

# Merchants give bang for buck despite nothing game

*Final game of regular season was entertaining with lots of offence*

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

The Merchants' regular season finale exceeded expectations.

In other words, a potential yawner turned out to be quite entertaining.

With Milton having already locked up first place and opposition coming from basement dwelling Burlington, Tuesday night's clash meant nothing to either club in terms of the standings and figured to be a real snooze-fest.

But high-octane offence from both sides gave the few dozen fans in attendance a fair amount of bang for their buck.

And in the end they also enjoyed a hometown victory, as the regular season champions outdistanced the

visiting Cougars 7-5.

The 29-14-5-1 Merchants — who finished up with the same number of wins and points as they did last year — coughed up a pair of multi-goal leads before finally cementing the win in the third period.

Andy Rozak provided the heroics, netting his 23rd goal of the season with a close-range deflection. He ended up just three goals shy of team scoring leader Andrew Francone, while fellow first-liner and Western Conference Rookie of the Year Kevin Arruda potted his 21st early in the opening frame to cap a thoroughly sensational freshman campaign.

Dan DeLong tallied twice and added an assist while checking line partner Dan Bogner also had three points, picking up a couple of helpers on nifty centering passes before burying one himself late in the third.

Milton's other marksmen were Ian LaBrash and Jamie Williams. Drawing two assists apiece were James Coleman, Scott Malcolm and Adam Sturgeon.

Derek Myronuk led for the visitors with a pair of goals and two assists. Singles went to Craig Courteau, C.J. Morrison and Trevor Wilkieson.

The Cougars capitalized on three of five powerplay opportunities to keep things interesting on a night when a rash of goals and creative passing made up for a lack of structure and physical play.

Shots on goal favoured Milton 38-25.

Assistant coaches Mike Kalapaca and Dan Sales ran the local bench Tuesday evening while skipper Glenn Walsh scouted the Bramalea Blues — who'll offer first round competition, starting tonight at Memorial Arena. Game time is 8 p.m.

## Milton Merchants vs. Bramalea Blues (Best of seven opening round series)

Game 1	Fri. Feb. 9	at Milton (8 p.m.)
Game 2	Sun. Feb. 11	at Bramalea (8 p.m.)
Game 3	Tues. Feb. 13	at Milton (8 p.m.)
Game 4	Fri. Feb. 16	at Bramalea (7:45 p.m.)
Game 5	Sun. Feb. 18	at Milton (7:30 p.m.)
Game 6	Mon. Feb. 19	at Bramalea (8 p.m.)
Game 7	Tues. Feb. 20	at Milton (8 p.m.)

• if necessary

# It will be Brampton in six over Streetsville

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specifically the Brampton Capitals.

Whether or not the Caps walk away with any hardware this season remains open for much debate, but they don't seem poised for a first-round exit — even with recent troubles stemming from dissension within their executive ranks.

Danny Gould is just too good between the pipes and his defensive unit is simply too solid for Streetsville — who besides Jeffrey Szwez don't have any game-breakers.

## BRAMPTON IN SIX

### Buffalo vs. Mississauga

This clash between the division's two most improved teams may be the toughest to predict.

Buffalo gained home-ice advantage in its regular season finale and are arguably the most fundamentally sound and best coached club in the West. However, Mississauga clearly has momentum in its favour — with a rash of late-season victories including several over top teams like Brampton and Georgetown.

And with a style of play geared towards the bigger ice surfaces, not having home-ice advantage may not be such a stumbling block — since West Seneca Arena is almost as spacious as Iceland.

Both clubs are very opportunistic when it comes to the powerplay, but overall the Chargers seem a little more potent up front and will probably need one or two high scoring affairs to prevail. **MISSISSAUGA IN SEVEN**

## Milton Ladies Slo-Pitch League Registration Day 2001



DATE: Saturday February 10, 2001  
LOCATION: Milton Mall  
TIME: 10am - 4pm  
COST: \$75.00 (incl. Banquet Ticket)  
AGE: 19+

Fun Time

## 7th SEASON ROLLER HOCKEY REGISTRATION

DATES: THURS., FEB. 8th (7:00 pm - 9:00 pm)  
FRI., FEB. 9th (7:00 pm - 9:00 pm)  
SAT, FEB. 10th (8:00 am - 1:00 pm)  
SUN., FEB. 11th (1:00 pm - 3:00 pm)

PLACE: OAKVILLE ARENA

COST: \$189.00 + G.S.T.

SEASON: MID-APRIL 'TIL THE END OF JULY

## YOUTH LEAGUES ADULT LEAGUES

Now being played on Sport Court flooring

ALL AGE GROUPS COED

(SOME AGE GROUPS MAY BE COMBINED DUE TO REGISTRATION)

Mail-in registrations may be picked up at

Corbett's Sports OR Litzen's Sports  
120 Speers Rd., Oakville 3350 Fairview St., Burlington

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE LEAGUE @ 332-1234  
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.rollerhockey.net](http://www.rollerhockey.net)

## GIRLS SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

### Milton Girls Softball Association 2001 - our 22nd season!

Softball for girls born 1982-1991

Location: Milton Mall

Friday, Feb 9 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Saturday, Feb 10 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**FINAL** Saturday, Mar 3 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Stay active! Have fun! Meet new friends!

Low registration fees!

\$80 for 1st player in family, \$60 for 2nd, \$50 for 3rd or more  
After MARCH 3 add \$15 per player

FREE Clinics!

Pitcher/Catcher and Skills Clinics  
for players born 1987-1991.

Sign up at Registration.



For more information contact  
Don Williams 878-0081  
or  
Roy Harrold 876-3357

## Milton Youth Soccer Club

Join over 1300 Milton Youth Soccer Players!

### REGISTRATION for 2001 Season

Milton Mall	Fri. Feb. 9	7pm - 9pm
	Sat. Feb 10	9:30am - 5pm
John Tonelli Arena	Sat. Feb. 17	9am - 5pm
	Sun. Feb 18	12pm - 4pm

Membership is \$85.00/player or \$215/family (3 or more players)

### FREE SOCCER BALL TO EACH PLAYER

Teams Start @ Under 5  
(must turn 5 in 2001) to 19 yrs of age.

AT REGISTRATION:

Returning players please bring your completed registration form. New Players please bring your birth certificate.

For further information visit our website @

[www.miltonmagic.com](http://www.miltonmagic.com) or  
email: [mysc@miltonmagic.com](mailto:mysc@miltonmagic.com)

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