



Why is this man happy? Easy. He's Richard Murray and he just scored the winning goal in overtime to give Racer's Edge a 6-5 win over Burns Stable and a split in their best-of-five MIHL championship series.

Optis hopes end in Markham

Minor peewees swept in three straight in OMHA final

Three unanswered goals in the third period enabled Markham to earn a 5-3 win over Milton Optimist minor peewees and capture a three-game sweep of their OMHA championship series last Tuesday at Markham.

Markham put an end to the final Milton OMHA hopeful when the club overturned a one-goal disadvantage after two periods and using superior play-making and teamwork abilities mounted the final offensive in the final frame to seal the win and the title.

Despite bowing out in three straight, Optimists went two series further than any other Milton rep team this year and lost to a club which last year captured the OMHA zone championship at the single-A level.

Moving up to the double-A level didn't faze Markham. The team captured four of five tour-

naments and in exhibition play went undefeated against Georgetown with a tie and two wins. Markham also swept Richmond Hill three straight in the semi-finals.

Markham also employs a system whereby the coach moved up with the team from the novice level. It was apparent to many observers that this advantage worked very much in their favor. Markham showed extremely good fundamentals and employed a strong checking and teamwork approach which frustrated Optis throughout the series.

"Their game was a fast end-to-end style," explained Optis' assistant coach Mike Atkinson. "We wanted to slow the game down to change the pace and throw Markham off their game. We wanted to force them to come after us."

"For the first two periods it worked. But they got their offence untracked in the third period.

Markham jumped out quickly to a 2-0 lead with a pair of goals 13 seconds apart before the game was six minutes old.

Bryan Haringa narrowed the gap to 2-1 four minutes later with a goal from Doug Poulton and Danny Brown.

Three minutes into the second period, Optis tied the score when Matt McCandless scored from John Snow and Chris Harrison.

Less than a minute later, Adam Mead put Milton ahead for the first and last time with a power-play marker from Brown.

The teams played through the rest of the period and four minutes of the final frame before Markham tied the score and then the home side went ahead with 6:46 left capping the win with a power-play goal two minutes from the end of the game.

Wood leads Drury to gym title

Following up on her first-place win the previous week in the Halton Championships, E.C. Drury's Suzanne Wood guided her school's team to the Elite B title in the Peel-Halton High School Gymnastics championships last Wednesday at Meadowdale.

Suzanne topped the meet for an overall first-place gold medal with a mark of 33.65. Teammate Susan James was fourth overall scoring 32.93 while Cindy Riley also put in a good showing with a sixth on the floor event.

Because of her first-place showing, Suzanne will now advance to the provincial high-school championships April 30 in Lindsay.

Suzanne beat out Marie Ann Perko, of Cawthra Park with 33.47 points and Fran Doesburg, of Oakville's M.M. Robinson, with 33.13 points in taking the overall title.

Suzanne was first on vault with 8.40 second on beam with 8.75 third on floor with 8.23 and eighth on the uneven bars with a mark of 8.27.

Susan James captured the gold medal on her floor routine with a mark of 8.56 was second on the uneven bars with a mark of 8.77 and was sixth on both the vault and beam with respective marks of 7.90 and 7.70.

Cindy Riley was sixth with her floor routine with a mark of 8.03.

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THIRD SECTION

Racer's fight back square MIHL finals

By MICHAEL BOYLE
Champion Sports Editor

Finally showing the form which earned the club first place during the season, The Racer's Edge fought back with a remarkable comeback to edge John Burns Stable 6-5 in overtime Sunday and even their best-of-five Milton Industrial Hockey League championship series at a game apiece.

The third game goes next Sunday at 7 p.m. at Milton Memorial Arena on Thompson Road.

Plagued by inconsistency in the opener and the early part of the second game, The Racer's Edge trailed throughout much of the second contest before forcing overtime with the tying goal just 17 seconds before the end of regulation time.

Racer's centreman Richard Murray performed the heroics in overtime when a terrific second effort allowed him to score the winning goal with just 35 seconds gone in extra time to enable his club to gain a split in the first two games.

The game featured strong goalkeeping at both ends. Stable's Phil Bailey and The Edge's Al Horney were kept busy all evening as both clubs unleashed their potent offences and, combined with poor clearing by both defence corps, made for a good many number of shots and rebounds.

The two clubs played a cautious first

period with no scoring for the first 13 minutes.

JB Stable opened the scoring with 2:26 left in the opening frame. Captain Jay Norland started the play carrying the puck from centre ice. He passed to Doug Thomson whose shot was stopped by Horney. At about the same time, Norland moved into the goal area and crashed into Horney. With the puck lying just outside the goal, and Horney out of position, Dave Arbic backhanded the puck into the vacated goal.

The Racer's Edge bounced back with a power-play goal of their own two minutes into the second period. Brent Murray's shot from the point was deflected into the top right corner by Peter McCuaig.

Forty-two seconds later, The Edge grabbed the lead for the first time in the contest. Racer's Al Fritzeley's shot from the point was stopped by Bailey but Willy Ceelen scooped up the rebound and poked it home for a 2-1 lead.

The players, who were somewhat tentative through the first period and part of the second, lost their inhibitions after Ceelen's goal and as a result the contest became much more physical.

Five minutes later, JB Stable scored the equalizer from a play which appeared somewhat harmless. Defenceman Jim Marshall passed at The Edge blue line to Randy Coulson. The right-winger took a hit and slipped a pass to

Ron Armstrong who, from about 30 feet, scored with a wrist shot along the ice to the far corner.

A minute later, JB Stable threatened to regain the lead. A scramble in front of the goal resulted in the puck lying unattended at the goal post. Horney was out of position but made the save of the game when he dove to make the stop as Arbic circling the net, jabbed at the loose puck.

With 3:29 left in the period, The Edge regained the lead 3-2 with the prettiest play of the evening. Eric Ellison carried the puck over the blue line on a two-on-two with Larry Scott. Ellison slipped a pass to Scott who deked the defenceman and then Bailey, going almost too far before backhanding a shot into the goal vacated by the sprawling netminder.

JB Stable almost tied it up 29 seconds later when they pressed around the Edge goal. The puck entered the goal but referee Paul Benton waived off the goal ruling it had been knocked in with a glove.

Stable defenceman Bob Rusk almost caused his club undue trouble when he punched Racer's winger Tom Chuchmach behind the goal after the play had moved up ice. Rush proceeded to pick up the lanky winger and drop him on the ice and was assessed two minors for roughing while Chuchmach, wisely avoiding retaliation, wasn't penalized.

Despite the four-minute power play, The Edge didn't threaten much and the best chance came in the dying seconds of the period when JB Stable centreman Don Habkirk picked up a loose puck near the penalty box and skated down the left wing on a virtual breakaway. However, Habkirk, rushed for time, unleashed a slapshot from well out and the drive went wide.

Thomson evened the score for JB Stable with a power-play tally at the 15:26 mark starting a scoring outburst which saw four goals in a 90-second span.

Kevin Howden's shot from the point was deflected by Thomson past Horney with Arbic also picking up an assist.

A minute later, Norland's backhand was stopped by Horney but Habkirk was

(continued on pag. C5)



Getting off the shot just prior to being dumped by Burns' Buddy Thomas, The Edge's Richard Murray surprises goalie Phil Bailey by going the other way for the winning goal 35 seconds into overtime Sunday. Murray made the entire play happen carrying the puck from outside the blue line and scoring with a nice second effort. The two clubs meet again in the third game of the series next Sunday at 7 p.m. at Memorial Arena.

Welders champions in WOHL finals

Dave Turner capped a wild finish with four goals in the third period to lead Milton Welding to an 11-7 win over Schroeder's Construction and a three-game sweep of their White Oaks Hockey League championship series Sunday at Memorial Arena.

Welders carried a 7-5 lead into the final period and jumped the lead to four goals after Turner tallied twice before the midway point.

The contest was marred by a free-for-all at the 12:39 mark of the third period. In the melee, Welders' Norm Mowbray and Keith McKinnon picked up two major penalties apiece while teammate Joe McCarthy was ejected from the contest for being the third man in.

Schroeders' Brian Marvel distinguished himself by picking up three major penalties, for high sticking, fighting and spearing. Teammates Doug Cann, John Kandelaar and Keith Doyle also picked up major penalties.

After the altercation, Schroeder narrowed the gap to three goals before Turner salted it away with a pair of markers 46 seconds apart with about five minutes left in the game.

The two clubs played through the first 10 minutes of the opening stanza rather cautiously with each team scoring once. Tom Martin gave Welders a short-lived 1-0 lead six minutes into the contest with a goal from Ken Kerr and Rick O'Donnell.

Schroeder bounced back to even the score at 1-1 two minutes later with a goal from Jim Court, his first of three for the game.

Then the floodgates opened as Welders struck for five goals in a seven-minute span against Schroeder goalie Rob Parker to carry a 6-1 lead into the middle frame.

Martin led the first-period attack with his second and third goals of the frame while Kent Rennie, Mowbray and McKinnon poked home singles. Assists went to Rick McTrach, Mowbray, McCarthy, O'Donnell and Rennie.

The scoring settled down during the second period with Court notching his second goal on Milton goalie Keith Mason at the midway point.

Twenty-one seconds later, Brian Kelly scored for Schroeder to narrow the gap to 6-3 and Schroeder appeared to have gained some momentum.

Rod Gooding slowed the Schroeder offensive with a goal seven minutes from the end of the period from Terry Thompson but Schroeder tallied twice before the end of the period to send Welding into the third period with a 7-5 lead. Keith Doyle and Mike Edgar tallied for Schroeder.

That set the stage for Dave Turner's heroics in the third period. Gooding assisted on three of the markers with Jim Robertson also picking up an assist.



Willy Ceelen, of The Edge, tucks the puck behind Burns' goalie Phil Bailey before being nudged by Burns' captain Jay Norland. Rob Colbeck is in collision with Bailey. The Edge needed a late goal from Peter McCuaig with just 17 seconds left in

Biggest baseball season

More kids than ever will play ball this summer

All indications are for Milton Minor Baseball to have its biggest and most successful season in some time.

With official registration just completed, the organization has already upped its numbers by more than 100 to

570 players. With another 30 expected to register late, MMBA is looking at more than 600 players, by far its biggest registration ever.

The large number of players has allowed Minor Baseball to set up six

house league divisions, including a four-team bantam-midget house league. Last year, the bantam-midgets signed up just enough players for two teams and were forced to set up a rural league arrangement with Georgetown.

With four bantam-midget teams, the association has room for a few spots. Any interested players aged 14-17 as of Dec. 31, 1982 are asked to call Eldon Feaver at 878-5035.

This year, there will be eight teams in Junior T-Ball, seven in Intermediate T-Ball, seven in Senior T-Ball, 10 Tyke teams and six Peewee teams in addition to the aforementioned four bantam-midget clubs.

The biggest surprise was in the Tyke division which saw its number of teams swell from six to 10. A total of 132 players registered including one girl.

"My guess is that about 20 per cent of the players in tyke have never played baseball before," explained association registrar Eldon Feaver. "It looks like some of them didn't want to play T-Ball but are interested in playing baseball."

Another surprise was the number of girls (57) who registered in baseball as opposed to Girls Softball. All but one registered in the T-Ball divisions.

There will be a total of 42-house league teams up four from last season, and four rep teams. The midget rep team has been dropped for this year. The league will start a week later this year, Aug. 7, and conclude a week earlier, Aug. 13, with four weeks set aside for playoffs.

The MMBA also announced plans for a house league tournament the weekend of July 16-18 at Rotary Park. The tourney will include teams from the Halton County Baseball Association in three divisions.

Initial plans call for the tourney to include teams in Senior T-Ball, Tyke and Peewee although provisions are being made to perhaps include the bantam division. The tournament can include just three divisions.

regulation time to force overtime to set the stage for Richard Murray's winning marker.