



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Miltonians (from left) Scott Dermott, Brandon Denham and Michael Sgarbossa display the OMHA championship plaque and medals they won recently with the Halton Hurricane AAA minor novices.

Milton trio guides Hurricanes to OMHA championship gold

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

The Halton AAA minor novices punctuated their stellar season with a huge exclamation mark — capturing OMHA championship honours in Richmond Hill April 1.

And as they did throughout the year, a local threesome offered key contributions toward the title victory.

Miltonians Brandon Denham, Scott Dermott and Michael Sgarbossa all averaged a point a game this season — and matched that output during the four-team weekend showcase.

Their collective efforts helped the Hurricanes rebound from a shaky start and finally clinch the gold by blanking York-Simcoe 4-0. The championship whitewash served as payback for an 8-4 second round loss to York-Simcoe.

Sgarbossa dented the twine in the win while Denham and Dermott delivered robust performances at both ends of the ice.

The tournament finale capped a dramatic reversal of fortune for the Hurricanes — who dropped their first two games and then, with the pressure on and their backs to

the wall, rallied to take three straight.

The first two came in downright dominating fashion. Halton needed to win game three by at least seven goals in order to remain in championship contention — and did exactly that by spanking host Richmond Hill 9-1.

Then Milton's trio flexed their proverbial scoring muscles — combining for an eight-point outburst — and led the 'Canes to an identical score against Markham, plus a trip to the title game. Denham and Sgarbossa had three points apiece while Dermott chipped in with two.

Overall, Sgarbossa was a co-winner of the team points race with six goals and four assists while Denham and Dermott finished fifth and eighth respectively with six and four point efforts.

The Hurricanes' OMHA win followed a South Central league victory over Brampton as well as a number of tournament triumphs this past season.

Halton is now looking for an arena in which to hang its OMHA banner. Anyone who knows where they can do this is asked to call Lori Denham at 876-4394.

Milton bantams deliver lone title win during 2001 Optimist tourney

Utility Trailer 'Hawks prevent championship whitewash for hosts

By **MURRAY TOWNSEND**
Special to The Champion

It's a good thing we have the bantam single A Winterhawks to defend Milton's honour.

They came to the rescue in the Milton Optimist Tournament, not only as the only Milton team to win the championship, but as the only one to make it to the finals.

It didn't look good for the Action Utility Trailer team early in the championship game against Flamborough as they fell behind quickly 2-0 and appeared out-matched in the first period.

Once the second period started, however, they looked to be a different team.

Ian Kornack, in particular, played as if he'd substituted his Winterhawks jersey for a Superman costume.

He scored three goals and set up Derek Blanchard for another one. But, with the score tied 4-4 late in the third period, Wayne Benson contributed some heroics of his own when he broke through the defense and went in alone to score the winning goal.

Both Milton goaltenders, Aaron Clarke and Corey Clarkson, made some key saves throughout the contest.

Kornack's most spectacular goal involved taking the puck himself near centre ice, going around every available Flamborough player, and then deking the goalie out of his championship trophy.

Kornack had at least one goal in each of the round robin games; two of them in an 8-0 win over East Gwillimbury, in which Robert Morrow, Blanchard and Sam

Tomlinson also had a pair; two more a 7-3 victory over Hamilton, with Tomlinson contributing a goal and three assists; a 6-3 defeat of Ancaster that featured two goals by Blanchard, as well as one each from Cory Whyte, Chris Whiting and Jesse Cabral; and a 5-3 loss to Flamborough, in which Cabral and Craig Stover joined Kornack on the scoresheet.

Novices

The Winterhawks saved their best game for last, winning the consolation final 4-1 over Woodstock. Joel Bouwman, Ryan Burgess, Scott Goulding and Jim Sheppard each scored in the victory.

They lost all three of their round robin encounters, 7-0 to Guelph, 5-1 to Flamborough and 5-3 to Woodstock. Round robin goal scorers were Greg Mountain, Michael Richardson, Andrew Scarffe and Burgess.

Flamborough went on to win the championship with a 3-1 victory over Guelph.

Atom

The atom A Winterhawks failed to win a game — losing 3-2 to Stoney Creek, 5-2 to Flamborough, 5-1 to East Gwillimbury and 5-1 to Stoney Creek in the Consolation final.

Mike Vipond had three goals for Milton in the tournament, with Stephen Jackson, Brent Trull and Patrick Martin getting the other markers.

Jackson had four assists, Vipond two, and Trull, Scott Campbell and Scott Gooding each had one.

Flamborough took the championship trophy with a 2-1 squeaker against East Gwillimbury.

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