



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRIDAY JUNE 21, 2002



Leafs sniper signs on as drawmaster for NA Cup

Seven-year-old Lauren MacDonell gets her hat autographed by Toronto Maple Leaf playoff sensation Alynn McCauley — the guest drawmaster at the post position draw for Saturday night's \$1.5 million Pepsi North America Cup. Lauren's father Paul MacDonell will drive local horse Pacific Titan, owned by Hornby's John Grant. The race will start at 9:42 p.m. and will be part of a star-studded night of racing at Woodbine Racetrack. See a preview story on the event on page 31.

Photo by
GRAHAM PAINE

Intermediate Mavs edged in tournament finals

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

The Champion

Three-peat bid don't fall much shorter than this.

Persevering through thinned out ranks during last weekend's John McCauley Memorial Lacrosse Tournament in Brampton, Milton's intermediates battled their way to the finals only to drop a two-goal decision to Burlington Sunday evening.

Burlington took control in the latter half en route to prevailing 4-2. The Mavericks — one of the younger teams around this season — held two separate leads before their hopes for a third consecutive championship were dashed.

James MacIntosh and weekend standout

Derek Blanchard did the scoring in the finals, while backstopping the team in highly impressive fashion was Jordan Lumb.

"Penalties really hurt us (in the finals)," said coach Kyle Winger. "I think all of their goals were on the powerplay. We'd tied Burlington 6-6 in league play, so we knew it was going to be a tough game."

But then that could be said about every encounter last weekend. The Mavericks had no easy rides on the way to the championship and had to battle from behind three times — including in the semifinals when they edged the hosts 4-3. Only 10 Milton players were available, so needless to say the eventual silver-medalists fought fatigue as much as their opposition. Lumb was sharp between the pipes while com-

ing through with a huge hat-trick was Ryan Harris.

Todd Ashby also stood out with three assists and contributing a single tally was Jeff Kitchen.

This marked the second straight time the Mavericks trimmed Brampton. The two teams met in the last round robin game, during which a handful of players were suspended for the remainder of the tournament, including local netminder Craig Willis.

Lumb offered some dynamite relief goaltending over the final five minutes of play to allow his squad to triumph 5-4. Kevin Corbin made the game-winning deposit with two minutes left — one a nifty solo effort deke — while recording the first of two weekend hat-tricks was Blanchard.

Matt Walsh chipped in with a goal.

The Mavericks scored three times in the third period during their initial clash with Brampton. They did likewise in second-round play against Mimico to win 4-3. Blanchard, Harris, Jon Ram and Adam Rutz did the scoring. With Rutz serving an illegal stick minor at crunch time, Milton delivered a huge penalty kill to eke out the victory.

The Mavericks' most convincing win of the weekend was a 4-1 first-round decision over Wallaceburg. Willis was red hot in net while goals were posted by Ashby, Harris, Rutz and Nate Grenke.

Tournament games featured three 15-minute running-time periods, which accounts for the low scores.

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