



Milton Winterhawk Mark Thomson (in white jersey) prepares to rub out a Chatham Cobra opponent during game one of second-round OMHA action at Memorial Arena Saturday afternoon. Milton had a disastrous finish and lost the game 5-2, but recovered the following day to eclipse the Cobras 3-2 in overtime and knot the series at one win apiece.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Overtime victory gives 'AA' major atoms weekend split

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
*The Champion*

The AA major atoms decided not to tempt fate again. After easing up considerably and surrendering a third-period lead against Chatham Saturday at Memorial Arena, Milton fortified its efforts the following afternoon to knot the best-of-five OMHA quarterfinal series at one win apiece.

Even with a more complete performance, the Wallace Pontiac Buick Winterhawks needed a dose of overtime heroics to skate away with the home-ice weekend split.

Brayden Abraham did the honours — potting his second of the game with a short wrister five-and-a-half minutes into sudden death to topple the Cobras 3-2.

Squaring the series was all the more important since the last three games are all in Chatham.

Milton overcame a two-goal deficit and matched their guests — who finished first in the Bluewater League and reached the Silver Stick International Tournament this season — in terms of both shots on

net and physical play.

Meanwhile, Taylor Prestidge rebounded from a tough start to stone the visitors for more than two periods and pick up his fourth victory in five playoff outings.

Scott Stover offered a gutsy display up front, while notching the tying tally late in the second period was Matthew Fratarcangeli.

On Saturday, Prestidge's lengthy shutout stretch — which spanned more than nine periods — was abruptly halted with four goals in the third period. Chatham added an empty net deposit for good measure to humble the Winterhawks 5-2. A shorthanded goal two minutes into the final frame ignited the turnaround.

Mark Thomson scored both goals for the hosts — on a backhand and long-range wrister. He and Jeremy Price made big defensive takeaways early on while their team was playing up to par.

Games three and four of the series are set for Saturday and Sunday in Chatham. If necessary, a fifth tilt will be played next Tuesday.

## 'AA' minor bants ousted by St. Kitts in opening round

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
*The Champion*

The Milton AA minor bantams' competitive play eventually faded — as did hopes for an opening-round reversal of fortune.

After shading St. Catharines 4-3 to square their best-of-five series at one game apiece, the Millweld Enterprises Winterhawks were neutralized offensively on the way to two humbling losses and a subsequent dismissal from provincial playdown action.

They were eliminated at Memorial Arena Saturday evening — surrendering four goals in the final frame en route to being vanquished 5-2. Milton managed a measly three shots during the first period and just a dozen overall in the series-ending defeat.

Netminder James Connor weathered a mid-evening storm to keep things tight, but it wasn't enough to overcome a punchless powerplay and total lack of penetration.

The Winterhawks — who just haven't be able to get into any kind of a sustained groove this season — kept pace through the early going with sound defense and a first-period deposit by Matt Buck.

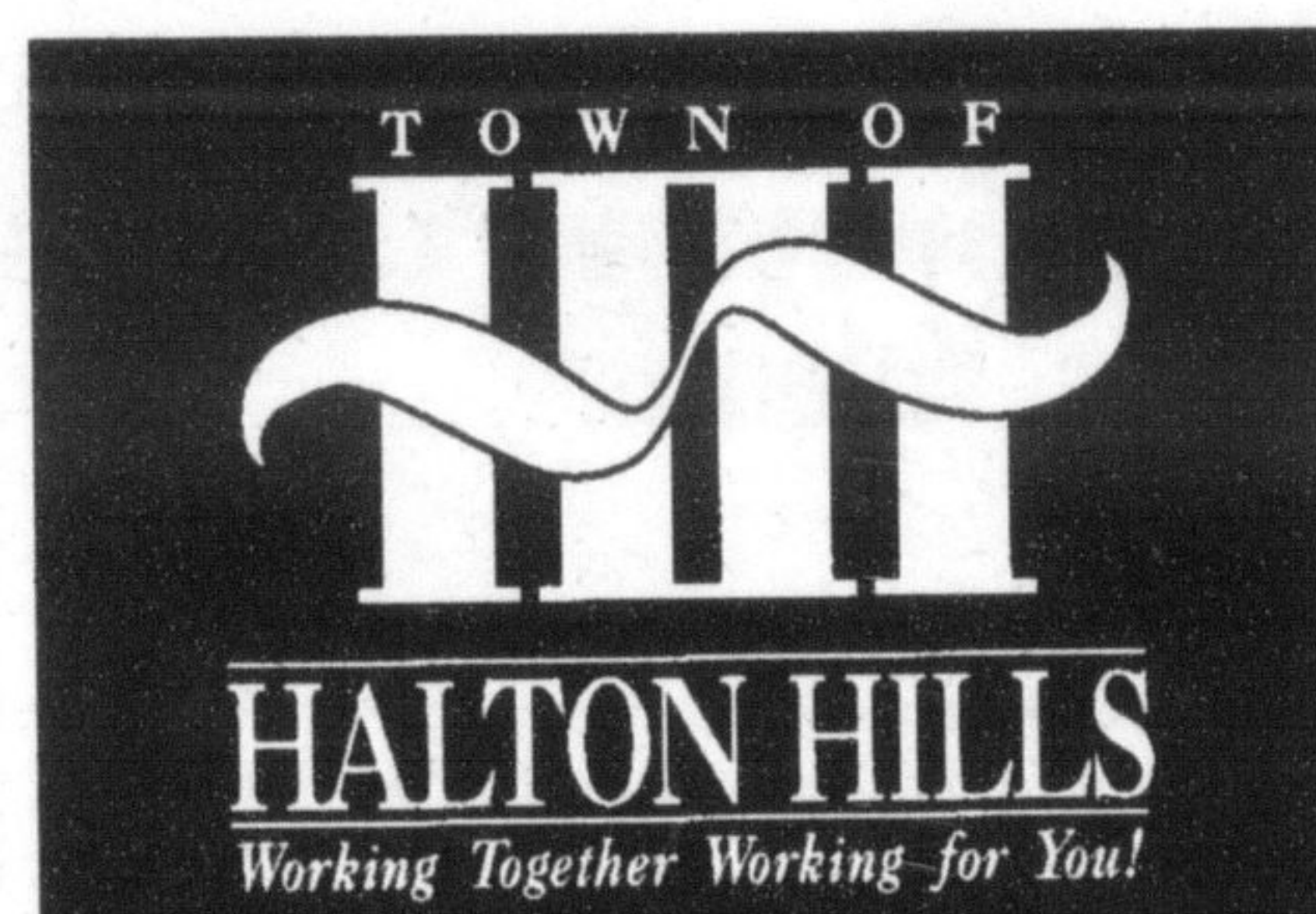
He sank a wraparound through heavy traffic to erase the visitors' initial lead just a minute-and-a-half after it was established.

But St. Catharines would gradually take control, staying composed through a scoreless second period before putting the game — and series — on ice.

Sandwiched between their four goals was a blueline deflection by Sean Mathe. Picking up the assist was Jeff Kitchen. Milton drew within one on this tally, but the visitors would quickly restore their cushion less than half-a-minute later and then put things out of reach on a breakaway.

Mike Carn and Nic Cheeseman provided solid defense in game four, while inspired play up front was delivered by Nate Grenke.

St. Catharines had put the locals on the proverbial chopping block a few days earlier by whitewashing them 3-0.



### INVITATION TO WORKSHOP

#### OFFICIAL PLAN PROGRAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The Town of Halton Hills is undertaking an Official Plan Review. An important aspect of the Review is to obtain input from the community to help guide the future direction of the Town. Through Steering Committee meetings we have identified three major areas of interest: Growth Management, Environment, and Economic Development. You are invited to contribute your views at the final workshop regarding Economic Development. The workshop will be held on:

Thursday, February 28th, 2002  
Cultural Centre  
9 Church Street, Georgetown  
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Welcome, Introductions, and Presentation  
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Small discussion groups  
8:30 - 9:00 p.m. Concluding remarks

We value your input and hope that you can join us. We ask that you register ahead of time, due to limited capacity. Please contact Jason Innis at 905-873-2601, ext. 2256 or by email at [jasoni@town.halton-hills.on.ca](mailto:jasoni@town.halton-hills.on.ca) to confirm your attendance.

Last day for registration is Thursday, February 21, 2002 by 4:00 p.m.

Information on the Town of Halton Hills Official Plan is available at [www.town.halton-hills.on.ca](http://www.town.halton-hills.on.ca) (Planning & Development Services).

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At the Milton Mall on  
Friday Feb. 15, 7-9 pm and  
Saturday Feb. 16, 10-4 pm

If you are registering a new player  
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