

Shorthanded are also short-fused

A short bench and short temper cost the minor midget Red Sox a third straight loss Tuesday in Oakville.

Milton came into the game with a minimum nine players — due to work and personal commitments — which left no breathing space for injury or ejection.

As it turned out, the latter scenario is exactly what unfolded midway through the evening when Nathan Perrott was beamed during his third plate appearance.

Taking exception to what he felt was an intentionally-placed pitch, the Red Sox slugger shot some derogatory comments back to the mound and was subsequently thrown out.

This forced Milton to forfeit the contest, sending the 13-1 hammerlock they established through the first four innings down the drain.

"It was just one of those unfortunate situations that happens," remarked manager Paul Perrott, who was ejected one week earlier in Waterdown. "The guys were all playing great but having a short bench came back to haunt us."

Close isn't enough for under-12s

Offensive hardship struck early and often for the under-12 boys soccer team Wednesday at Thompson North.

Milton rang no less than three shots off the goal post and just one past the opposing cager. Their single score was far from enough in a 4-1 defeat by Stratford.

Craig Harding gave the Magic a short-lived lead in the opening half with a well-placed header. Setting him up with a corner kick was Mark Boycott.

From then on — despite spirited efforts by defenders Ryan Taylor and Daniel White — the Tim Hortons-sponsored crew just couldn't contain Stratford's non-stop assault.

Great ball control and passing by Harley Mouscos created a number of quality scoring opportunities for Milton.

Their loss came in almost identical fashion to the one in Kitchener one week earlier.

While only two shots escaped goalkeeper Jamie Webb's reach, their post shots to goals ratio was again 3:1.

Boycott set-up Harding for the lone tally in this tilt as well.

Leading a rock-solid defensive unit was Robbie Wilson while Webb came up with some key saves down the stretch to keep his team within striking distance.

The Magic will try to hit mesh more than once this Wednesday, July 1 at 7 p.m. when they host North Mississauga at Thompson North.

Coach says team learning

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their north Halton rivals off their pedestal.

Said Novak, "We were complacent that night after thumping Elora 12-1 the previous evening.

"It was definitely a learning experience. We might have faltered a bit last week (with two losses in four days) but we're still on the right track."

Milton puts their 12-2-2 record on the line against Owen Sound Monday at 8 p.m. at Tonelli Arena.

Jarrett Konkle was in the middle of a superb pitching campaign when the north Halton tilt ended prematurely. John Melito and Zack McKay had made some big defensive plays, while filling in temporarily in the middle infield, and the entire line-up was gelling offensively.

The forfeit marked the latest incident in a reversal of fortunes for the highly touted minor midgets, who got off to a 6-0 start this season.

Since then shortened benches, ejections and mental lapses have conspired to keep them from adding to the win column.

Substandard fielding led to a handful of

unearned runs against in the opening frame and an eventual 9-4 pummeling at the hands of Cambridge Monday.

Perrott said starting pitcher Mike Grabauskas was hardly to blame for the loss, adding his charges were simply "outplayed and out-hustled by a team that wanted it more."

The Red Sox will attempt to turn the page on this rough patch over the weekend when they compete at the Ingersol Tournament.

Their next home game is Wednesday, July 1 at Maplehurst Park against Kitchener. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

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Watermain cleaning is currently taking place in Milton

To prevent discoloured water from entering your home during cleaning, please remember:

- Do not use water or flush toilets between the times indicated on your blue letter which we will provide to you approximately 2 days prior to working on your street.
- When we are finished for the day on your street, turn on the cold water tap in your basement and let the water run until clear. This may create air in your system, and if so, go the highest point in your home and turn the cold water tap on and let it run until the air is out of the line.

Questions? Please call 878-8113, ext. 7704, 7705 or 7706. Regional staff will be available to answer your questions.

Halton Region Planning and Public Works