

# Spartan Warriors put the hurt on Milton

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

*The Champion*

Painful, agonizing, excruciating.

Any or all of these could be used to characterize the Jr. B Mavericks' crossover into the second half of regular season play Friday at John Tonelli Sports Centre.

One by one, local players fell victim to the overly aggressive tactics of the visiting Spartan Warriors.

Darryl Brown suffered a cut finger, a dazed Andrew Dowdell was yanked from the net after taking four heavily shot balls to the head and Jason Ford went down with a serious knee injury.

If that wasn't difficult enough to watch, Milton came up on the short end of an overtime decision, 11-8.

Following a valiant comeback bid — which forced an extra session out of the Far West Division front-runners — the Mavs' scoring well ran dry in the fourth frame.

As a result, Jim Leworthy's crew dropped to 7-4 on the season. They remain second in the Mid West, with hopes of overtaking the top seated Mohawks' fading fast — especially after Friday's highly physical encounter that no doubt left them vulnerable for tomorrow evening's visit to Elora.

## Sporadic offence

In front of a sparse crowd, Milton delivered one of its more spirited efforts this year against the Warriors, particularly during the opening and closing moments of regulation.

However, their offence continues to lack variety and — as seen through stages of the game — can become predictable and manageable for seasoned clubs like Spartan.

The Mavericks notched three goals in the last three minutes of the third to even things at eight. Leading the rally with goals were captain Andrew Hartholt, Cory Leigh and Jimmy Leworthy Jr. — whose equalizer with 53 seconds remaining was set up by newcomer Chris Powless, a left-hander picked up early last week from Six Nations.

## Physical presence

Spartan went on to blank their hosts 3-0 in overtime. Their goals came against rookie cager Mike DeBoer, who came in at the 3:20 mark of the third after Dowdell took one last shot off his noggin.

DeBoer — who's admitted to having a confidence problem — stopped 10 of 15 shots in his relief stint. His efforts probably didn't deflate his ego any further but weren't likely to boost it either.

The Warriors, more physical overall and outstanding at stripping the ball from Milton, were led up front by Kyle Nuefield, who amassed four goals, including a pair in overtime.

Leigh scored once in each period while Hartholt tallied twice. Singles were contributed by Leworthy Jr., Graham Darling and Paul Wade.

Thursday, Hartholt sank a season-high six goals and added a couple of assists in leading his team to a 13-8 win in Guelph.

A 4-0 second period victory and sensational penalty killing were the key factors behind Milton's second straight victory over the Regals.

## Powless a playmaker

Leigh showed strongly with four goals while Powless, in his Mavericks debut, collected five assists.

Also scoring were Darling, Leworthy Jr. and Bryan Jackson.

Dowdell was rock-solid between the pipes for his seventh season win.

**Maverick notes:** Andrew Hartholt will have to average four goals a game for the rest of the season if he hopes to match last year's total of 71. Right now he has 31, which leads the team. Cory Leigh is close behind with 26 and should have no trouble reaching the 50-goal plateau for a second straight season ... Milton hosts the winless Georgetown Bulldogs Friday before starting a three-game road trip Sunday against Six Nations.

# Doell burns up track to qualify

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Bishop Reding, trimmed her times in both the 100m and 200m sprints and came within a heartbeat of joining her age class teammate in the qualifiers' circle.

She was closest in the 200m with a 27.9 second performance that was good enough for fifth place. A 13.3 second finish in the 100m put her sixth.

Both finishes set new school records.

Other Royals reaching the event finals and placing top eight at the Southern Regionals were Joel Castro and Anna Gori.

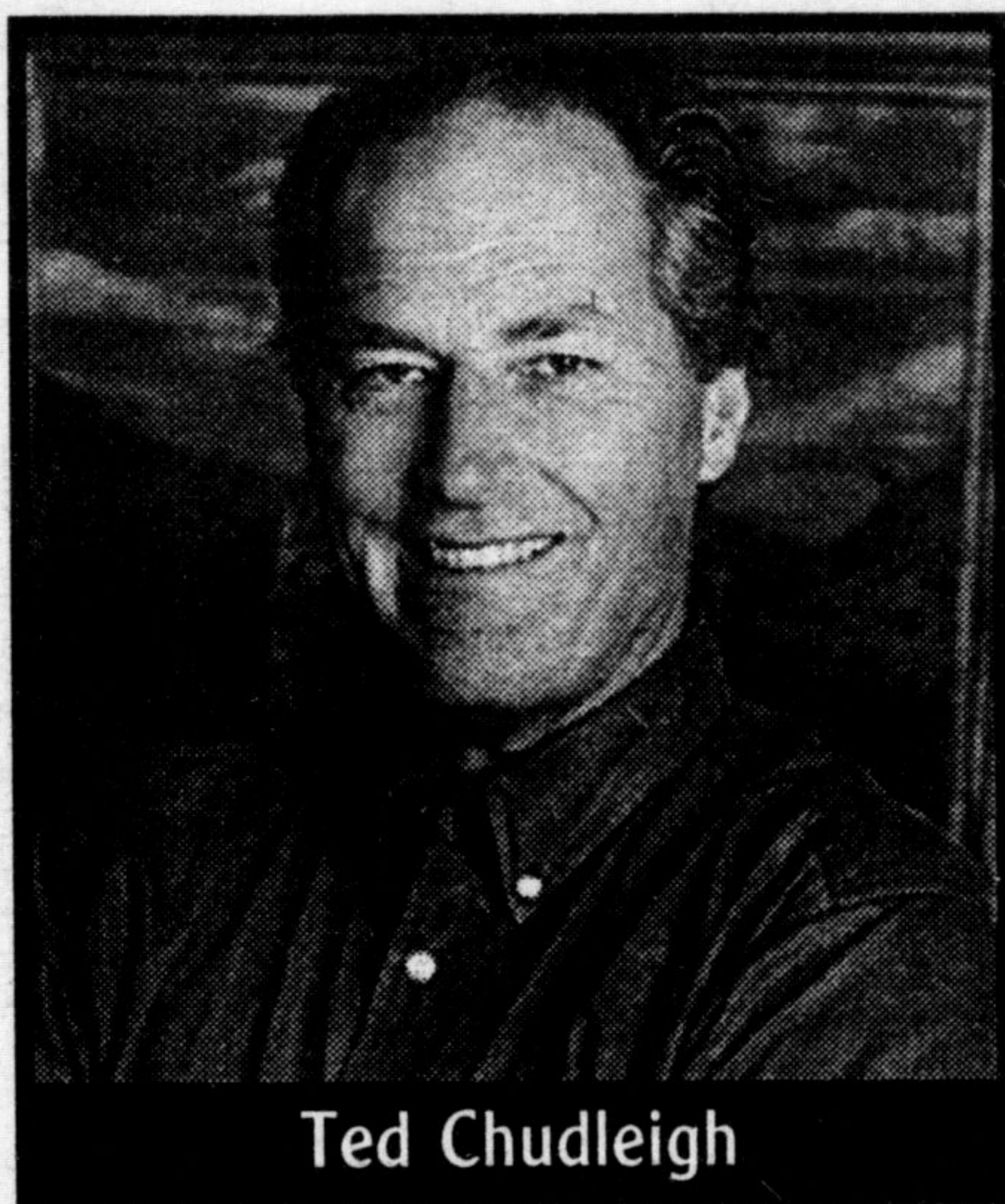
## Personal best

Gori leapt a personal best 9:17m in the triple jump and took sixth among senior girls while Castro — a little off his usual mark in the junior boys 200m — managed seventh spot with a run of 24.2.

BR sent nine other students to last week's showcase. They were Matt Bagley, Joel Brunner, Danny Ferreira, Jill MacSween, Natalie Mathia, John McDougall, Darryl Penson, Katie Pepper and Jakub Wiktor.

A total of 17 Milton District Mustangs competed at Southern Regionals but missed advancement to the next round. Results were not available at press time.

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- Playing simple games, like "peek-a-boo."
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