

# Sports

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## IceHawks walk over Mississauga

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
*The Champion*

**O**ne measuring stick of a team's potential is how it responds to defeat.

To that end, local hockey fans have cause for optimism. The IceHawks have followed up each of their four losses so far this season, three coming by the narrowest of margins, with what can safely be characterized as an above-par performance.

That trend continued with last Friday's 10-2 pasting of the Mississauga Charges.

"I think that's a sign of a good team, when you can bounce back quickly from defeat," said veteran defenceman Jeff Caister, who got the blowout rolling with a lengthy one-timer in the first and was among seven host players delivering multi-point efforts in the pre-Thanksgiving feast. "After losing in Streetsville we sat down and had a long talk about how we've got to come prepared to play every night. We were ready tonight (Friday) and I think it showed."

The win — which bumped Milton to 8-4 — marked the sixth time in seven starts that number one netminder Doug Groenestege held the opposition to three goals or less.

The former Mississauga IceDogs back-up admits he's still got some adjustments to make at the Tier 2 level, but has certainly been appreciative of the support he's received so far. He's yet to trail after first-period play, due at least in part to the IceHawks' usual strong start.

"It's always good to go into the second with that type of insurance. It allows you to play a bit more aggressive and with some confidence," said Groenestege. "We've been out-shooting teams pretty good most nights, and that's when you need your goalie to play well. You sure don't want to lose those games (with a heavy shot advantage)."

Hometown rookie Matt Price continued to make fans and opponents alike sit up and take notice with a five-point showing Friday — tallying twice and adding three helpers.

Fellow freshman Kevin Morrison also stood out with two goals and a pair of helpers, while captain Adam Pileggi and Mike DeMarchi had three points apiece.

The explosive night came without benefit of either a potent powerplay campaign — just 2-for-6 — or the services of first-line centre Brett Robinson, who continues to nurse a sprained ankle and is questionable for tonight's clash with Streetsville.

While the IceHawks had just one game last weekend, they were quite busy on the player movement front.

• see **PLENTY** on page 22




### 'Hawks grounded

Winterhawk Nick Cragg finds himself outnumbered in front of the Arthur net, and (at left) jockeying for position against a visiting opponent during AE2 peewee action at John Tonelli Sports Centre Saturday afternoon. Milton kept things interesting until the third period, when they surrendered two insurance goals for a 3-0 loss. Mitchell Turner and Tyler Curtis split the goaltending duties.

Photos by  
**GRAHAM PAINE**





**TONIGHT'S  
TICKET**

**IceHawks (8-4) vs.  
Streetsville (5-6-1-1)**

**Game time:** 7:30 p.m. at Memorial  
**Last meeting:** 5-4 loss in Streetsville  
**Who to watch:** Louis D'Avino — a 6'2", 205-pound defenceman traded last weekend for winger Julian Sarraino — makes his IceHawks debut, adding much-needed size to a solid but somewhat small blueline corp.  
**The skinny:** The IceHawks will be eager to avenge a 5-4 loss at Vic Johnston Arena October 5. Expect them to jump ahead early and capitalize on more of their opportunities this time around.  
**Champion's pick:** Milton by 3

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