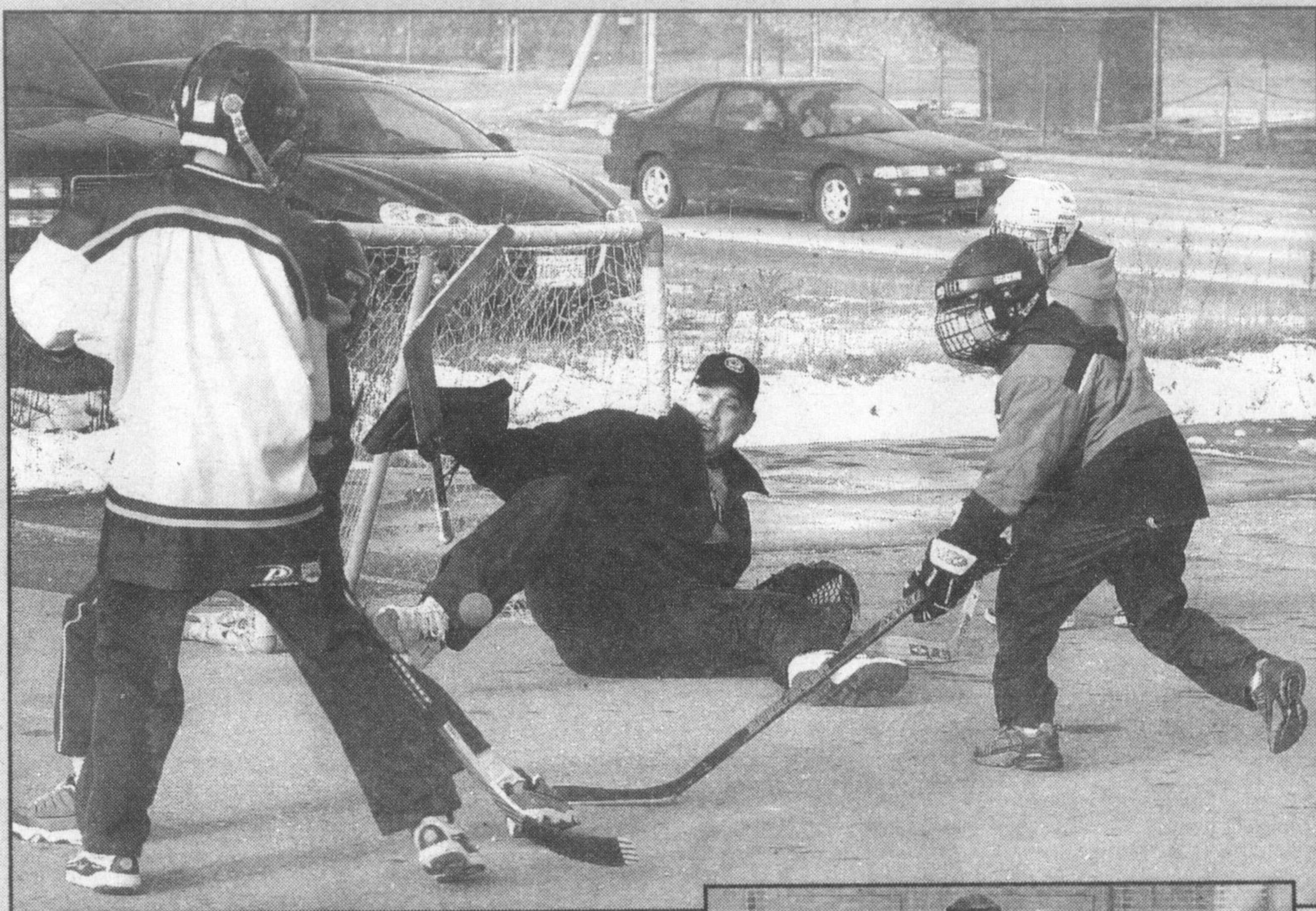




# SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

TUESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2003



## Takin' it to the streets

Minor peewee house league players challenged their parents to a game of ball hockey Saturday at a parking lot on Bronte Street for the sixth year in a row, in what's become known as the Christmas Cup. The youngsters usually win the annual showdown, and this year was no exception. Above, one of the parents makes a kick save, while (at right) a mother tries to stick handle past a young opponent.



Photos by GRAHAM PAINE

## 'AA' midgets dump G'town in penalty-filled showdown

Sunday marked a night of big returns for Milton's AA midgets.

Home from a lengthy road trip that spanned three weeks, the Winterhawks made it back into the win column for the first time in four games.

But it sure wasn't pretty.

In a structure-less showdown almost entirely devoid of flow and even-strength play, Milton wiped out an early deficit with straight shorthanded markers and went on to topple neighbouring Georgetown 7-4 at Milton Sports Centre.

Matt Buck powered the highly-confrontational affair with three goals and a pair of helpers, while also standing out with three-point performances were Matt Reed

and Chris Whiting.

Both teams struck three times on the powerplay, as each penalty box was rarely empty — and often sporting duel or triple occupancy.

Robert Smith turned back nearly two dozen shots to record the victory, his team's seventh in league play. Milton scored three rapid-fire goals in the third period to put the game out of reach.

In Woolwich Saturday night, the Winterhawks simply ran out of steam — surrendering an early lead and eventually falling 4-3.

They'll be in tough Saturday afternoon when they play host to Brampton at John Tonelli Sports Centre. Game time is 2:15 p.m.



## IceHawks upstage top-seated Raiders

### Huge effort leads to upset victory

By STEVE LeBLANC  
*The Champion*

It goes without saying that Lee Swallow hates being relegated to spectator.

But he sure liked what he saw in Georgetown Saturday night.

Currently nursing an undisclosed upper body injury, the IceHawks captain looked on with a huge grin as his visiting charges delivered arguably their most inspiring performance of the season to edge the conference-leading Raiders 3-2.

The upset victory capped a good news week for Swallow, who just a few days earlier was cleared for a return to action — which is tentatively scheduled for next Tuesday in Streetsville.

"The boys really rallied around each other and pulled it out tonight," he said. "It's a big finish to the week and a good tune-up to a busy four-games-in-five-nights stretch. Hopefully we can take it to the next step."

Fueled by a two-goal effort from Jonathan Ornelas and a top-notch showing by Jamie Flury — who turned back 29 of 30 shots in the final two periods and made 39 saves overall — the IceHawks handed Georgetown its first loss this year at Gordon Alcott Arena.

### IceHawks on a roll

The emotionally-charged win was the seventh in eight games for the fourth-place locals, who improved to 20-11-0-1 and increased the likelihood of finishing top three in the West.

Milton worked hard to establish an early lead and even harder to preserve it, hanging on through periods two and three with its biggest physical sacrifice to date.

"We played as a team and got the job done. After scoring those three goals in the first period, we knew we could win it," said Wes Clark, who jammed in his own rebound to get things rolling and has now lit the lamp half-a-dozen times during his team's current four-game win streak.

Added head coach/general manager George Dupont, "It's a big win, and two points most teams don't get (against these guys). We weren't afraid to go after the loose pucks tonight, and Jamie was superb."

Severely out-chanced after getting the initial jump on their bigger and more experienced hosts, the IceHawks clung to the narrowest of leads for nearly 35 minutes — thanks in equal parts to Flury's crafty cage work and a season-high display of grit.

Andrew Bonello, Dean Strong, Julian Sarraino and newcomer Nick Dzieduszycki drew assists for the victors, while Ryan DelMonte potted both goals for Georgetown.

### Late surge fuels home-ice win

At Memorial Friday, Milton overcame a first-half scoring drought to amass five unanswered goals and topple the Bramalea Blues 7-4.

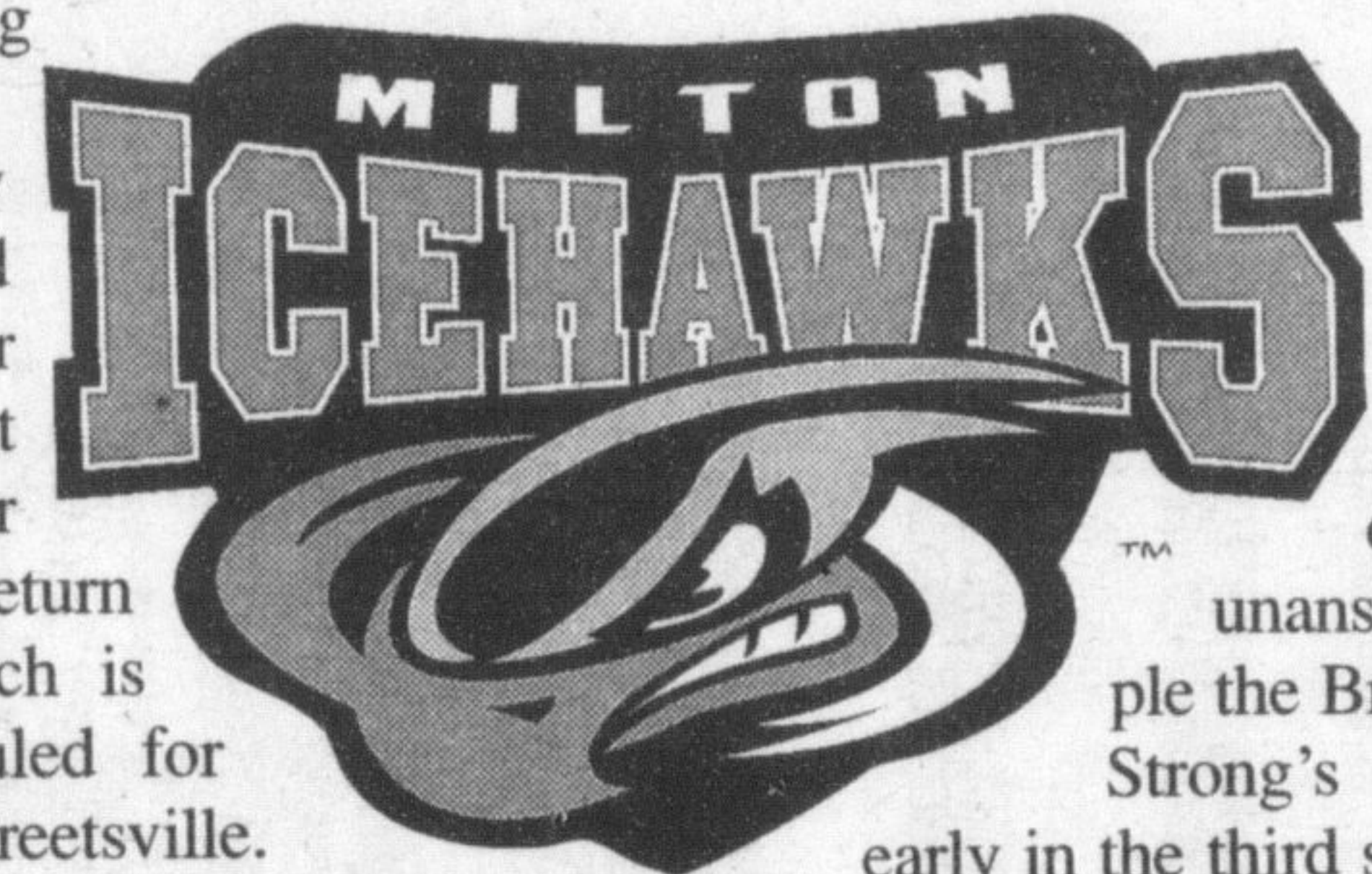
Strong's shorthanded deposit early in the third stood up as the game winner, while other singles came from Clark, Dzieduszycki, Jeff Caister, Matthew French, Bradley Snetsinger and rapidly-improving freshman Ryan McInerney.

Kain Tisi was between the pipes for the win, the fourth straight against Bramalea.

Still going with just three forward lines, the IceHawks may need a little spot-duty assistance from their affiliate Toronto Marlies to get through a four-games-in-five-nights stretch beginning Friday at home against Georgetown.

**IceHawk notes:** Currently sitting with 16 goals and 26 total points, McInerney should gain at least some consideration for the West's Rookie of the Year award ... Believed to be on the outs with the team, veteran winger Ryan Silveira was a healthy scratch for both games over the weekend ... Former Milton Jr. A star Travis Riggan was one of the linesmen for Saturday's IceHawks-Raiders tilt. He's now a second-year official in the Provincial Jr. A League ... Miltonian and veteran Raider Daryl Knowles drew two assists against his hometown team Saturday ... The IceHawks travel to Hamilton Saturday and close out the weekend in Burlington Sunday. Both games start at 7:30 p.m.

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