

Minor bantams nipped in finals

Milton's AA minor bantams couldn't capitalize on a second chance and had to settle for second best during holiday tournament play in Burlington.

The Halton Lift Truck Winterhawks made a successful journey to the championship showdown — highlighted by their 3-2 overtime semifinal squeaker against the heavily favoured Newmarket Redmen — but once there were edged by London 5-4. London had beaten them in round robin competition as well, by a final score of 3-2.

Milton staged a remarkable rally in the finals, battling back from a 4-0 deficit, and knotted the score with a mere one second left in regulation. But ecstasy quickly turned to agony as the local lads gave up a sudden death marker and were left with runner-up status.

David Tielemans netted the tying tally and added two assists while Steve Ellison, Kyle Scott and Robbie Wilson potted singles.

Ellison provided the heroics in the semi-finals with the eventual game-winner — which came on the breakaway following pretty passes by Scott and Daniel Lynch — and also led team scoring over the weekend with 11 points.

Close behind with seven was Mark Galick. Solid goaltending was offered by both Robert Smith and Troy Squance.

Local players shine

A Milton trio helped Halton's AAA novices capture championship honours during holiday tournament play in Hamilton.

Brandon Denham, Scott Dermott and Michael Sgarbossa made key contributions at either end of the ice in the Hurricanes' title run — which was capped with a 3-1 decision over Rochester, New York.

Halton had beaten their American counterparts by the same margin to open the tournament and Denham was named MVP

Minor Hockey

for the game.

Sgarbossa would take that honour in the very next game, during which the club doubled up Kitchener 4-2.

From there the 'Canes edged Lorne Park and humbled Cambridge 6-2 en route to the finals. Sgarbossa had a hat-trick in the later victory.

Running the gamut

Milton's A minor atoms have run the gamut through the early going of their season with a win, loss and tie.

Saturday they flexed their scoring muscles to topple Elora 8-1. Kris DeNin, Jordan Haggart and Daniel Lewandowski each tallied twice while adding singles were Ryan Cheesman and Krista Dermott. Matt Parker backstopped the team to the blowout victory.

Five days earlier the local lads had a rough ride against Fergus and were blanked 4-0. A credible netminding effort by Nick Digiallonarde kept the score respectable.

Before that, the boys fought to a 2-2 stalemate with Hespeler — thanks to Parker's crafty cage work and goals by DeNin and Jacob Goode, who each assisted on the other's marker.

Midgets struggling

Defeat is coming in all shapes and sizes for Milton's AA midgets — and unfortunately it's coming a little too often for anyone's liking.

The Primary Electric Winterhawks have dropped their first four games this season — the most respectable of which was a 4-3 loss to Dundas Sunday. Milton was severely short-staffed for this one, with only seven skaters in front of goalie Jason Strong.

Other losses have been far more discouraging, especially an 8-1 massacre at the hands of Ancaster. Julian Ricci netted the lone goal in this one.

The 'Hawks were also pounded by Brampton 9-2 — with scoring done by Paul Szafer and Evan Jeans — and were doubled by lowly Acton 6-3.

Tough opening

Milton's juveniles were short on both players and scoring punch during their regular season opener Saturday. As a result, they were toppled by Ajax 6-2.

Cory Leigh and Derek Mewhinney lit the lamp for the local club while Josh Arnold guarded the cage.

The Winterhawks fared much better one night later during exhibition play. A six-goal surge in the middle stanza powered them to an 8-2 drubbing of St. Catharines.

Ryan Parsons and Matt Ventura had two goals apiece while singles went to Leigh, Mewhinney, Derek Birnie and Ricky Nadalin.

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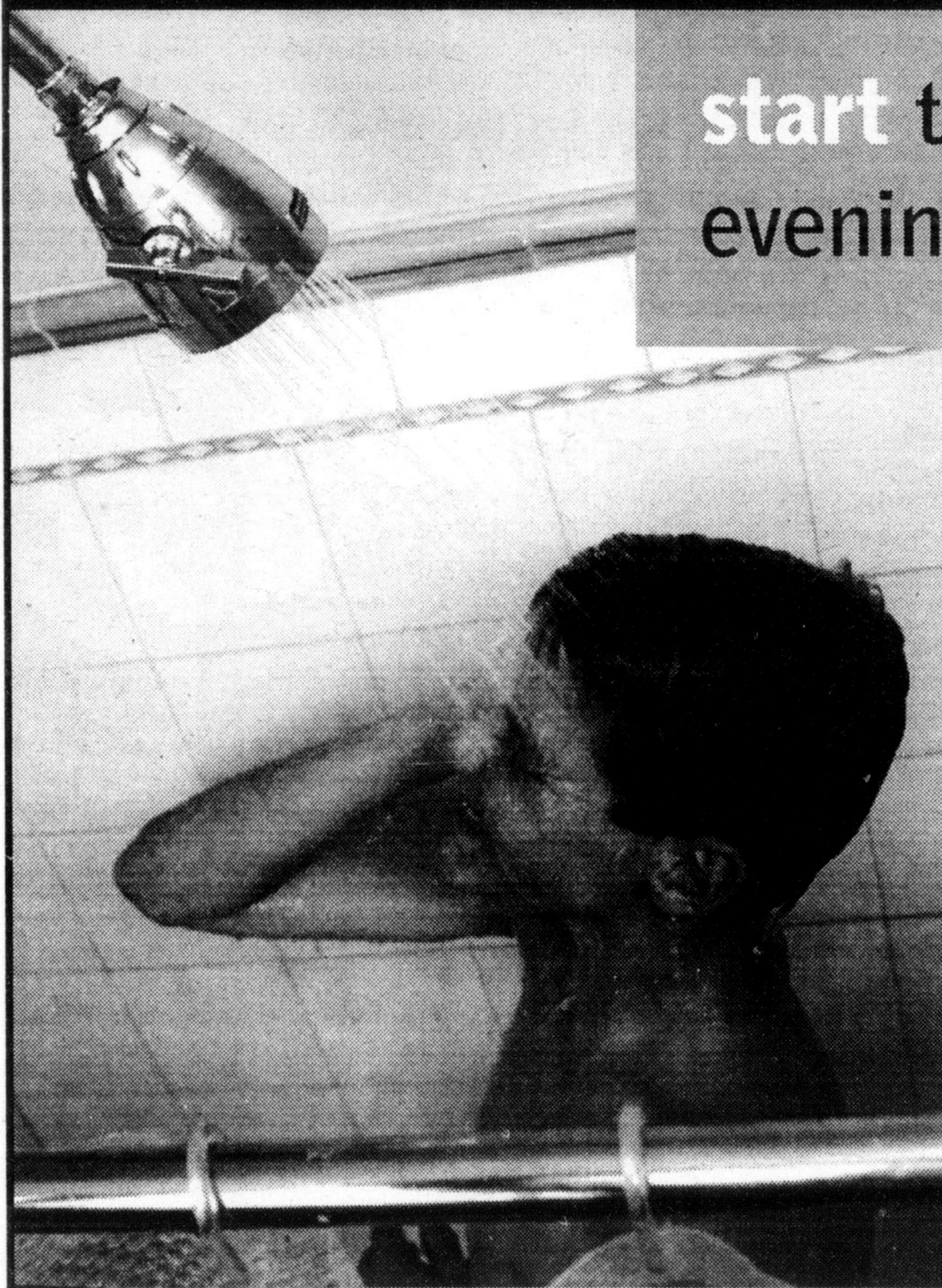
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* Please note questions will be asked on a time allotted basis.
Not all questions submitted may be asked.