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Jody, aged 10



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Major bantams win tie-breaker to advance to Tri County finals

Will face Burlington in best-of-three clash

So Milton's AA major bantams will get a chance to defend their Tri County title after all.

Head coach John Nadalin initially thought his Winterhawks had fallen short of qualifying following Wednesday's 5-3 decision over the top-seeded Burlington Eagles at Milton Sports Centre.

It was believed that they had to win that game by at least four goals in order to advance to the best-of-three finals against Burlington. However, the 7-3 Winterhawks finished in a three-way tie for second place, and got the nod because they had one more victory than St. Catharines and boasted a head-to-head win over Stoney Creek.

"It's great that the guys will have a

chance to pick up some hardware," said Nadalin, who was an assistant coach under Marty Hannah during last year's Tri County sweep over Stoney Creek.

The championship series began last night in Burlington and continues at Milton Sports Centre Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Despite not having home-ice advantage for the series, Milton has to be considered at least a slight favourite to prevail — having won the last two showdowns with Burlington before last night.

Meanwhile, Milton's A major bantams also began Tri County championship play last night, after going a near-perfect 7-1 through round-robin play.

They kicked things off at John Tonelli


Sports Centre against the Erin Shamrocks, who host game two tonight. The best-of-five series continues at Tonelli Saturday at 2 p.m.




Also vying for Tri County gold are the tykes, who hosted last night's best-of-five series opener with the Caledon Hawks.

Game two goes tonight at Teen Ranch, while game three is slated for Friday at 6:30 p.m. at Milton Sports Centre.

Now within striking distance of clinching a championship after a rather rocky regular season, the local tykes went unbeaten at 7-0-3 in their round-robin campaign and went 1-0-1 against Caledon — with a 2-0 shutout victory and 3-3 stalemate.



Milton Minor Baseball Association



WE HAVE SOME OPENINGS IN ALL DIVISIONS.

FINAL REGISTRATION Saturday, March 27, 2004 Milton Sports Centre, Derry Road 9:30am - 4:30pm

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Long-shots lead the way in second leg of Apaches Fame Series Friday

Bettors didn't give Western Gem or Rocketboy much backing in the \$17,000 second leg of the Apaches Fame Series Friday night at Woodbine Race Track, but both of the three-year-olds delivered huge double-digit returns.

With the 3-5 favourite O Narutac Magic going off-stride while battling for early position, Western Gem and driver Tony Kerwood were able to return the large prices in the first of two splits.

Gladly accepting a pocket ride as PH Tidal Wave and driver Randy Waples cut opening fractions of :27.2, :56.2 and 1:26.1, Western Gem popped from the cover in the lane and paced to a one-length victory in a lifetime record of 1:54.3.

Pokagon finished second and bottomed-out the \$263.70 exactor. PH Tidal Wave, who was two lengths back, hung on for third and completed a whopping \$1,488.70 triactor.

Trained by co-owner Dennis Nadon of Cottam, Ontario for partner Kenneth Robertson of Allen Park, Michigan, Western Gem posed for his second winner's photo of the year in four starts.

A son of Rambaran and Ann Opal, he now has \$13,530 in 2004 earnings and \$21,198 in his career.

Also working his way into a pocket ride, Rocketboy and driver Kelvin Rose engineered the second shocker of the evening — stopping the clock in a personal best of 1:54.4 in the second division.

After leaving from post five, Rose and the daughter of Pacific Rocket and Tarpot Sensation reached the front early and cut a :27.1 opening fraction.

Miltonian Chris Christoforou and 8-5 favourite Mata Harry made the front from the four-hole before the :56.1 half-way



Hoof Beat

with JEFF RENTON

mark. Now in the two-hole past the 1:25.2 third panel, Rose and the Rocco Auciello-trained miss sprinted off the cover to a three-quarters-of-a-length win.

Warrabee Flash and driver Rod Hennessy took second, while Milton's Randy Waples and Classic Grin were a length back for third. The exactor returned \$577.10, while the triactor paid an eye-opening \$8,178.20.

Owned by Allan and John Lockie of Zephyr, Ontario, Rocketboy earned his first win of the season Friday — raising his record to 1-1-1 in nine starts. His career bankroll now stands at \$26,020.

The \$49,400 final of the Apaches Fame Series is set for Friday.

One night earlier at Woodbine, Deadman's Curve flew home from off-the-pace in a stake's record of 1:54.3 to take the second leg of the General Brock Series.

Steered by Rick Zeron and owned by the C and I Racing Stable of Brooklyn, New York, Deadman's Curve has been the definition of consistent this season and now sports a lifetime bankroll of \$147,714.

Ball hockey play back for '04

Milton will once again be offering an adult ball hockey league this summer.

Only team entries will be accepted — at a cost of \$1,799 — for 2004 competition, which runs from

May until mid-August. The league is open to men of all skill levels 18 years of age and up, with players needing just a helmet, hockey gloves and a stick.

League winners advance to

provincial championship play at the end of the summer.

To obtain a registration form or for more information, call (905) 616-9153 or visit www.haltonbhl.ca.



MILTON WINTERHAWKS REGISTRATION FOR 2004/05 SEASON

MARCH 26TH: 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM MILTON SPORTS CENTRE
MARCH 27TH: 8:00 AM - 10:00 PM MILTON SPORTS CENTRE

Milton Minor Hockey Association will be accepting payment by Cash, Cheque, VISA, MASTERCARD and DEBIT

If you have any questions contact info@miltonwinterhawks.com or call 905-878-8340



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