

Medics, Movers, Blades, Wheelers

Four rep teams qualify for OMHA

Four rep hockey teams have advanced into the OMHA championship series, set to begin (or already begun) this week.

The number is down from last year when six teams qualified but is in line with the traditional number Milton qualifies each year.

The successful Milton teams were Docs & Dents minor atoms, Scannell Movers major peewees, Banvil Blades minor bantams and Fifth Wheel major bantams. In addition, the juveniles, minor midgets and minor peewees went to the Tri-County final round before being eliminated (by Georgetown each time).

A complete wrap-up of the rep teams is contained inside these pages. Briefly, here is a synopsis of what happened and what to look for.

The minor atoms went five tough games with Georgetown before pulling ahead 7-3 in points. All

games were close which kept the fans glued to their seats.

This team didn't do anything last year at the novice level but has blossomed as minor atoms. The club is an unknown quantity. They play Stoney Creek in the first round which began Monday night in Stoney Creek.

The major peewees dropped their opening game with Georgetown and then collected themselves to oust their arch-rivals in three consecutive games. Movers have already started against Owen Sound and lead two games to none. They should wrap it up Saturday in the Sound. The interesting thing about this series is that Owen Sound defeated Milton in the championship game of the Regional Silver Stick tourney before Christmas so anything is possible.

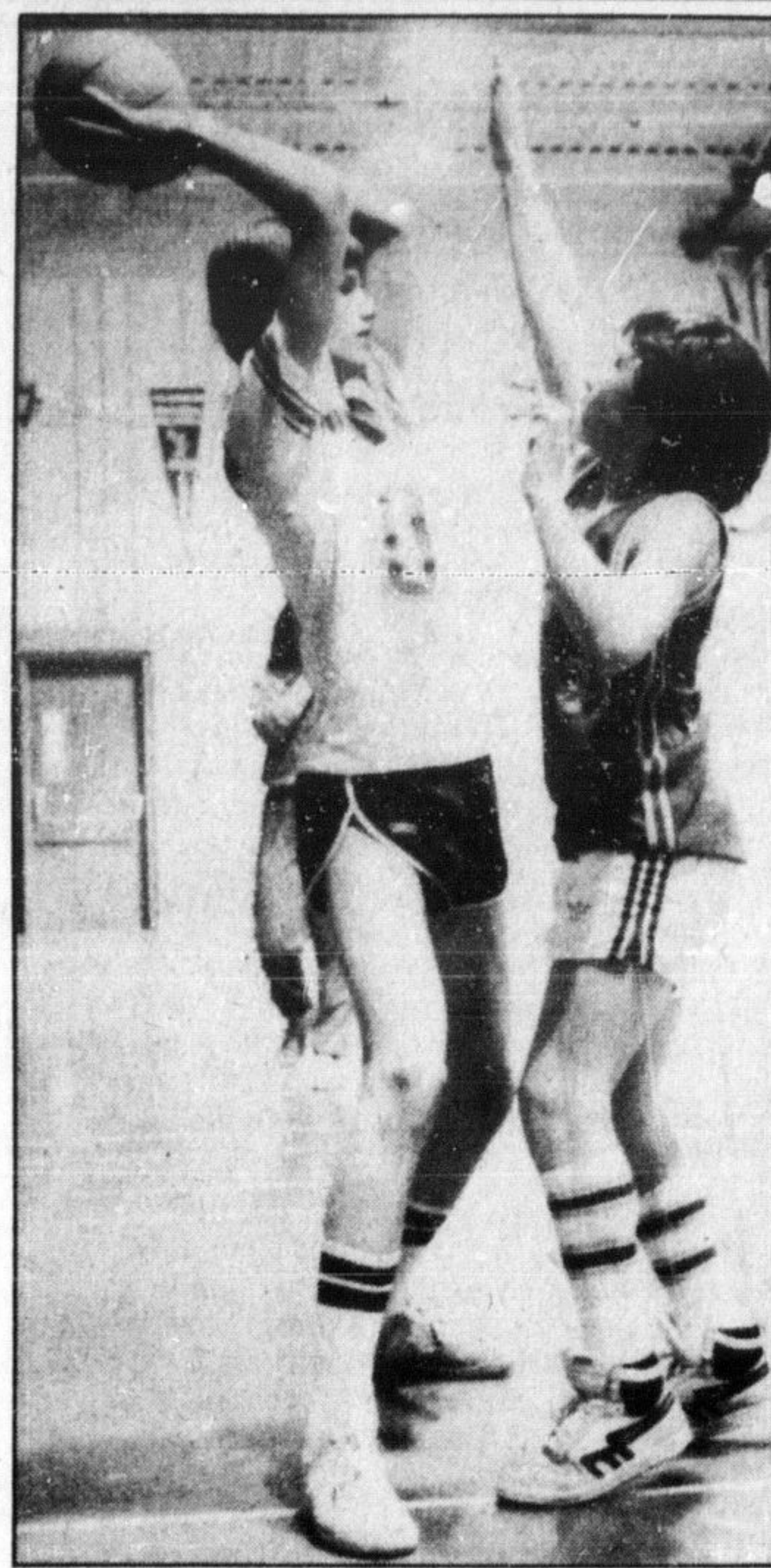
After several years of spinning in circles, the minor bantams also appear to be blossoming. After winning

the Beaver tournament, Blades went on a tear and won first place in the Tri-County League.

Milton met Georgetown in the final series. Both clubs lost just six games all year in league play but Milton held the upper hand with three wins in four games. Blades polished off Georgetown 7-1 in points and now face Owen Sound which won the OMHA series last year in three straight games.

Despite missing several top guns who have defected to the MTHL, the major bantams have found new reserve and swept Dundas in two straight to move up against Owen Sound. Milton has traditionally beat Owen Sound setting up a good match with Fort Erie but they'll have their hands full getting past the Sound this time.

For more information and a schedule of the upcoming games, turn to page C2.



Public school basketball is in full swing as this action for Sherratt attests.

Champion Sports

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

MILTON, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1983

THIRD SECTION

They're steamrolling along

Teamwork accords club 2-game lead

By MIKE BOYLE
Sports Editor

For a full year, Milton Steamer coach Tom Martin has drilled a system of hockey into his junior club. While it appeared that he wasn't as successful at persuading his charges in the virtues of a system, evidence now shows that he indeed succeeded.

Steamers surprised Barrie Colts by winning the first two games of their quarter-final playoff series by a single goal each time. It's the players and the system which deserve the credit.

"We've changed and simplified the system," said coach Martin, "until we got it to where we thought they could handle it."

"We tried it against Burlington and Oakville late in the year to see how it works and we won each time."

What they did, is get it to the point where they thought it could work — and then they put it to bed until the playoffs began. No use giving yourself away before you have to.

"If we check and play a tough checking game," adds coach Martin, "then we'll be happy. That's playoff hockey. If the kids stay to the system, then we should give Barrie a good battle. We've always got to stay in control. We can't lose our heads."

Martin's system and Steamers self-control was a topic of conversation for Barrie coach Mike McCann, who on Monday was named the league's coach of the year.

"They're playing good disciplined hockey," said McCann, "and we're not. They're playing a good system and we can't get going. Playoff hockey is intensity and desire. They've got it and we don't. Unless we turn this thing around next Wednesday (tonight), it's going to be a long summer."

Steamers won the first game 5-4 Thursday in Barrie and then, before a reasonably large home crowd, took the second game in the best-of-seven series 6-5 at Memorial Arena Friday.

The series picks up tonight (Wednesday) in Barrie with a 7:30 p.m. start. The fourth game goes back here Friday at 7:50 p.m. If a fifth game is needed, they'll go back up to Barrie Sunday for a 7:30 p.m. start. The sixth game is slated for Tuesday at Memorial Arena.

Steamers' steam roll at the end of the season, going unbeaten in their last five games, continued. The club is playing



Steady Paolo Zulian turns aside a scoring opportunity from Barrie's Mike Rocchio while Steamer defenceman Doug Brophy gets back into the play in Friday's game. Steamers have played two of their best defensive games of the year beating Colts 5-4 and 6-3 to

take a 2-0 lead in their best-of-seven series. Action continues tonight (Wednesday) with the third game. Both clubs are back here Friday.

its best hockey of late which should augment well in the coming games.

In the series opener, Bob Mills scored the winning goal with just three minutes left in the game. He converted a two-on-one with Scott Sanders who set him up with a perfect pass.

The win, Steamers first in Barrie in more than three years, was also just the third of the year at home all year by Colts who dominated their home ice. The reasons for the domination are a mystery. About a hundred fans watched the game and most were enclosed in the booster club upstairs.

Steamers trailed 1-0 after one period but grabbed a 3-2 lead heading into the final frame. A quick tally by Sanders, who continued his hot scoring touch, upped the lead to 4-2.

Steamers ran into penalty problems in the third period, taking four minors as against one for Barrie, and Colts capitalized for two power-play goals to tie the score. Mills dashed any hopes Barrie had beyond that and then the team rallied around goalie Paolo Zulian in the final few minutes when Barrie put together a last-minute blitz.



The game began slowly with both clubs obviously nervous and cautious. Barrie took three minutes by the halfway mark of the frame, but Steamers had trouble getting its power play in gear.

Finally, with less than two minutes left in the period, ex-Toronto Marlie Dave Dzedzic scored for a 1-0 Colt lead.

Steamers' power play clicked after three misses seven minutes into the second period. Perusello's shot from the point was stopped in front of the goal. Sanders shot was stopped but Mills poked home the rebound with Colt goalie Eric Watson out of position.

Two minutes later, Barrie regained the lead on a goal by

Bruce Stanley before Tim Pollen went to work.

The team's leading scorer, Pollen fired his first of two for the period at 11:51 on the power play. Heggie's shot from the point was tipped by Pollen through Watson's legs to tie the score. Sanders also assisted.

With just two minutes left in the frame, Pollen made a nice rush up ice and almost scored. His shot was stopped and deflected behind the goal. While Mills tied up the defenceman, Pollen fished out the puck and his shot from behind the goal, caromed off Watson's leg into the goal.

Sanders upped the lead to 4-2 three minutes into the third period scoring on what appeared to be a harmless play. With play

loose in the Barrie zone, Mills dug out the puck and passed to Sanders who was just to the side of the net. He quickly released a shot which caught Watson napping.

Steamers' penalty-killing corps of Mills, Pollen, Doug Riding, Ken Schaeffer and Jeff Martin, who had performed remarkably well in the first two periods killing off all five short-handed situations, allowed their first goal at 4:18 of the final frame.

Midway through the period, Brad Warden and Perusello received minors one minute apart. Steamers killed two minutes and 46 seconds before Colts finally solved Zulian, who again put in a steady performance, with the tying goal.

Barrie pressed hard over the succeeding five minutes. On one situation, Colts had Steamers hemmed in their own zone for over a minute when Doug Brophy blocked a shot and passed to Mills on a two-on-one break with Sanders. Mills quickly threw it over to Sanders who waited until close to the goal before relaying the puck back to Mills. The left-winger calmly

see STEAMERS page C3



Mike Boyle

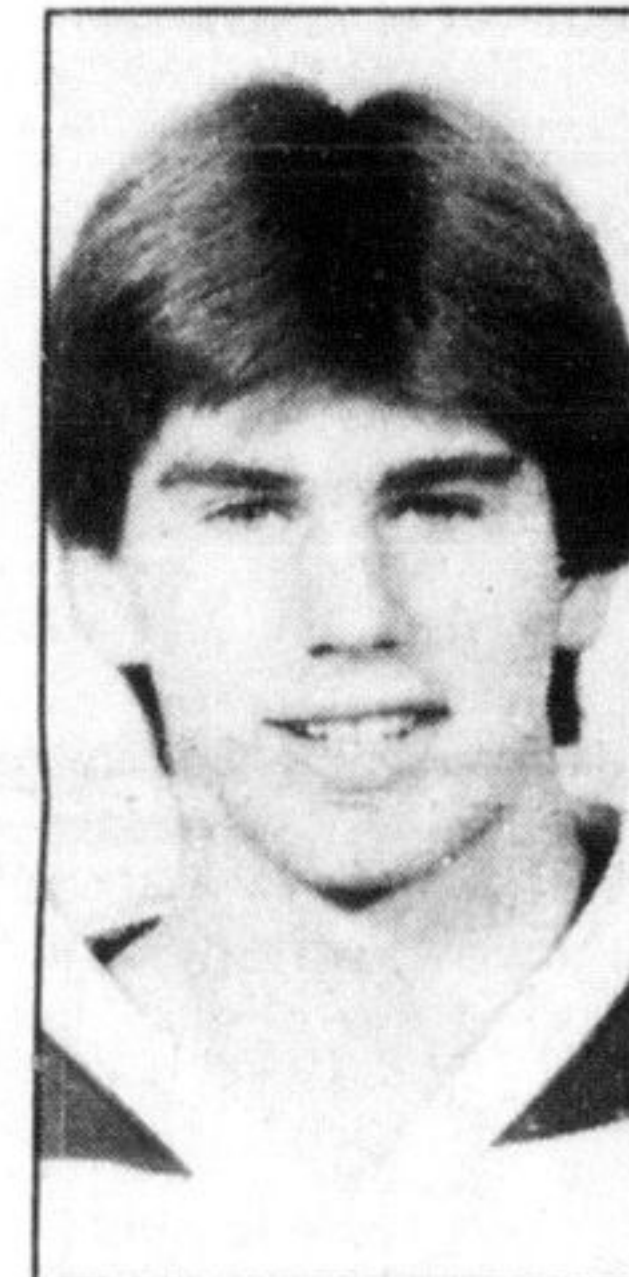
Pollen does his work quietly

Quietly and efficiently, Milton Steamer Tim Pollen has turned back his most ardent critics and established himself in the sphere of Junior B hockey.

Ever since Tim was peewee age, critics have battled around his future with unending and unwarranted criticism.

But the 15-year-old has shut them all up. Although just of minor-midget age, Pollen has now two full seasons of junior hockey behind him and he's done a few things with flair this year.

For starters, all he did win the team scoring title with 60 points on 24 goals and 36 assists. He measured up to be the 11th best shooter in the league. And, just as importantly, he missed one game, quieting the critics who said he wasn't big enough.



Tim Pollen

In addition, last week, the Central Ont. Jr. B League honored him by naming him co-winner of the most sportsmanlike award. He picked up just six minors, including four in a week, and is strongly regarded by many league officials who are impressed with his ability to turn a blind eye on the situation and then score or help out on the power play. He gets even in his own way.

For someone who has endured publicity and criticism of many twice his age, he has come through it all in fine style. And he's just 15.

Milton Royals will be conducting a special baseball clinic April 30 at Brian Best Park. The clinic will be run by many Royals who will give tips on everything from hitting to pitching.

The clinic is aimed at players from tyke age up and has the blessing of Milton Minor Baseball. Registration is \$5 and can be paid at the MMBA registration soon at Milton Mall. A light lunch will also be provided.

MMBA is looking for coaches for its tyke and midget rep baseball teams. There are many good players at these age groups and they're looking for a coach and manager to handle them during the coming year.

For more information, contact Dave Blackadar at 878-7645 as soon as possible.

In the same vein, Milton Minor Hockey is also searching for candidates for all its rep hockey teams for the 1983-84 season. All selections will be made by the out-going executive.

There are a lot of good coaches in Milton and the MMHA wants it known that they are open to any inquiries. A closed shop on coaching rep teams doesn't exist. For more information, write a letter to MMHA, care of Box 37, Milton Ont. They'll fill you in on the details. My guess is that there are going to be a lot of vacancies this year.

Just a reminder that registration for Milton Youth Soccer is this weekend and March 4-5 at Milton Mall.

The times are Friday from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for both weekends. The fees are the same as last year—\$25 per player and \$65 maximum for a family.

Each registration after March 5 will cost \$10 more so it's to your advantage to make sure you make the deadlines.

On Saturday as part of the Winter Carnival, Milton Youth Soccer operated a special game. The players were asked to kick a ball through one of three holes on a four foot by eight foot target. The peewee boys (12 years) showed how difficult it was with little luck.

The winners in categories were—Squirt, Louis Platts, Brent Hetherington, Joanne Flynn and Todd McKay; Atom, Emma Platts, Stew Williams and Brandon Bousfield; Mosquito, Richard Harrison, Trent Ostler and Teresa Hayward; and Peewee, Joanne Wantless.

More suspensions likely in MHL

More suspensions are likely to follow in the wake of an incident in the Milton Hockey League Sunday night at Milton Sports Centre.

The incident involved two players who battled earlier in the season and were suspended for their actions.

Milton Chrysler-Dodge and Straight Line Fence were playing a close game with Straight Line ahead 2-1 when Chrysler's Gord Lyons and Straight Line's Ed House became involved in an altercation in front of the Straight Line goal.

While both players were going at it, several other players joined the fray and although no players left their benches, a period of disorder fell into the situation.

When it was all done, Chrysler's Lyons and John Arnold were ejected from the game as was House. Arnold received a match penalty for alleged kicking and pulling hair.

Arnold is likely to face a three-game suspension while House and Lyons are

probably in line for one-game suspensions. The MHL will rule later on all three players.

After the incident, Straight Line erupted for five more goals to take a 7-1 win and move back into the hunt for first place. The game was curfewed with almost eight minutes remaining. It was the second straight week Chrysler has had a game curfewed and also the second straight week Lyons has been ejected.

In other MHL action, Miltowne Realty and John Burns Stable played to a 4-4 deadlock while Lou's Place and a re-inforced The Racer's Edge also drew 3-3.

The exchange leaves four teams within a point in the race for the top. JB Stable heads the list with 19 points while Lou's Place, Miltowne and Straight Line, in that order, are all tied at 18. The teams are fighting for the first two spots which will enable them to take a breather for the first round of the playoffs.

A league executive ruling last week changed the format for the first round of the playoffs from a two-game total-goals series to a best-of-three. The league also decided to re-schedule games from Jan. 30, which were cancelled because of poor ice conditions, to Feb. 27.

Ian Wanless scored two goals while George ?Ball and Randy MacDonald added three assists to spark Straight Line over Chrysler. Bill Lyons picked up a goal and two assists while Steve Hanon, Norm Kerwin, Ralph Serafini and Len Smith added singles. Jeff Graham replied with the lone marker for Chrysler.

Racer's Edge received a two-goal performance from Mike Murray and two assists each from Eric Ellison and Buddy Thomas to pull off the 3-3 tie with Lou's Place.

Willy Ceelen also scored for Racer's while Rick Bridgman, Calvin Snow and Lou D'Arzio replied with singles.

The game was marked by an unusual incident late in the game which saw Racer's George Trencs receive a major and two minors in an altercation with Charlie Cornelius, of Hawks, who was saddled with two majors. Suspensions are likely to follow.

Kevin Howden scored the tying goal on the power play to enable John Burns Stable to emerge with a 4-4 tie with Miltowne.

The power play resulted when Miltowne's Brad Roelofson was assessed a major for high-sticking JB Stable's Bob Rusk. Rusk needed 18 stitches to close a gash on his lip.

Randy Coulson, Jim Marshall and Dave Harnden also scored for JB Stable while Miltowne's scoring was handled by Brian Nowak, Paul McCann, Bob Baker and Al Duncan.

MHL game summaries are listed on page C5.