



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

TUESDAY OCTOBER 5, 1999



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Two time title holder

Milton's Jay MacPhail displays the trophy he recently captured for his second consecutive victory in the Saturday night main event of the 1999 Fall Fair Demolition Derby.

No challenge too big

Merchants skate off with seventh victory

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

Bramalea has distinguished itself as the first team to genuinely challenge the Merchants.

Last year's provincial champions, who're now in the midst of rebuilding, didn't let youth and inexperience stand in the way of a strong showing at home against Milton Friday.

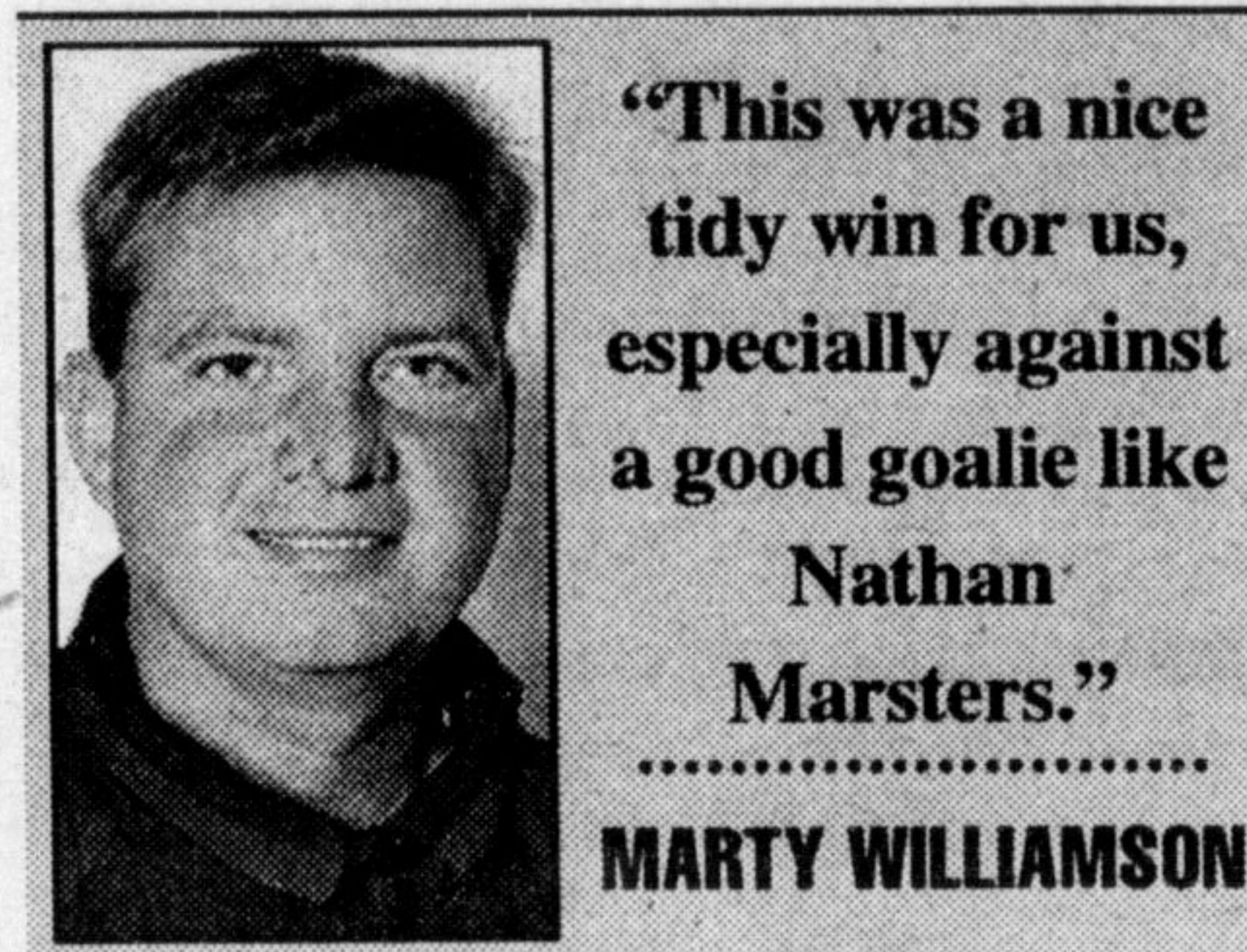
But along the way the hard working and gritty underdogs were tripped up in their quest to upset the current conference front-runners.

Blues' Darryl Baker — one of only four returnees — took consecutive tripping penalties around the midway mark of the evening clash, which spelled disaster for the hosts.

Subsequent powerplay goals by Chad Blundy and Elliot Alterg catapulted the undefeated visitors to a 3-1 triumph, their seventh straight this season.

Despite a lack of scoring, the victory was Milton's most encouraging to date — proving they're much more than just an offensive powerhouse.

"This was a nice tidy win for us, especially against a good goalie like Nathan Marsters," said head coach Marty Williamson. "We had quite a few chances early on but then settled into a nice defen-



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.....
MARTY WILLIAMSON

sive game."

Veteran John Nadalin did a particularly fine job clearing traffic from in front of his net, while overall the local boys were impressive in preserving a slim lead — a task they hadn't been saddled with until Friday.

Milton gave up just 17 shots on the night. On their only blatant blueline blunder, which resulted in a Bramalea break-away, Joel Cameron bailed them out with a sensational blocker save on a top shelf wristed by Jesse Rycroft.

The Merchants' goaltender was rock solid when challenged downstairs as well and added another notch in his win column. Marsters was equally sharp at the opposite end, turning back two dozen shots.

Phil Barski — Milton's powerplay point man — figured in goals two and three, which came just a couple of minutes apart. He now leads team scoring with 20 points while linemates Alberg and Mike Wheelihan, who helped set up Blundy's game winner, are close behind with 19 and 17 respectively.

Ryan Eby gave the visitors their initial lead 2:09 into the contest with a low backhand from Ian Malcolm and Ryan Carrigan — who also had two assists on the night.

Bramalea's lone tally was delivered early in the second period by 15-year-old John-Scott Dickson.

The Merchants didn't come away completely unscathed however, as Mark Beisel hurt his shoulder after giving and then receiving neutral zone checks early in the middle stanza.

He is questionable for this coming week, which will be the club's busiest this season with four games on tap including last night's trip to Hamilton's Mountain Arena.

Tomorrow Milton hosts the Burlington Cougars. Game time is 8 p.m.

Royals shut out Rebels

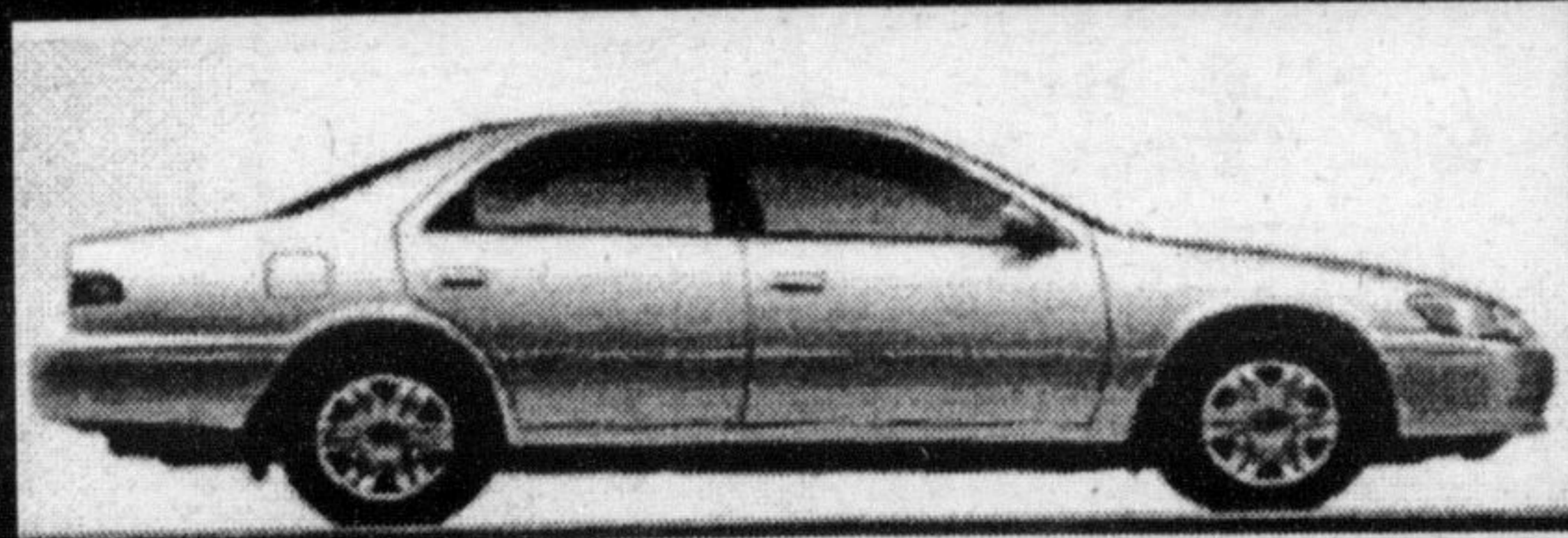
By **STEVE LeBLANC**
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Absolutely amazing.

Dan McBride's gridiron performance was nothing less than that Friday. The Bishop Reding Royals' total package — who brings as much ability and intensity to the football field as he does size — powered the senior squad to a 35-0 annihilation of the young Georgetown Rebels.

The towering fullback/middle linebacker dominated from start to finish with two touchdown drives and over a dozen punishing tackles — not to mention a great deal of inspiration for his teammates and an equal amount of intimidation for his unfortunate opponents.

• see REDING on page 23



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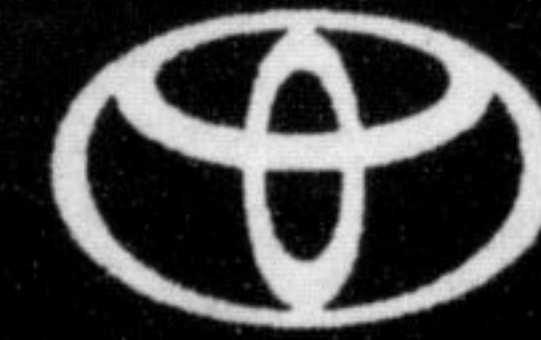
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