

Fish and Game news

with ARN COULSON



Squirrels good at reforestation

AT THIS TIME of the year, when you were in the bush either for a stroll or standing on a deer run, did you ever wonder, as you stood under a cedar tree, who was clipping the tree above your head.

Well, according to Ron Reid of the Ontario Naturalists, it is just a red squirrel cutting down a few branches which hold his favorite food — the small seed cones of the cedar.

These little true acrobats like the cones of the spruce and pine. They are one of the finest reforestation creatures we have in the forest, next to birds.

As squirrels skip through the forest for a hiding place for their store of seeds, many are lost on the forest floor. A good number of these seeds make up our reforestation.

Red squirrels are true northerners preferring our woods whenever possible. This is also one of the few species that are actually brighter during the winter months. In summer, it has a reddish-grey fur on the back separated from the white belly by a black stripe.

An individual red squirrel lays claim to a territory ranging from two to six acres, with a wide-ranging appetite. It forages for whatever food is available not just nuts and cones but also mushrooms, bird eggs, meat and even sap in the spring. With such a variety of food sources, it is little wonder that the red squirrel can withstand the perils of fox and owl and sometimes lives for a span of 10 or more years.

With Christmas approaching very quickly, just a word to you Dads who are thinking about buying your son a gun or rifle as a gift. Please be sure he knows all about it before you let him handle it. We are quite sure that a true outdoorsman would not give his boy a rifle and shells without proper instruction in the use of a dangerous weapon.

Gun accidents have been cut by 80 per cent since the introduction of compulsory safe-gun handling. Every new gun owner must take (and pass) the test given by a selected man or woman who is versed in the use of firearms.

On Friday, the Halton Sportsman Club is again having a huge Turkey Roll at the clubhouse on Steeles Ave. Don't miss this night of fun and good sportsmanship.

Blades battle in a tough week

After many weeks of encouraging play, Milton Banvil Blades minor bantams were jolted back to earth with two losses in three games last week.

Burlington handled Blades 3-2 Tuesday. Blades overcame southern rival Oakville with a 4-0 win and Georgetown finally found some aspirin to cure three headaches Milton unleashed on them by winning the fourth and final match-up of the year 5-2 Sunday at Memorial Arena.

Coming off a big win over Georgetown, Burlington continued their fine play with the one-goal win over Blades.

The host Burlington squad pressed in the early going and beat Blade keeper Alex Giannuzzi just a minute and a half into the game. Burlington upped the lead to 2-0 with a goal near the end of the opening frame.

Geoff Pollen cut the margin to a single goal when he scored quickly into the second period from Wayne Rivers and Pat Butler but Burlington regained their two-goal lead with a goal from a scramble.

Scott Ellwood brought his mates back to within a goal when he scored from Giannuzzi and Pollen but the rest of the Blades couldn't solve the opposition goaltender to gain a tie.

After two consecutive losses to Oakville, Milton finally solved Kevin Foley's acrobatic style of goalkeeping. Blades cleared well in front of Don Durand to skate to the shutout win.

Blades scored twice in the first period and twice more in the third to salt away the victory.

Butler started the scoring at the 8:54 mark of the first period with an unassisted tally. Just 41 seconds later, Travis Cole got his seventh of the year from Rivers and Brett Gervais.

Scott Hilson with his seventh of the season from Pollen and Doug Drennan from Cole rounded out the scoring.

Against Georgetown, Blades suffered poor shooting which prompted coach Larry Scott to say, "Usually the goalie's best friend is the post. But today, his best friend was the Milton shooters."

Georgetown and Milton are locked in a hard-fought battle to finish ahead of one another with all eyes pointed in the direction of the OMHA playdowns.

Georgetown travelled to Memorial Arena Sunday with several carloads of fan support in an effort to find a way to beat Blades after three straight losses.

The visitors jumped into a 2-0 lead early into the middle period before Ellwood got the Blades rolling with a goal from Wilson and Pollen.

But Georgetown bounced right back with two more goals near the end of the second period to skate to a 4-1 lead at intermission.

Early in the third period, Blades power-play fizzled and they repeatedly

were thwarted by the composed steady play of the Georgetown defence and the encouraging roar of their fans.

Georgetown held Milton at bay until six minutes remained in the game when Rob Wilson scored his 18th of the year from

Hilson and Pollen.

With Giannuzzi on the bench for an extra attacker, Blades couldn't come close and with 53 seconds left, Georgetown popped one into the vacated goal for the 5-2 final score.

Comets fall in Sound

In Owen Sound over the weekend, Milton Canadian Tire major midget Comets played to a 4-4 deadlock with Georgetown before being ousted from the tournament with a 10-2 loss to Newmarket. Both games were part of the regional Silver Stick International tourney.

Facing Georgetown, Comets came to within one minute and 27 seconds of winning when Georgetown scored the equalizer.

Milton opened the scoring two minutes into the contest when Mike Henneberry scored an unassisted goal. Just 26 seconds later, Georgetown tied the score.

In the second period, Comets jumped in front 2-1 when Jeff Sanford scored from Trevor Riebot. Shortly after, Mark Robert and Riebot combined to set up Sanford again for a 3-1 Comet lead.

Georgetown bounced back midway through the period to close to within one and then tied the score with a minute left in the frame.

With three minutes left in the game, Mike Mangotich scored from Sanford to put Comets back into the lead but the club couldn't hold on to it and Georgetown tied the score with just over a minute left in the game.

In Comets' second game of the tourney, Newmarket built up a 6-0 lead after two periods with a well-disciplined approach and coasted to the easy win.

Henneberry and Riebot scored for Milton with Jamie Gillies, Terry Ellwood, Mangotich and Robert adding assists.

In action last week, Comets lost 4-2 to Oakville, 3-1 to Georgetown and 5-3 to Brampton.

Against Brampton, Comets put in an excellent performance. Brampton currently leads the league with a 13-1-2 record. Their lone loss was to Milton when Comet goalie Andy Saliba stoned them cold with 54 saves in a 2-1 Comet win.

Determined to put on a good show, Comets played a good first period and Brampton escaped with a 1-0 lead. In the second period, Brampton added four more goals before four minutes had been played for a 5-0 lead.

With the Brampton fans uncontrollably ecstatic and the Milton fans ruefully quiet and resolved to accept another bruising, the tone of the game changed with 4:40 left in the second period.

Riebot broke the egg shell with a goal from Mangotich. Three minutes later, Henneberry scored from Ellwood and Milton was right back in it.

Milton continued to play well in the final frame and were backed up by Saliba in goal who was kept busy all night. Comets tucked home their third goal of the game with 4:40 left with Sanford notching the goal from Ellwood.

Carnegie's goalkeeping leads Aggies over Dundas

Backed by outstanding goalkeeping from Shawn Carnegie, Milton Dufferin Aggregates minor midgets rolled to an easy 6-2 win over Dundas Sunday afternoon at Memorial Arena.

It marked Carnegie's second strong performance of the weekend. On Saturday in Streetsville, Carnegie put on an excellent show to keep his club in the game despite going down by a 2-1 score.

Against Dundas, Chris Austin and Steve Ralph stole the show offensively with four points apiece. Austin connected for three goals and an assist while Ralph chipped in with four assists.

Dundas opened the scoring two minutes into the contest but less than a minute later Milton tied it up when Perri

Hood scored from Austin and Ralph.

Dundas bounced back to go back in front at the 3:46 mark with a power-play goal before Milton retaliated with a power-play goal of their own with just over a minute to go. Austin notched the marker from Hood and Ralph.

With 44 seconds left in the period, Austin fired what proved to be the winning goal and with Carnegie guarding the nets Aggies were on their way. Marshall Cram and Ralph assisted.

In the second period, Austin scored from Kevin Luoma and Ralph for a 4-2 lead. Cram and Luoma closed out the scoring in the final period. Assists went to Tracy Harding, Alan James and Ralph.

Optis save best for last

Milton Optimists minor peeewee reps continued regular season action on Wednesday with their third and final game of the season against Flamboro—and their third and best win against them.

Flamboro opened the scoring early in the first period, but it would be the only goal they would get against netminder Mark Harrison.

Optis were unable to retaliate until much later. To be exact with 22 seconds left in the second period the line of Bray, Harris and Blanchard put their three-man effort to use with Bray notching the goal.

It took the Optis until the third period to warm up, but when they did they were hot, scoring five goals with no reply from Flamboro. Finch, Healey, Hasselfeldt, and Todd McLeod each netted a goal, and Mifsud tallied two assists during their hot spell.

Flamboro didn't feel Milton had locked the game up yet. With 26 seconds and down four goals they pulled their goalie in favor of a sixth attacker in an attempt to tie the game. Chris Fabbro didn't need any more encouragement as he picked up a pass from Turner to give Milton the 6-1 win.

Saturday, Optis met up with Burlington for their second time and second win. Optis took the game 4-0 and did all their scoring in the first two periods, saving the third period to practice penalty killing.

French and Finch scored two goals each with Mifsud contributing three assists, and Blanchard,

Bray and Todd McLeod one each.

In the third period, Optis had little time to score as they spent the period climbing in and out of the penalty box. In the last five minutes of action, four members of the Milton team followed the play from this location.

Strong work from the four defencemen, Todd McLeod and Scott McLeod, Hasselfeldt and Moffatt kept Flamboro from scoring and allowed them only seven shots on net throughout the game, five of them in the last period.

With 30 seconds left in the game and down four goals, Burlington took a page from Flamboro and went with six attackers trying to get a least one goal.

The damp weather on Sunday seemed to put a damper on the Optis mood in their second match-up against Dundas. The pace of the game was as fast as traffic in a snow storm, with little action from either side until Fabbro put Milton on the board half way through the period on a passing effort from Mifsud and Healey.

Both sides continued to drive in slow gear in the second period with the only highlight, Scott McLeod's picture perfect pass to Mifsud in front of the net, halfway through the period to give Milton the 2-0 lead.

Dundas retaliated with three goals before Milton put their action into second gear to tie the game up 3-3 with Healey notching the goal from Finch and Moffatt.

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