

# Merchants closing

The Merchants moved one step closer to securing first-place overall in the West Conference this past weekend.

Two more wins against Oakville and Georgetown plus Brampton's 6-4 loss to Bramalea Friday now have Milton ahead of Brampton by six points with a game in hand.

With just 13 games left in the regular season, the Merchants sport a 34-3-1 record.

Marty Williamson's crew outdistanced Oakville 4-2 Friday, in a highly competitive and surprisingly tame outing between these two bitter arch rivals.

Darren Haydar highlighted the game with his second hat-trick of the week, scoring goals 53, 54 and 55. The last of these broke the team's single-season scoring record set by Matt Van Arkel last season.

Despite allowing a pair of third-period goals just 47 seconds apart, Jeremy Wenzel was fantastic in the cage. He came up with some brilliant pad saves and shoulder blocks.

Mike Hurst meanwhile, sucked Oakville into cross-checking and high sticking minors. His instigating tactics are something Merchant fans had come to expect when he was first brought on board but have seen very little of this season.

Darren Haydar and Jeff Hutchins each tallied twice Saturday and paced Milton to an 8-2 triumph in Georgetown.

Five of their goals came in the final 15

minutes of play. Rai did a great job keeping striking distance up until th

Newcomer Daniel Jacqu the Merchants' cage, ti



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- 2nd Place - #0279 - Colleen Smith
- 3rd Place - #0001 - Don Boyd
- 4th Place - #2150 - Alex Tonelli

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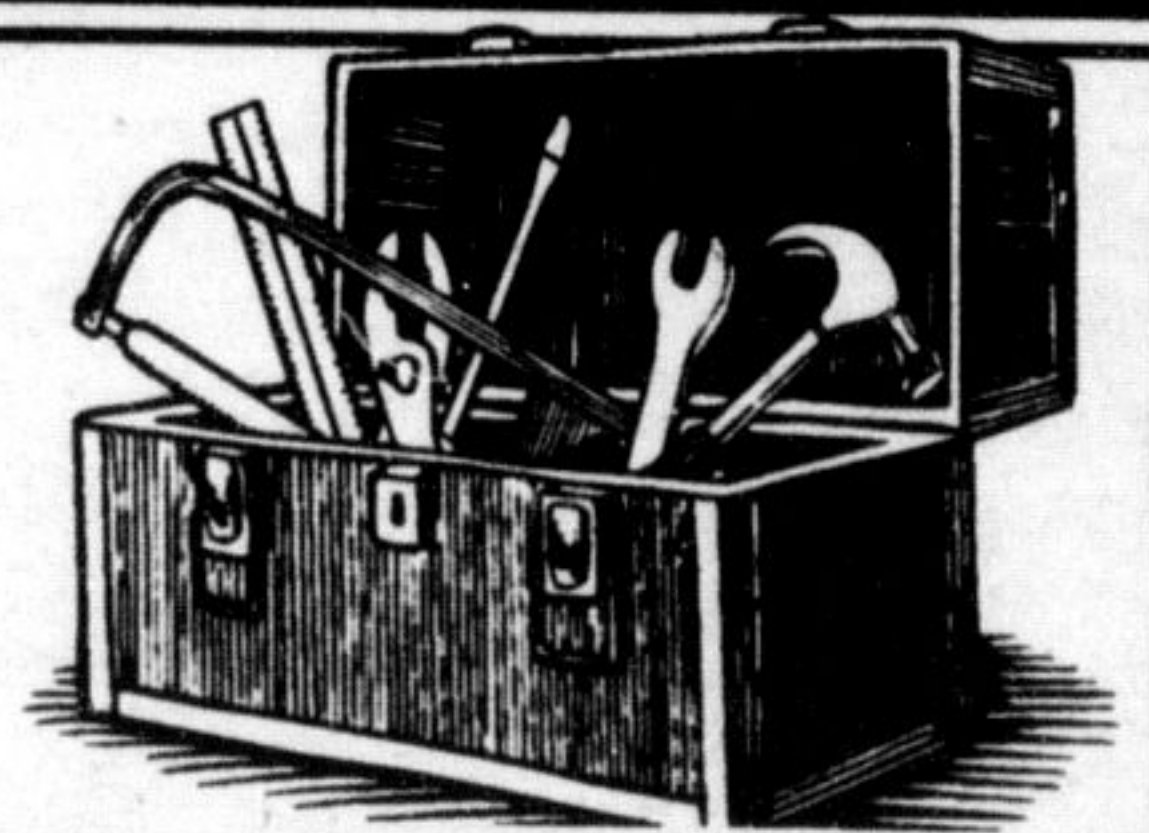
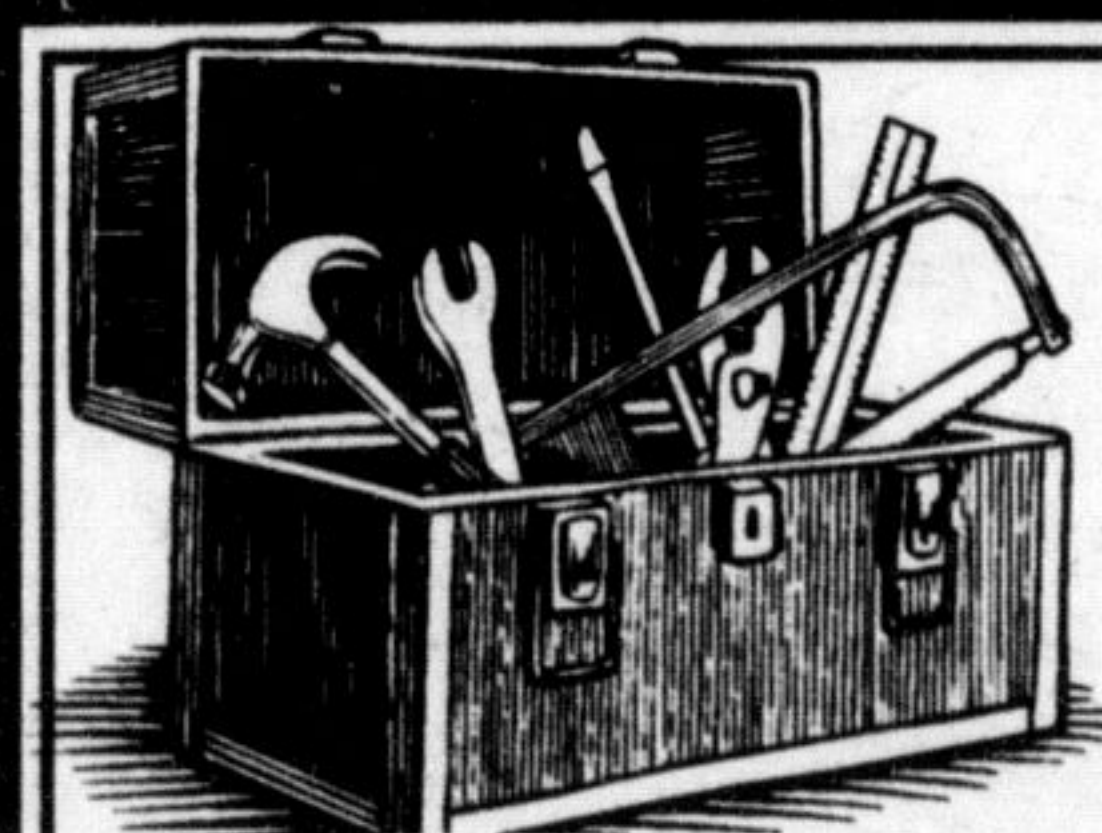
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