a little more noticeable now that braces hold his front teeth together — a reward for a stick in the chops in the Georgetown series — and his ribs ached considerably after being hit by a puck, another memento of the same series.

Although hockey is an important game for these fellows, another sport, lacrosse, ranks high on their list of favorites. All three play for a Lakeview team and this year they will be active in Junior "A" lacrosse competition. We can only hope for the sake of their lacrosse team — that they help it as much as they have helped Milton.

**TRAGEDIES IN SPORT** can come in all shapes and sizes. It could be a Jack McMaster crashing into the boards and prematurely ending a budding hockey career or a \$100,000 bonus baby who can't stand crowds or a fellow like Gene Stephens who never fulfilled his potential as a baseball super star. For a fellow who was to have filled the boots of Ted Williams, Stephens had a very mediocre big league career. A highly rated bonus player, he made big impressions when first appearing at the Boston Red Sox camp about 15 years ago, but now as 32-year-old journeyman performer, all hopes for super stardom are gone. He was given an unconditional release from his fourth major league club last week.

A strong sense of humor has been showing through recently in the game reports submitted for the Pro-Am hockey league. Last week Bob Burke received the title of "Stoney Burke" and this week it was reported that John McLean was sent to the sin bin for sneezing. Time of the penalty was the crack of dawn and according to the report he's in the box for life. Glad to see the Merchant Junior followers refrained from tossing articles on the ice at Wednesday night's game. Baseball season is just around the corner and already the bookies are receiving hot tips on who will win the world series. As usual we're backing the Boston Red Sox. In the National League we have strong hopes that the Phillies will go all the way, but somehow we can't help but remember that "old stone fingers" Dick Stuart, will be guarding first base for Gene

(Continued on Page 8)

**DOWN BUT NOT OUT**, the Milton Merchant Juniors will be fighting off elimination when they tussle with the Simcoe Blades in Milton arena tonight (Wednesday) at 8.30. With three strikes against them, coach Enio Scisizzi promises "we'll throw everything but Parton's cigar at them and we'll be in Simcoe Saturday night." The Merchants turned in two strong performances in the first three games of the best of seven series and deserved at least one victory. Last Wednesday Simcoe scored three goals in less than two minutes of the last period to win. Friday night the injury-ridden Merchants were out-classed but Monday in Simcoe they played well but didn't have a single break. As the

coach reports, "we haven't had a cheap goal yet — every one we've got, we've really worked for." In the first photo coach Scisizzi chats with Roger Wildfong who played Monday after sitting out Friday's game with a shoulder injury. Goaltender Frank Marchiori is shown brooding in the second photo. Brian Bond, Joe Hore and Alan Reid discuss some of the team's problems in the next picture and at the right, Alain Bouchard hides his face and Renato Bertoli stares angrily at the floor. The photos were taken Monday evening following a disappointing loss in Simcoe.

### Down Three Games

## Coach Promises Top Notch Effort

"We'll be shooting the works and if we get any breaks at all this series could last a lot longer than most people think," Enio Scisizzi reported following a disappointing loss in Simcoe on Monday evening. The 64 verdict on Monday placed the Merchants squarely behind the proverbial eight-ball and right on the brink of elimination.

Fourth game in the league championship series will be played in Milton tonight (Wednesday) at 8.30 and a loss would end the season for the league's Cinderella squad. A late season spurt enabled Milton to enter the playoffs and most observers thought they would be eliminated when they met the Georgetown Beavers. Terrific team spirit, maturing performances from several players plus fantastically fine fan support boosted the club past the Beavers into the league semi-finals.

**Bubble Burst**  
According to pessimists the bubble had to burst, but the locals continued to improve and out-classed the Orangeville Hornets, giving them the right to meet the experienced Simcoe Blades for the league championship. The Blades are no run of the mill junior team. They have nine players who will graduate from the junior ranks next season and they

#### Parton's Cigar

"When we play them on Wednesday we're going to throw everything but Parton's cigar and we're going to be in Simcoe on Saturday night for the fifth game. We've played two good games but when you don't get the breaks you don't win."

## Injury Ridden Juniors Bombed 8-1 by Blades

Minus two of their ace performers, Milton Merchant Juniors dropped an embarrassing 8-1 decision to the Simcoe Blades on Friday evening and fell two games behind in their best of seven league championship series. Roger Wildfong, one of the club's top skaters, was injured in the opening game of the series and didn't make the 80 mile jaunt to Simcoe, and Bruce McDuffe, one of the stars of the playoffs, was injured after the first shift.

The fast skating Blades had little trouble with the Merchants as they scored twice in the first period, four more unanswered tallies in the second and two goals in the third. Milton's lone marker was scored by Juvenile Steve Gervais on passes from Jim Keane and Leon Stickle at 10.40 of the last period and made the score 7-1 at the time.

Coach Enio Scisizzi was forced to continually juggle his lines, due to injuries and he had the additional problem of "everyone having a bad game," he said. The McDuffe - Wildfong - Stickle line which traditionally shines, had to be revamped and Stickle played with defencemen Steve Gervais and Bill Anderson for most of the game.

Referees assessed 25 penalties in the rough and ready contest, including 14 to the hard hitting Blades. Goaltender Frank Marchiori made 34 stops for Milton and his counterpart in the Simcoe cage, Bill Allender was called on for 33 saves. Nearly 300 Milton supporters made the long trip to the northern centre and were disappointed by their team's performance.

Blade's captain Wayne Neidrauer scored with 34 seconds gone in the game Monday and it looked like a repeat of Friday's game. Jim Keane however soon proved that thinks had changed as he backhanded a loose puck into the Blade goal to notch the score at 1.15 of the same period. The teams battled through the final 18 minutes and 45 seconds of the period on even terms but in the second stanza the Blades continued their penchant for early goals as Neidrauer and Macauley put Simcoe two goals up before the period was one minute and 25 seconds old. The second goal was scored with Simcoe one man short.

#### Into Action

Milton's power play swung into action with the Blades two men short and at 8.42 Bruce McDuffe slipped relays from Leon Stickle and Roger Wildfong into the cage to make it 3-2. Leon Stickle turned the trick 34 seconds later and the count was tied.

With less than two minutes remaining in the period Blain Hazlett put Simcoe back in front. In the third period Frank Marchiori was fantastically good for Milton and frustrated all Simcoe attempts for the first 13.18 minutes. Finally Macauley got behind the Milton defence and tucked the puck between Marchiori's legs to boost the Blade lead to 5-3.

Leon Stickle's second goal of the evening and third point of the

game brought the locals within striking distance. Wildfong and Brian Bond assisted. Stickle's goal at 16.16 seemed to be the war cry the Merchants needed and they kept on pressing. With just less than a minute remaining Marchiori was pulled in favor of an extra attacker and for the second time in the series Simcoe scored in an open net to make the final count 6-4.

Marchiori was unbelievably good in the third period.

#### First Period

3-4—S; Neidrauer (Kowalsky, Mitchell)  
1.15—M; Keane unassisted.  
Pen.: 3.25 Hazlett; 6.54 Kowalsky; 9.58; Prentice; 14.10 Marshall; 17.29 Stickle; 18.34 Mitchell.

#### Second Period

1.04—S; Neidrauer (Kowalsky, Bushell)  
1.24—S; Macauley unassisted  
8.42—M; McDuffe (Stickle, Wildfong)  
9.16—M; Stickle (McDuffe, Wildfong)  
18.17—S; Hazlett (Preston)  
Pen.: 1.11 Hazlett; 2.11 Keane; 6.21 Yuill; 7.30 Minty; 8.34 Hazlett; 10.11 Preston; 11.26 Hazlett.

#### Third Period

13.18—S; Macauley (Hazlett, Preston)  
16.16—M; Stickle (Wildfong, Bond)  
19.51—S; Torti unassisted.  
Pen.: 2.5 McDuffe; 5.8 Kowalsky; 9.21 Torti; 13.56 Reid.

## Select Arn McDuffe President Tri-County Hockey Association

Active in Tri-County hockey circles since its inception, Arn McDuffe of Milton was elected president of the Tri-County Association for the 1965-66 season on Sunday afternoon. More than 30 representatives from Acton, Milton, Brampton, Oakville, Burlington, Preston, Guelph, Orangeville and Hespeler attended the annual meeting in the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Milton and were called on to cast votes for only one office — third vice-president.

Other members of the new executive include first vice-president Joe O'Kraik of Hespeler, second vice-president Don Jarvie of Georgetown, treasurer Jim Brookie of Oakville, secretary John McLean of Milton and third vice-president Les Moccock of Brampton. Mr. Moccock defeated Alan Parton of Milton for the third vice-president's spot on the executive.

President of the association for the past two years, Bob Patterson of Brampton, resigned. Ferguson and Georgetown were not represented at the meeting.

The biggest problem confronting the meeting was the possible splitting of the association into two divisions for play next winter. It was decided to take no action on this question until the fall. A proposal from Brampton that "A" and "B" minor teams play in one division and "B", "C", and "D" teams play in a second division, was deferred until the fall meeting.

In presenting the Brampton proposal, Les Moccock stated the possible addition of several more teams would force the association to make some change and he thought the division according to categories was the best way. Toronto Township,

Streetsville, Dundas, Bramalea and Hamilton were mentioned as possible new entries for next year.

A suggestion was made by Bill Burrell of Malton that the two divisions should play an interlocking schedule with all games to count.

Acton, Milton and Preston representatives indicated they would oppose the split as it was suggested by Brampton. Milton in particular indicated it would not wish to play a complete schedule against weaker competition since the community can compete favorably with all other centres.

## Bantams Earn Tie Prep for Tourney

After a layoff of several weeks, the Milton Legion Bantams began prepping for the Bantam Hockey Week Tournament in Georgetown by battling Winona to a 5-5 tie in an exhibition game in Milton on Thursday.

Mike McGrath and Ricky Cole tallied twice as the Legionnaires fought back with three third period goals to earn the deadlock. Ted Hodd's unassisted marker was the other Milton goal. Don Hearn and Ted Hood each had two assists.

Winona led 4-2 at the end of the second period and after Milton tied the count in the third frame, Winona broke loose for two more tallies, forcing the locals to muster all their strength in an effort to earn the tie. Ten penalties were called in the game, seven to Winona.

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## MILTON ARENA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

8.30 p.m. — Junior Hockey  
Playoffs — Simcoe vs Milton

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

8-10—Pro-Am Hockey  
Hiltz vs Fox — 8 p.m.  
Cain vs McTrach — 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

4.30-6 p.m. — Friday Nites  
6-10 p.m. — Minor Hockey  
Finals

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

8.30-12.30 — Tri-County  
Juvenile Tournament  
2 p.m. — Midget Playoffs  
(if necessary) — Rotary  
Midgets vs St. Marys  
8-10 — Public Skating — 50c

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

2.30 p.m. — Junior Hockey  
Playoffs (if necessary)  
Simcoe vs Milton  
5 p.m. — Pee Wee Playoffs  
(if necessary) — St. Marys  
vs Kinsmen Pee Wees

MONDAY, APRIL 12 —

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

SEVENTH ANNUAL  
TRI-COUNTY  
JUVENILE TOURNAMENT