

Ready for all-star game

Merchants well represented, as always



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Merchants Joel Cameron (left) and Ian Malcolm will represent their team at tomorrow night's Ontario Provincial Jr. A League All-Star Game in North York. Also picked for the North/West team, but absent from the photo, is Phil Barski.

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

The Champion

Phil Barski, Ian Malcolm and Joel Cameron were brought in to be the building blocks of this year's Milton Merchants.

So perhaps it's only fitting that they now be recruited to represent their club at tomorrow night's Ontario Provincial Jr. A Hockey League All-Star Game at North York Centennial Arena.

Together with skipper Marty Williamson — who'll make his second coaching stint in three seasons at the league showcase — the trio will help comprise the North/West team, who will battle their South/East counterparts starting at 7:30 p.m.

This will be Malcolm's second straight trip to the all-star game.

He went last year for the Markham Waxers and scored a goal in the North/West's 5-2 losing cause.

"Going two years in a row is a good accomplishment for me," he said.

"Making it with Milton is even more gratifying. The competition here is much stiffer."

While Malcolm isn't like to equal last year's goal count of 47 — with 29 to date and just a dozen games remaining — he's still quite pleased with his overall performance this season.

Remarked Milton's gritty centre, "I think my defensive efforts and playmaking have been better this year."

Barski was equally honoured to be

picked for this year's game, calling the Merchants "an all-star team in its own right".

He leads the team in points (61) and plus/minus (33).

The talented left winger had similar numbers last year in Stouffville, but was edged out of all-star contention by the Spirit's only other big gun, Kevin Edgar.

"I would have thought I had a better chance of going (to all-star game) with Stouffville than with Milton this year," admitted Barski.

Leading all West Conference cagers in goals-against average this season, Cameron is the third goalie in four years to represent Milton between the pipes at the all-star game.

The 19-year-old tender — who sports a 3.14 GAA and 16-7-1 record — hasn't stolen too many wins for the Merchants this season, but has enjoyed more consistency than most goalies in the division.

"It was a bit of a surprise. I didn't even know they were having an all-star game this year," said Cameron, who last season led the Pickering Panthers to the league semifinals. "It's nice to be picked, but it's nothing too big. It's more important that I just do well for Milton."

Meanwhile, Miltonian Jeff Seeds — who sits second in West Conference scoring — will represent the Raiders tomorrow night in North York.

Williamson and Newmarket's Wes Jarvis will act as co-coaches for the North/West team.

Reding rips apart rival Georgetown

Absolute annihilation.

That's about the only way to describe the Bishop Reding senior boys basketball team's triumph over the lowly Georgetown Rebels just before the holidays.

The North Halton confrontation was a mismatch from the word go — and ended with the local cagers destroying their guests 61-14.

A blatant imbalance in terms of both talent and effort led to the lopsided final tally.

Offensively, BR was led by Ivan Bosnjak and Onel Martino — who each netted a dozen points. Bosnjak also pulled down 11 rebounds while standing out with four steals was fellow spark plug Kyle Grant.

Georgetown's scoring woes hit a peak in the third quarter when they went without even a single basket. Rebels Matt Rodgers and Nick Toris had four points apiece in the visitors' losing cause.

Madd Dawgs start training this week

Milton's Madd Dawgs house-league basketball program begins its season this week at Bishop Reding Secondary School.

The first training session was held last night, with the second slated for tomorrow evening at 7:30 p.m. Regular season games will start next Monday, January 19.

Taking over the program from Martha and Pat Gleeson are Rob Jeysman and Janet Davidson.

Their inaugural fall program just recently wrapped up late last month. The following are award winners from the skills challenge competition night:

- Girls 10 and under — Brook Harper
- Girls 14 and under — Melody Anderson
- Boys 10 and 11 — Lance Codner
- Boys 12 and 13 — Craig Harding
- Boys 14 and 15 — Joshua Singh

For more details, call Davidson at 878-7252, ext. 188.

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