

# Sr. Sox win Ontario 'D' title

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
*The Champion*

The past few years have been — to say the least — rather dismal for the senior Red Sox.

But Sunday's Ontario 'D' championship win made up for much of that.

Punctuating a much-improved season — and strengthening the hope for a new area of competitive baseball — the short-staffed locals staved off elimination five straight times to claim gold at the double-knockout provincial showcase in Hanover.

The Bob's Auto Service/HJM Insurance Brokers sponsored seniors played with their backs to the wall all weekend after falling in round one, and were finally crowned champs after back-to-back decisions over Thorold Sunday.

Milton last captured provincial gold in 1992. In addition to mainstay manager Glenn Turner, Matt McCandless and George Moore were part of that team — and both figured in the title-clinching victory this time around.

Moore saw some late relief pitching duty and got the final out while McCandless made up for a costly error just moments earlier by clobbering a two-out, seventh-inning solo homer to tie the game 5-5 and send it to extra innings.

### Dramatic conclusion

The stage was then set for some ninth-inning heroics — which Kevin Wilson was only too happy to offer. With speedy Dwayne Johnson at second base, the veteran slugger — part of Milton District High School's 1996 Bob Prentice Cup championship squad — lashed out a single to drive in the winning run and put the finishing touches on a thoroughly memorable weekend.

Craig Holloway also stood out in the tournament finale with a homer — one of three he'd record on the weekend. He finished up with an amazing 10 RBI plus a second-round victory over Chesley.

"Young and old helped put this thing together," said first-year coach Moore. "It was a real roller-coaster weekend with a lot of highs and lows."

Fortunately the latter were kept to a minimum by the Red Sox — who along with missing a few key players also had to contend with a pint-size park in nearby Chesley that made long balls a hot commodity, partic-

ularly in their initial engagement with Thorold.

Milton went downtown only half as often as their opponents — three times compared to six — but got them all in succession as Wilson, Jeff Sommer and Phil Grieg delivered a concentrated homer-fest.

Meanwhile, Adam Finkbeiner provided a lengthy and highly credible relief pitching stint and his teammates offered a lot of support at the plate to help out-distance Thorold 12-11.

Earlier in the day it was the seniors defensive prowess that equaled victory over Clarksburg. Finkbeiner was in cruise control on the mound and — despite the absence of shortstop Brian Rothery — enjoyed near flawless fielding to win 3-0. Catcher Ryan Davison gunned down three runners at second to lead the defensive charge. Grieg and Sommer each had multi-hit efforts in the narrow victory.

While Milton's provincial success was mainly their own doing, a little third-round fortune played a role as well.

### Won round three by default

Up 6-5 after two innings against Cortwright Saturday afternoon, the eventual champs were awarded the victory when the opposing catcher was ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct and his teammates responded by forfeiting the game — despite having a handful of substitutes.

Before that, Holloway enjoyed a career game against Chesley that ended in a 15-2 mercied win. He went the distance on the hill and allowed a measly three hits while offensively he drove in six runs on three hits, including a grand slam.

Versus Owen Sound Friday, Milton was handcuffed at the plate and shaded 5-3. Former Red Sox Bill Corradetti — part of the team's last provincial championship squad — delivered the game-winning hit while Sommer belted a three-run shot to highlight his team's meager offensive performance.

Newcomer Brent Kostal provided impressive mound work in the first and final rounds of play last weekend. He went five innings without an earned run against Thorold.

Milton made progress in league play as well this year, upping their win total from three to seven and losing eight times by just a single run.

# Juniors' defense finalized

The Merchants may have scored early and often last weekend, but they also made a strong case for the defense.

Make that stronger, with late pre-season moves that should shore up the defending Western Conference champions' blueline unit. Released following Friday's 8-3 drubbing of St. Michael's were hopeful David Jackson and incumbent Chad Vindin — who under-achieved through the tail-end of last season and was the odd-man out during much of the playoffs.

Scooping defensive posts out from under them are Owen Sound Jr. B graduate Pat Devlin, 20, and Miltonian Josh Vanderbreggen — who saw spot duty with the Georgetown Raiders last year

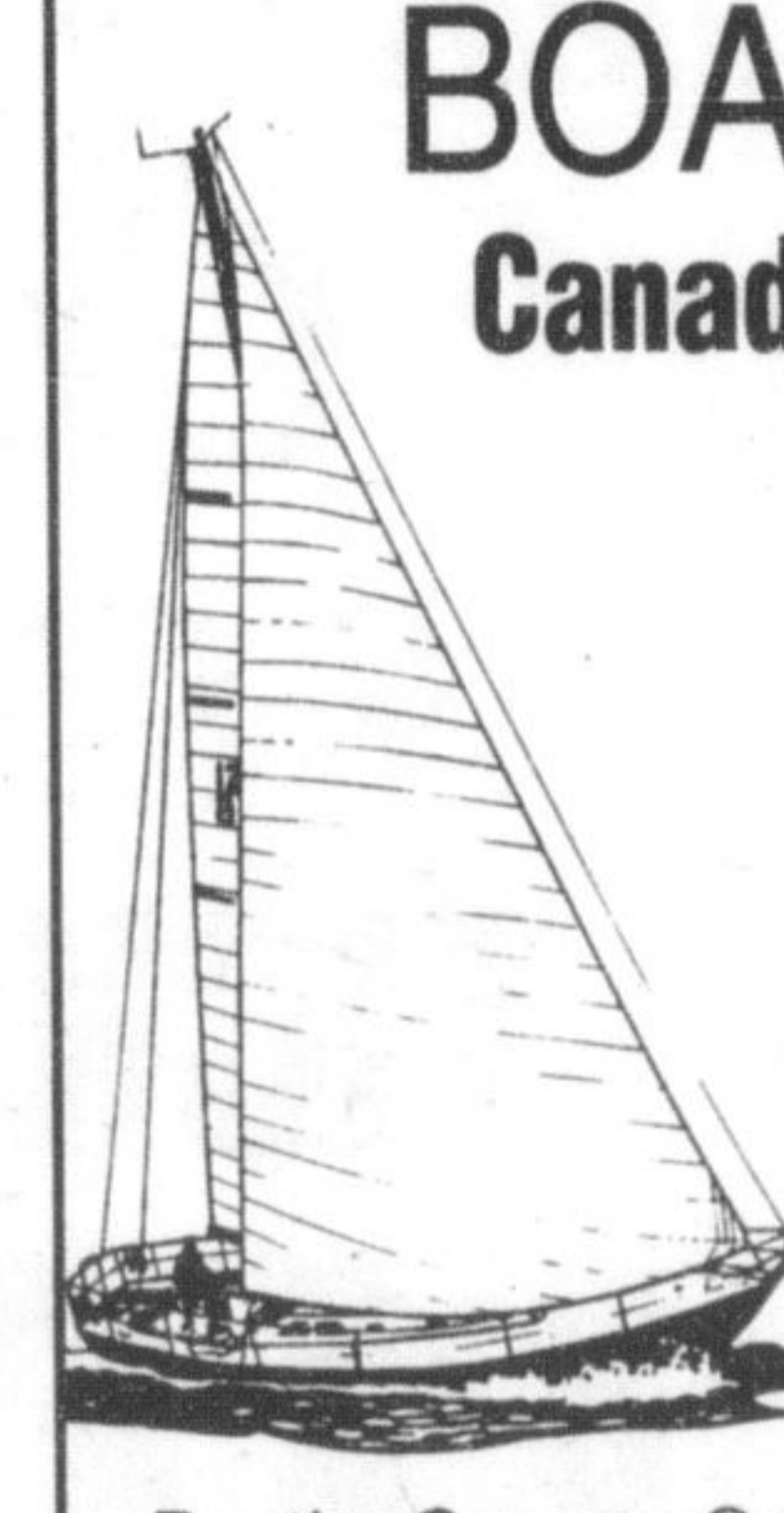
and is now one of seven rearguards with his hometown club.

Also new to the defensive ranks this year are 16-year-old Toronto Marlboro graduate Sean Mole and 20-year-old Matt Bartlett — a standout with the Cambridge Jr. B squad that won the Sutherland Cup two years ago.

The three newcomers will join veterans Vince Guiducci, Rick Janco and Chris Krieg — who tallied twice from the point against St. Michael's Friday.

Standing out with a goal and three helpers was Michel Bond, while chipping in with a goal and an assist were Kevin Arruda and David Ovcjak — a 6'3", 210-pound left winger picked up last week from the Vaughan Vipers.

*Catch the Milton Merchants in exhibition play tonight at Memorial Arena against the Georgetown Raiders. Game time is 8 p.m.*



## BOATING COURSES Canadian Power & Sail Squadron

### REGISTRATION

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2001  
7:30pm - 9:30 pm

M.M. Robinson High School  
(Guelph Line and Upper Middle Rd., Burlington)

### For further information:

905-333-0826 1-888-312-1000 x 329  
905-659-2628

BoatingCourses@aol.com

www.bigwave.ca/~janus/bpss

## EARLY YEARS CHALLENGE FUND NOW AVAILABLE

The Harris government's Early Years Challenge Fund is now accepting applications for funding for community, Francophone and Aboriginal projects that expand and enhance early years programs for parents and young children.

This is an exciting opportunity for our community to be creative and design innovative programs and activities that will serve the needs of local children and families.

Through the Early Years Challenge Fund, the Harris government will match contributions from the community, including those from local businesses and charitable and voluntary organizations, to help all of our parents give their children the best start in life.

For information on application and program guidelines, please contact your local Early Years Community Co-ordinator at (905) 825-6060, ext. 7487. Or visit the Ministry Responsible for Children's web site at [www.childsec.gov.on.ca](http://www.childsec.gov.on.ca) or call the Early Years Challenge Fund Branch, Ministry of Community and Social Services by telephone at (416) 326-2800 (collect calls accepted).

## Milton Youth Soccer Club Winter Indoor League 2001/2002 Registration



Age Groups	Year of Birth	# of Places
Under 6	1995 to 1996	20
Under 8	1993 to 1994	40
Under 11	1990 to 1992	40
Under 14	1987 to 1989	40

**Dates:** Fridays & Saturdays - October, 2001 to April, 2002

**Locations:** Milton District High School & EC Drury High School

**Fee:** \$75.00 per person

### Registration Dates:

Saturday September 15, 2001

Loblaws Entrance Lobby

Times: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

and

Saturday September 22, 2001

Milton Mall

Times 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

**First Come First Served**

**New players please bring your birth certificate.**

