



SWEEPING IN and trying to score, Milton attempt during Friday's game against forwards Greg Chuchmach and Harold Merry Hespeler. Milton lost 6-4. (Photo by R. Downs)

Flyers' work set out in race for playoffs

Milton Continental Flyers head into the new year and the last leg of the Central Ontario Junior B hockey schedule with a big job ahead of them, if they hope to gain a berth in the playoffs this year.

Flyers ended the year on a poor note, losing 5-1 to Oakville on Boxing Day and then 6-4 to Hespeler Friday in the Milton rink. The losses set Flyers in seventh place. The holiday games saw Hespeler climb from sixth to fifth place, overtaking the Preston club. Preston leads Flyers by three points and has two games in hand.

Busy schedule

Flyers busy to play in Oakville last night and will host Burlington Friday night and travel to Burlington for the second game of the back to back series. They'll play Oakville in Oakville next Tuesday for the fourth game in eight days.

With less than six weeks and only 15 games left on the schedule, the road for the Flyers will be a rough one. They'll meet first place Burlington three times and the rest of the league twice in seven games at home and eight on the road.

Friday night Flyers found themselves down 4-0 before the local shooters finally found the range midway through the final stanza and hit for four goals cutting the Hespeler lead and slicing the final margin to 6-4.

Billy Presniak opened the Milton scoring when he took possession at centre ice, carried the puck in and beat Brian Evans on a power play goal. It was Milton's first goal of the game. Presniak scored unassisted.

Danny Nichol, Angus York and Harold Merry added singles. Merry, who starred with the club last year, helped out Friday. He was home from school for the holidays. He scored a goal and an assist. Presniak, Ray Love, John Arnold and York all picked up assists during the contest.

Stops 41 shots

Flyer goalie Doug Weatherall turned away 41 shots and was beaten twice in each period. By way of comparison Evans was

only tested 31 times altogether by the Flyers. The game was relatively free of chippy play. Milton took five minor penalties and Hespeler 10. There were no major penalties levied.

Love scored Milton's only goal in the Oakville game. Greg Chuchmach assisted on the third period marker. Blade Captain Brian Bennett led the Oakville attack with two goals while Don Milford, Ross Rich and Chris Steenhof singled for the win.



MILTON NOVICE COACH Marty Caputo gives a few words of encouragement to his young charges, during the consolation championship series of the Minor "A" tournament in Milton Arena Saturday. Milton's Novice entry had lost their first game to Bay Ridges after a 5-5 tie was broken by penalty shots, then blanked Grimsby 2-0 in the consolation round. They lost the final to Kingston Township by a 4-1 score. (Photo by R. Downs)

Win first two close games Pintos edged from tourney

Milton Novice Pintos provided plenty of action and thrills for fans at the Clarkson Invitational Tournament during the holidays.

On Boxing day the Pintos edged the Clarkson Reps by a score of 3-2. The local boys were trailing Clarkson 2-0 before they started rolling. Joe Gaeton scored an unassisted goal to make it 2-1. With only 14 seconds left in the game and after coaches Twiss and Ellison had pulled the goalie for an extra attacker, Dave Flemington connected on a pass from Brian Serafini to tie up the game and force a sudden death overtime period.

With just five minutes left in the overtime period, Eddie Loeprich picked up a pass from Wayne MacDougall and whizzed an almost impossible angle shot past the Clarkson goalie to win the game for Milton.

The following day saw another

superb team effort as the Pintos downed Faustina by a score of 5-4. Joe Gaeton, who didn't quit skating and working from the opening whistle, was rewarded for his efforts with a hat trick. He received assists from Richard Shannon (2), Dave Flemington (2), and Eddie Loeprich. Brian Serafini put the puck in the net on a pass from Loeprich. It had to be another satisfying game for Eddie Loeprich as he once again scored the winning goal on a beautiful passing play from Joe Gaeton.

Close loss

On Thursday the Pintos were eliminated by Cawthra 3-2. It was a thrilling game from start to

finish. Robert Goenz did an outstanding job in the nets, helping his teammates hold a 2-1 edge before Cawthra tied up the game with seconds to go. In sudden death overtime a mid-air deflection went into the net to end the game. Milton had opened the scoring on a goal by Eddie Loeprich on an assist from Brian Serafini. Serafini scored the second goal with help from Joe Gaeton and Eddie Loeprich.

The boys provided excellent hockey for the fans and were a credit to Milton. Speaking of credit a lot of this must go to coaches Dawson Ellison and Rusty Twiss and manager Gord Cartwright for their excellent handling of the boys.

Third period rally helps Bantams win

It was a fight to the finish but through a great team effort, Milton Bantam B's managed a 5-3 victory over Georgetown on Saturday, Dec. 23.

In the first period a goal by Bob Ireland assisted by Jay Norland and Kevin Howden put Milton ahead 1-0. This was followed in the second with a goal Paul McCann assisted by Dave Marshall and Eric Ellison to give the home team a 2-0 lead. These goals were returned by Georgetown—the first by Paul Martin assisted by Mike Richmond and an unassisted goal by Greg Schenk—to tie the score.

In the third period Georgetown went ahead with a goal by Glen Bodner assisted by Mike Richmond and Paul Martin to make it 3-2. However, this was the end of the scoring for Georgetown when the Milton team rallied and fired home three quick goals to make the final score 5-3.

Derek Griffiths got the tying and winning goals, both assisted by Eric Ellison. The fifth and final goal was scored by Eric Ellison with an assist by Paul McCann. In goal for Milton was "Hap" Perrott who did an exceptionally good job of minding the net.

Taylor leads Mites victory

Sparked by John Taylor's two goals, Milton Mites edged Oakville 2-1 in Milton. Taylor scored the first one in the second period on a pass from Scott Barnes. In the third period Milton went ahead 2-0 on Taylor's second goal with the assist going to Doug Riding.

But the Oaks fought right back and with five minutes left in the game, Pennock broke in on Derrick Neelands and picked the open corner to spoil his shutout.

Bantams win in consolation play

Milton Legion Bantams won the consolation championship in the Silver Stick Tournament against Chinguacousy last weekend with a 6-0 victory over Dunnville in the last game.

Milton lost the opener to Thorold 2-1 when they were scored upon in the last 29 seconds of the game. Manager Joe Wilson was critical of poor officiating in that game.

First game

The club beat Georgetown 4-1 in the first game of the consolation round and won the second game against Dunnville for the consolation award.

Wilson said the club skated hard and played good hockey to come up with the trophy in the consolation competition. The club resumes league action Thursday in Guelph and will host Burlington Monday at 8 p.m.

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