Fearsome foursome in the pool

Teamwork was their strength, victory their reward.

A foursome of Milton Marlin Swim Club members joined forces recently to win the 11 and 12-year-old girls 4x50metre medley relay in Etobicoke at the Ontario Division 3 Championships.

Anchor Jennifer Claessens, who finished with the freestyle stroke, stopped the clock at 2:24.05 to beat the Toronto Swim Club by a mere three-quarters of a second.

Preceding her with impressive backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly legs respectively were Kristen McIlroy, Yvonne Sliekers and Jennifer Porenta.

Milton's other relay team — comprising McIlroy, Porenta and Jennifer and Michelle Claessens — narrowly missed bronze in the 4x50m freestyle race.

They were edged out of third-place by half a second.

Also shining in individual competition, Porenta struck gold four times. Her campaign included triumphs in the 50 and 100m freestyle plus the 100 and 200m backstroke.

She also placed fifth in the grueling 400m individual medley and earned a remarkable 40 points for the Marlins.

Age-class teammate McIlroy enjoyed a silver lining with second-place finishes in both the 100 and 200m backstroke while taking seventh in the 100m free and eighth in the 400m IM — for a total of 17 points.

Stephanie Sliekers, 13, placed fourth in the 200m backstroke, fifth in the 100m free and seventh in the 50m free while 13year-old Lisa Trencs swam the 200m breaststroke to fourth-place honours.

Placing fourth and fifth in the 200 and 100m breaststroke was 15-year-old Kassie Sliekers.

Also competing and improving on personal best finishes were fellow Marlins Kevin Winter, Jacqueline Clarke, Hilary and David Wassenich, Nick Parris, Jaimie and Rachel Robinson, Tara Anderson, Shannon Koot, Sarah Masciantonio, Erynn and Laura Mayes, Amy Danks, Brenda Lussier, George Dimitrov and Matthew Ishoy.

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More plate pop needed

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

The Milton District High boys baseball team improved on all three facets of their game last Friday afternoon at Glen Abbey. Unfortunately, the sum of their parts didn't equal success.

Regrouping from a nightmare fielding performance against Bishop Reding, the Mustangs cut their errors by more than half and subsequently trimmed their runs against by five.

But huge strides in their defence were only accompanied by baby steps forward at the plate and the 'Stangs fell 5-1 to the Oakville Trafalgar Devils.

"I was pleased at our defensive efforts," said coach Adam Flatt, whose team now sits at 1-4. "That's all we worked on in practice yesterday (Thursday) and it paid off.

"If we can split our next four games I think we've still got a good shot at making the playoffs."

First baseman Jason McGuffe, third baseman Paul Van Cedar and right fielder Nathan Perrott led the way in the field while catcher Chris Scherer - back from a weeklong spring cold — threw out a pair of base runners.

Starting pitcher Adam Finkbeiner was solid if not spectacular, scattering six hits and four runs over a four-inning

Working the last two frames was Jon Vingoe, who relinquished one more run on two hits before retiring the side in the sixth.

Counterparts Jeff Schmid and Ed Wood — who combined to blank Reding 3-0 in their season opener --- held MD to half a dozen hits and just one run in the third.



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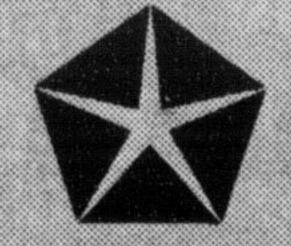
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