



# SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1, 2000



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## ✓ Hefty hardware haul for locals

Milton School of Jiu-Jitsu students (from left) Shannon Laing, Daniel Kelsh and Gary Laing all came away with hardware during the Canadian Grappling Championships, held recently in Hamilton. Gary and Daniel squared off for the gold, with Gary eventually coming out on top. Shannon was also victorious in a mixed division with boys and girls.

## Merchants fall to Streetsville

By STEVE LeBLANC

*The Champion*

The Merchants were hoping to put the brakes on a couple of troubling trends in Streetsville Tuesday.

First and foremost was their recent rash of lacklustre starts — particularly on the road — while a not-too-distance second was their four-game winless skid at Vic Johnston Memorial Arena.

In either case, Milton was unable to deviate from its present course and was shaded by the now sixth-place Derbys 4-3.

The evening clash nearly came with a double whammy for the Merchants, when rookie right winger Vince Laise took a fluke tumble into the boards late in the opening frame and — despite making it back to the bench unaided — was initially thought to have sustained a neck injury.

Fortunately, no such damage was revealed during an examination at Mississauga's Credit Valley Hospital — although a mild concussion will likely keep him sidelined for both games this weekend.

### Goals not coming early

Meanwhile, Laise's cohorts were mediocre through the early stages of play and for their second straight away game were scoreless in the first period.

This plus a lack of finish down the stretch cost them the win and a chance to strengthen their hold on top spot in the Ontario Provincial Jr. A League's Western Conference.

Milton held a bird's eye view of the division as of last night, although three teams were within two points — with both Brampton and Buffalo enjoying a game in hand.

Captain John Nadalin delivered his third goal in four games and seventh overall this season to get the visitors on the scoreboard.

Also burying the biscuit were freshmen Scott Malcolm and Kevin Arruda — who along with team scoring leader and former Derby Andy Rozak are the only two Merchants who've played all 27 games this season.

Shots on net favoured Streetsville 33-30 while the winners got another above average performance out of veteran stopper Terry Lenyk. Counterpart Joel Cameron, who's been logging all the cage work lately, was solid for Milton.

The Merchants have now lost three straight on the road while six of their seven losses this season have come away from Memorial Arena.

**Merchant notes:** Flavio Fagionni will be away for the next two-and-a-half weeks competing with Team Italy at the World Junior Championships in Germany ... While the Merchants don't have a top-10 scorer this year, they do have half-a-dozen players on pace to finish with over 20 goals ... Defenceman Chris Rook could be back from injury as early as this weekend ... Milton hosts Buffalo tonight at 8 p.m. and close out the weekend against Burlington Sunday. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

## ✓ BMXer takes second at U.S. Open

Alex Brancier's cross-border prosperity continues.

Roughly six weeks ago in Connecticut, Milton's BMX ace delivered a sensational qualifying performance for the U.S. Open Invitational.

And once reaching the main event last Friday, Brancier showed strongly once again — taking second-place honours in the 15-year-old novice division in

Morristown, Tennessee.

The local racer — exhibiting a great deal of consistency and technical proficiency on the highly challenging course — upstaged 34 other riders and finished just a single bike length behind the winner from Nevada.

En route to the finals, he scored two firsts and a third in the motos and then placed third and second respectively in the

quarter and semifinals.

Brancier and his Milton Track 2000 teammates will close out the season later this month at the annual Christmas Classic in Columbus, Ohio.

The Brancier racing clan has fared especially well at the holiday event — with Alex taking grand championship honours in 1998 and kid sister Natasha placing fourth last year.

## Clarke's Golf

www.clarkesgolf.com

**Golf Prints**  
from \$59.95

**Ladies Lopez Woods**  
Reg. \$129.95  
Sale \$99.95

**Great Selection for Juniors**  
• Carts  
• Bags  
• Clubs

**GOLF BALL SPECIALS**  
Callaway Strata Srixon

**11 PC Sets Ladies Graphite**  
Reg. \$389.00  
Sale \$299.00

**11 PC Sets Men's Steel**  
Reg. \$299.00  
Sale \$239.00

**TORONTO MAPLE LEAF**  
T-SHIRTS \$24.95  
GOLF SHIRTS \$39.95  
VESTS \$39.95 SWEATERS \$49.95

HOURS: MON-WED 10-6  
THURS-FRI 10-8  
SAT 9-5 SUN 10-4

**GOLF SHIRTS ANTIGUA & FOURSOME**  
Buy 1 @ Reg. price & get 2nd For 1/2 price

**Great Stocking Stuffers**

**25% off ETONIC GOLF SHOES**

**878-1818**

## SALE

**LOUISVILLE Dominator Series**

**PADS**

26" SALE \$219.99 SAVE \$50.00

28" & 30" SALE \$259.99 SAVE \$60.00

**CHEST/ARM PADS**  
Junior \$89.99  
Adult \$169.99

**18 Thompson Rd., Unit #6 Milton 878-7422**