

## Mystics run the gamut

Milton's midget girls softball team ran the gamut this past weekend with a win, loss and tie during tournament play in Niagara Falls.

Unfortunately, this wasn't quite enough to put the locals into the playoff round, as they placed second in their division and only the winners advanced.

The Mystics' lone victory came in round two when they blanked Ancaster 2-0. Starting pitcher Katie MacKroby and reliever Lindsey Harrold combined for the shutout — holding opposing batters to just four hits and a single walk through six innings.

Both Milton runs were scored in the

fifth frame. Leading offensively with a double and a single was Tasha Leslie.

From there, the midgets battled to a 1-1 stalemate with Thorold. Tara Elkie scored the only run and recorded a pair of singles. Harrold and MacKroby offered exceptional pitching.

A weekend of close contests began right from the onset, as the team showed strongly in the opening round but were shaded by Chatham 4-3.

Milton rallied to tie things up in the sixth before a defensive lapse allowed their opponents to record the winning run. Impressive in this one as well, Harrold and MacKroby gave up only one extra base hit.

## Christoforou a dual winner

By CHEYENNE BITWARE

Special to The Champion

Milton's Chris Christoforou captured two Gold Eliminations at Flamboro Downs Sunday, teaming the fastest three-year-old pacing colt and the one that scored the biggest upset victory.

Although it was just his first Ontario Sires Stakes start, Miracle Fame went into the elimination round off a couple of impressive wins at Woodbine, the quickest on June 29 in 1:53.2, meriting serious consideration from the Flamboro fans.

And in spite of a track rated one second slower than normal the Apaches Fame colt and Christoforou led the field through fractions of :26.4, :56.2 and 1:25 en route to the 1:54.2 victory, just four-fifths of a second slower than the current record.

Joseph Leonardis of North York bred and owns Miracle Fame, who has a record of four wins and one

second in seven starts this season.

Nat Varty trains the talented youngster, who finished a length-and-a-half ahead of Flashing Lights and Camluckstar.

Christoforou's other triumph came in the sixth race with long-shot Cambaran — who was making the jump up to the Gold Series from the Grass Roots level.

The second longest shot on the board, Cambaran clocked the opening quarter in :27.2 before yielding to Village Hercules.

Sitting hot on Village Hercules' heels for the rest of the mile, Cambaran slipped by him in the stretch to score the 1:56.2 victory.

The win was the Camluck colt's fourth this season for owner Kevin Isaac of Bridgenorth and trainer Rick Fife — and returned \$31.20 to his backers.

## Red Sox split weeknight games

Milton's midget boys baseball team fell victim to the payback game in Oakville Thursday.

The Red Sox had reigned supreme in all three previous outings with their regional rivals, but headed into their latest battle a little understaffed — and perhaps a bit overconfident.

The combination proved costly, as the heavily favoured visitors were downed 8-4.

"It was pretty surprising, seeing as we'd beaten them three times and mercied them twice," said manager Herlo Hatje. "However, a few of our big sticks weren't there."

Milton battled back to tie the game in the fifth inning before

their hosts went ahead to stay in the seventh. Brian McComb provided seven solid innings on the mound while closing things out was James MacDonald.

Continuing a sensational stretch for the Red Sox, Michael Volpe delivered a pair of hits and the team's only highlight — a three-run double in the fourth. This brought his RBI total over three games to 10.

Meanwhile, a steadily improving Rob Hatje contributed two hits as well and made a big defensive play at first base. Red Sox runs were posted by Volpe, McComb, Scott Connolly and Ryan Harper.

One night earlier the local midgets prevailed in an offensive

slugfest — outdistancing host Clarkson 16-10.

Swinging the big bat once again with three hits was Volpe, who also scored three runs and collected three RBI for a perfect hat-trick.

Rob Angus stood tall as well with three hits, three RBI and four runs scored. Scoring twice each were Harper, Chris Dumencu and Andrew Pepper.

Splitting the pitching duties were MacDonald and Volpe, both of whom enjoyed excellent defensive support in the first game at newly opened Clarkson Park.

The 9-8-1 Red Sox hosted Martingrove last night and complete a three-games-in-three-nights run tonight in Mississauga.



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