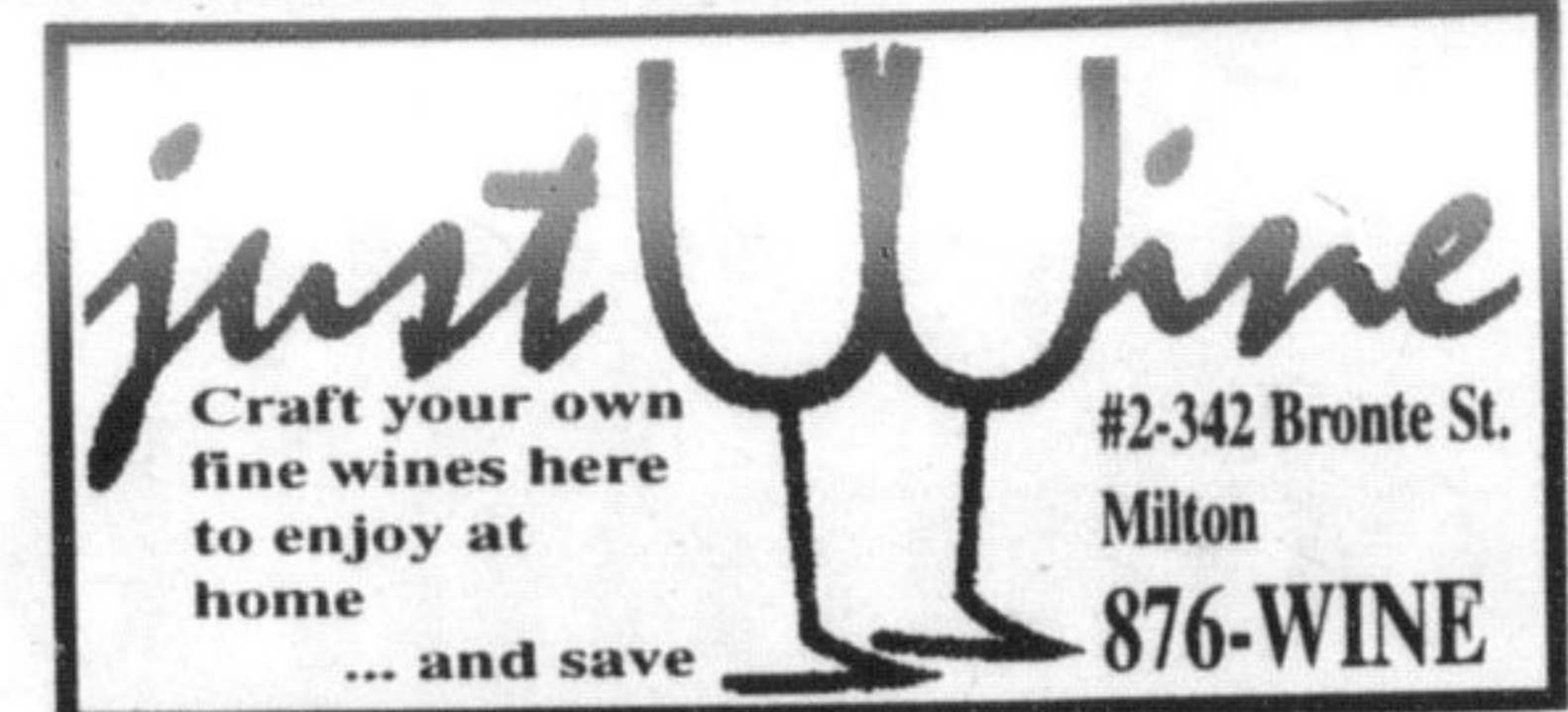




# SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION



TUESDAY OCTOBER 3, 2000

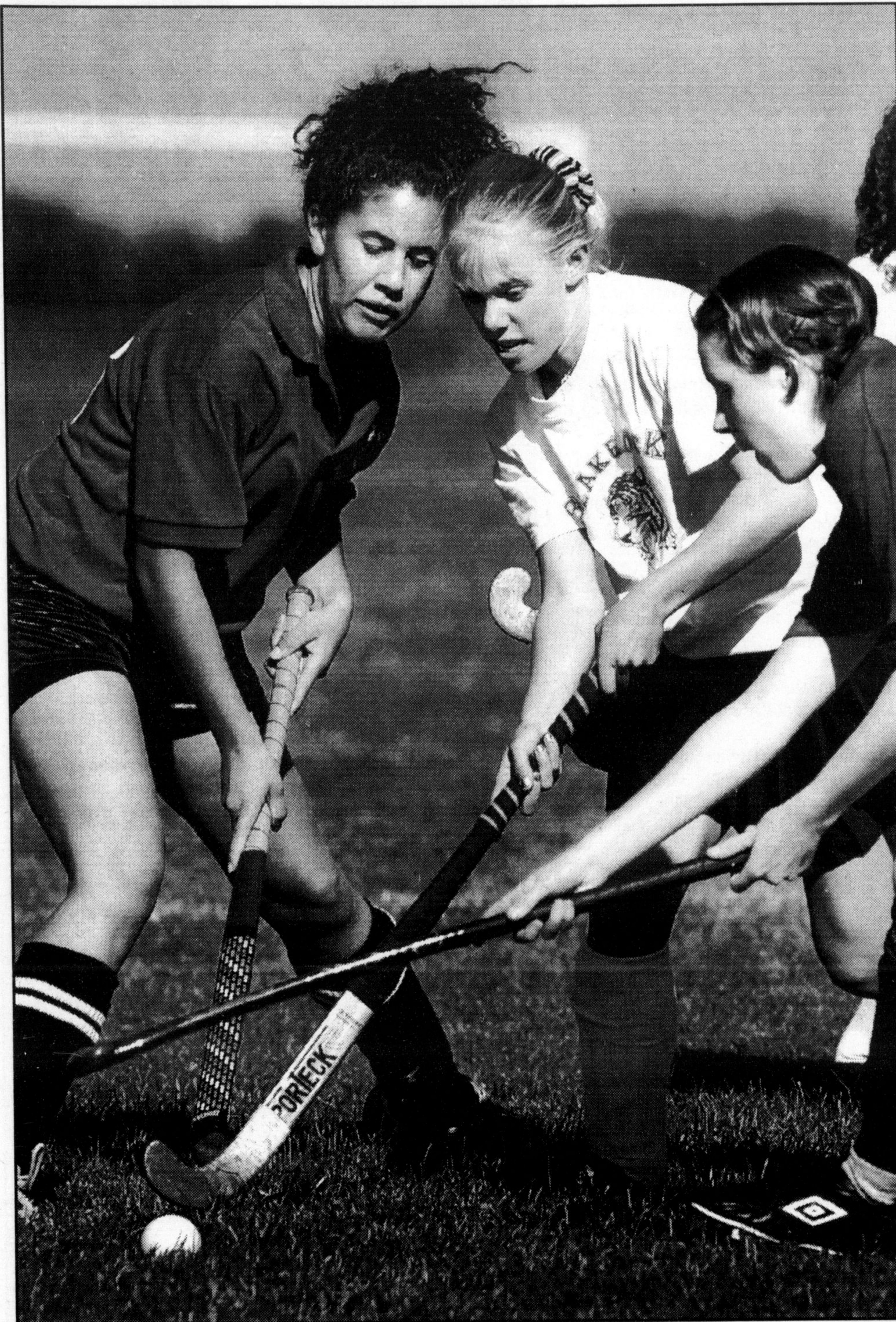


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Fancy stickwork

Bishop Reding Secondary School's Bridget Rowe (left) and Kelsey Mountain (right) battle a T.A. Blakelock Tiger opponent for possession during senior girls field hockey competition at BR Thursday afternoon. Royals Karyn Marchment and Edyn Marshall scored goals while netminder Heather Townsend was flawless between the pipes to lead the hometown ladies to a 2-0 victory and square their regular season record at 1-1. They'll look to make it two in a row this afternoon at home against Oakville Trafalgar. Game time is 3:30 p.m.

## Merchants sweep regional road trip in explosive style

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
*The Champion*

The Merchants flexed their scoring muscles this past weekend en route to sweeping an important regional road trip.

In support of an understaffed and over-worked blueline unit, the team's forwards took it up a notch to outdistance Halton rivals Burlington and Oakville.

The back-to-back wins — number four and five this season — allowed the local juniors to rejoin the top half of the Ontario Provincial League's Western Conference.

Friday, Milton got things rolling with an uncharacteristically high scoring victory at Burlington's Central Arena. An overall spirited attack plus four powerplay goals — including a pair in the final frame to seal the deal — helped them topple the Cougars 8-5.

The weekend-opening contest was explosive from more than just an offensive standpoint.

### Tempers flare early

A first-period slugfest in which veteran Merchant Dan DeLong absolutely annihilated counterpart Jerod Wiseman lit the fuse for what would be a very confrontational evening filled with a number of minor skirmishes.

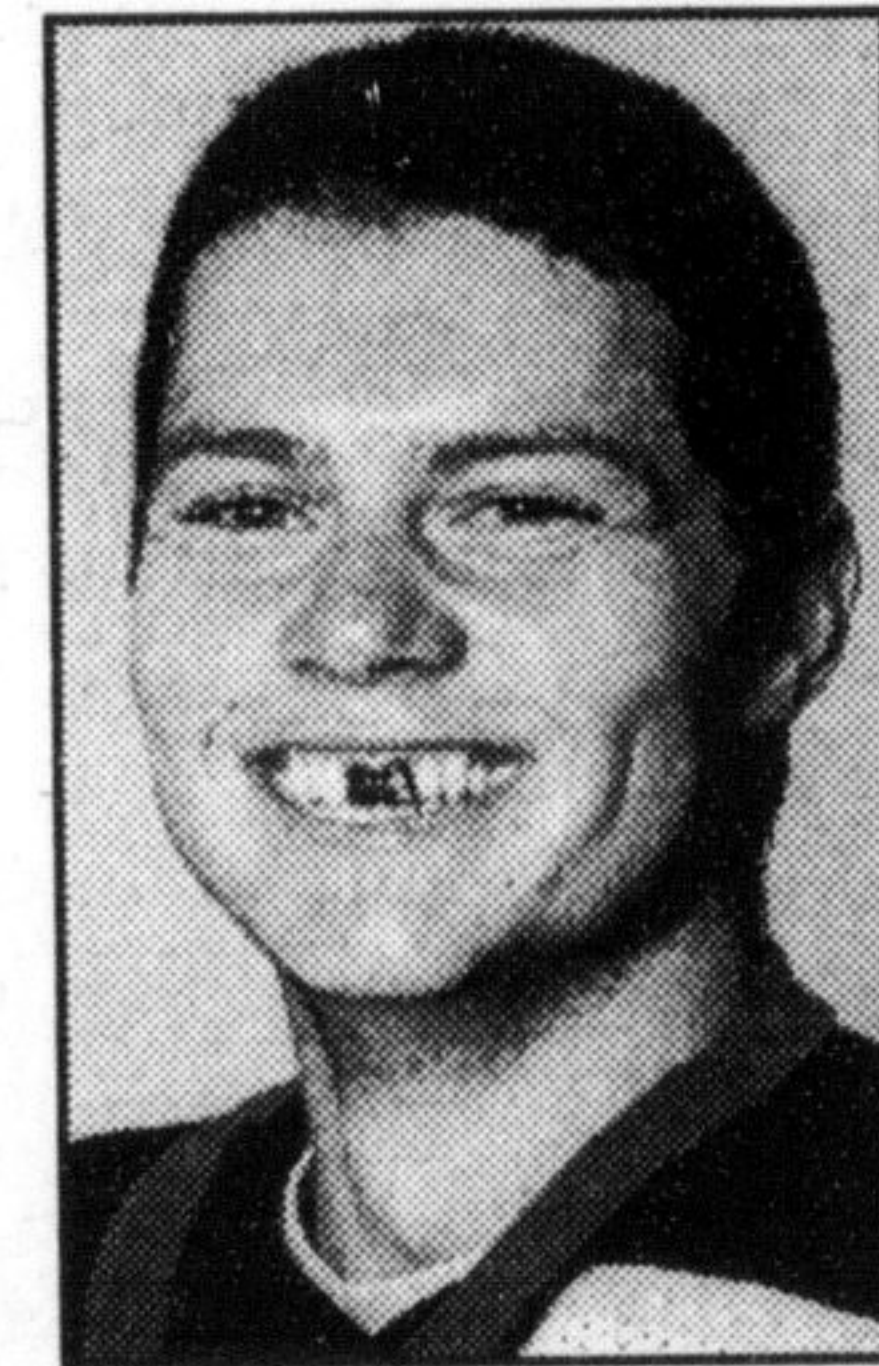
The most notable of which resulted in four player suspensions including ones for Milton's Ian LaBrash and James Coleman, who got two extra games for jumping off the bench to aid his teammates.

The Merchants enjoyed 2-1 and 4-2 period leads on the way to victory — one of their most convincing in recent memory at Central Arena.

Eight different visitors dented the twine in the win including workhorse captain John Nadalin — who has never generated big numbers in the past but now finds himself averaging a point a game and leading the team in powerplay goals with two.

Also scoring for the victors were Coleman, LaBrash, Kevin Arruda, Flavio Fagioni, Shane Remenda, Andy Rozak and Vince Laise.

Chad Vindin picked up two assists while drawing a single helper and backstopping the club was Joel Cameron.



Dan DeLong

At Oakville's IceSports Sunday, DeLong recorded the team's first hat-trick of the year — leading the way to a 7-4 triumph over the youthful Blades.

The diminutive winger delivered at even-strength, on the powerplay and finally while shorthanded —

also a first for Milton this year — to join Laise atop the team goal-scoring leaderboard.

Also putting his mark on the win was call-up defenceman Bryan Gent. The Milton native and Erin Jr. C Shamrock notched the Merchants' first goal — taking a nifty pass from Laise and connecting on a wide angle wrist — and finished the night at an impressive +3.

### Less than stellar showing

Sophomore cager Anthony Marshall was somewhat shaky against the Blades — exhibiting indecisiveness that cost him twice through the first half — but enjoyed a great deal of support from his defensive corp.

Merchant rearguards allowed the hosts just two dozen shots on net, and only six in the third period.

Fagioni stood out with a goal and two assists while Rozak and Dan Bognar were the other marksmen.

Milton scored four unanswered goals within a span of 12:16 during the second period to put things away.

**Merchant notes:** Defencemen Chris Rook, Steve Schentag and Vince Guiducci all remain on the disabled list. Rook, currently nursing a dislocated shoulder, will be sidelined for at least six weeks but Schentag and Guiducci, out with knee and elbow injuries respectively, could be back by the end of the month ... Ian LaBrash turns 20 today ... Milton has a stiff challenge this coming weekend, starting Friday when they host the vastly improved Buffalo Lightning. Game time is 8 p.m. Saturday they travel to Georgetown to face the Raiders at 7:30 p.m. at Alcott Arena.

## LETTER OF THE MONTH

Dear Kevin,  
I wanted to express my gratitude to you for your personal assistance on July 29th when our Rav 4 broke down in Collingwood. It would have been a horror story had you not been able to speak to the dealership on our behalf and expedite us into their bay for immediate service. What could have been a nightmare holiday still finished with a happy ending.  
I also wanted to thank you for your assistance with the speedy repair once we returned to Georgetown and for supplying me with the courtesy car for the second week of our vacation.  
I have been a faithful Georgetown Toyota customer for 12 years, have purchased 3 Toyotas, have commissioned you for every service and I believe that the commitment has certainly been returned.  
I look forward to continuing this wonderful relationship!

Sincerely, *Katy Norton*

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