

# Merchants rally to shade Mississauga in overtime

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
The Champion

It was a night of big returns for the Jr. A Merchants Friday. First Milton welcomed back from injury veteran forwards Elliott Altberg and Dan DeLong — adding grit and experience to the lineup — as well as Vince Guiducci, who'll no doubt strengthen a depleted and fatigued blueline.

Then Glenn Walsh's charges finished out the evening by returning to the win column — a place they hadn't visited in four games.

That fruitless stretch, which did include consecutive ties, looked to continue against Mississauga Friday.

But Milton rallied with a pair of goals midway through the third period before punctuating their comeback bid 47 seconds into overtime to triumph 5-4.

Providing the heroics — and giving the local club a valuable point in an ongoing tight battle for first place in the conference — was Andy Rozak. Taking a nifty drop pass from DeLong,

Milton's scoring leader deposited a low wrister for his second game winner of the season.

Also assisting on the play was big left winger Ian LaBrash.

The Merchants' bolstered ranks allowed for a bit of forward line shuffling, which in turn lifted their offensive efforts. However, Mississauga's Trevor Battaglia proved to be a major stumbling block — continually robbing them from in close and making 23 of 25 saves in the opening two periods.

Overall, Milton outshot their guests 37-21.

### Cameron comes through

While not severely challenged on the whole, local stopper Joel Cameron made a sensational pad block early in the game and then got just enough of the visitors' only overtime shot to redirect it right and off the post.

Flavio Faggioni connected on the powerplay to knot the score with under nine minutes remaining while LaBrash went top shelf to initiate the comeback.

The Merchants' other scorers were Scott Malcolm and Shane Remenda — who in baseball style swatted in a deflection off a blueline shot from captain John Nadalin.

Milton stood at 9-3-2 (which includes their reversed win against Wexford, that has not yet been changed in the standings) prior to last night's game in Hamilton.

While sitting atop the West Conference, the Merchants have six teams who're all within four points of them.

**Merchant notes:** Defenceman Steve Schentag underwent knee surgery Friday and should return to the lineup sometime next month. Fellow rearguard Chris Rook is still set to come back from a separated shoulder injury in early December ... Former Merchant Adam Sturgeon has yet to return to the OHL Sudbury Wolves and has been attending most Merchant games lately. His return to the local club, which would certainly strengthen their blueline and powerplay units, remains a possibility ... Friday Milton hosts Burlington and then completes a home-and-home series with the Cougars Sunday at 7:30 p.m.



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## TEAM WORK WORKS!

Milton Minor Hockey Association



DATE	DIVISION	TEAM	VS	TEAM	TIME	ARENA
OCT 28	PRE/NOVICE	BRUCE HOOD HUNT PLYMOUTH CHRYSLER		LITTLE FIREMEN KNUCKLES	7:00 AM 8:00 AM	TONELLI ARENA
OCT 28	BEGINNERS	GREEN TIMBITS WHITE TIMBITS		RED TIMBITS BLACK TIMBITS	9:00 AM 10:00 AM	TONELLI ARENA
OCT 28	PEEWEE	SCOOTER'S SNACK SHACKS DIRECTV GALLINGER FORD		ROSS DIXON FINANCIAL ABSOLUTE TRANSPORT TOWNE DENTAL	4:00 PM 5:15 PM 6:30 PM	TONELLI ARENA
OCT 28	ATOM	BRIAN'S AUTO PRESSE LAW VALLE FOAM IND. CANADIAN TIRE		DONE RIGHT ROOFING JOHNSON CONTROLS DREAM CAR GARAGE TV MCCUAIG INSURANCE	7:00 AM 8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:45 AM	MEMORIAL ARENA
OCT 29	NOVICE	HUNT CHRYSLER JEEP SHOPPER'S DRUG MART GOODLIFE-GREEN GOODLIFE-RED		KNUCKLES GORRUD'S AUTO GOODLIFE-BLUE GOODLIFE-BLACK	2:00 PM 3:15 PM 4:30 PM 5:45 PM	TONELLI ARENA
OCT 29	BANTAM	KEY CENTRES HOME CINEMA VIDEO ABSOLUTE TRANSPORT KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN		SUNNY OASIS HIGH FIVE PHOTOGRAPHY BRIAN'S AUTO RUSSEL METALS	5:00 PM 6:20 PM 7:40 PM 8:50 PM	MEMORIAL ARENA
OCT 30	SENIORS	DOCS & DENTS KWIK KOPY NISKAR PETRO		GUS MOWBRAY HEATING MILTON CHRYSLER DODGE AUSTEN & NOBLE INSURANCE	7:35 PM 8:43 PM 9:51 PM	TONELLI ARENA

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