

Sports

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Eye on the ball

A Dr. Susan Jany-Milton Hawkeyes player (in front) keeps her eye on the ball and edges a Conbel Express & Logistics opponent out of the play during Under-15 girls semifinal play at Lions Sports Park Saturday during Milton Youth Soccer's season-ending house league play. For more photos and results from the day, see page A24.

'Hawks kick off new year in style

Cap first weekend by dismantling lowly Streetsville

By STEVE LeBLANC
The Champion

Barry Batanoff may want to think about hiring an assistant for the next time the IceHawks take on Streetsville.

Because if this past weekend was any indication, the Milton statistician is going to be awfully busy whenever his club does battle with the Derbys — who may wind up blowing their entire Royal Bank Cup budget on scoresheets long before next spring's national championship.

A whopping 50 penalties were assessed at Vic Johnston Memorial Arena Saturday night, when the IceHawks capped their first weekend of regular season play with an 11-1 cakewalk.

Facing minimal resistance from a team thoroughly devoid of discipline or defensive prowess, Milton jumped out to a 5-0 first-period lead and amassed six power-play goals to improve to 2-0.

Newly-appointed captain Luke Dubbin — an OHL overager who spent the last two seasons with the Sudbury Wolves — said he certainly didn't expect the evening-long parade to the penalty box, but that it did give his IceHawks a chance to work on their special-teams play.

He added, "One thing I was really

impressed with tonight was how every line contributed. If you look at the scoresheet, it's not just three or four guys on there."

That definitely wasn't a hollow sentiment, given that 15 Milton players — including goalie Zach Kleiman — factored into the scoring, and nine had multi-point games.

Defencemen Jeff Caister and Jordan Skinner had a goal and three assists each, while winger Chase Langerap tallied twice and added a helper.

The IceHawks had 22 powerplays, including half-a-dozen two-man advantages — three of which were scored on.

The blowout was hardly a surprise, since the

Derbys didn't bring in many impact players this summer and were knocked off 7-3 by the mediocre-at-best

Mississauga Chargers Friday.

Milton's Steve Ellison scored the first Streetsville goal in that game but sat out Saturday with an injured hand.

While he didn't have to come up with anything close to his 'A' game to turn back the all-bark-and-no-bite Derbys, Kleiman was certainly a standout the night before against Brampton.

Cutting down the angles with textbook precision and stopping at least a handful of huge rebounds, the 6'3", 210 lbs. Saskatoon netminder held the fort to critical acclaim until his teammates potted two third-period goals to pull away for a 4-1 home-opening victory.

"Zach's been excellent so far and really bailed us out against Brampton," Dubbin stressed. "He's so solid out there and just finds ways to see the puck."

That last comment referred to Kleiman's composure during extended periods of high traffic pressure from the Capitals Friday — especially during the opening frame, when he stoned the fast-start visitors with 14 straight saves.

Dubbin, Langerap and Price each had a goal and an assist, with Price netting the winning late in the second on a short-range rebound.

The IceHawks will look to make it two in a row versus the Capitals when they head to Brampton Thursday. From there they return to Memorial Arena Friday to take on Hamilton at 7:30 p.m. Sunday afternoon they host Oakville at 3 p.m.



With O'Shea back, Argos annihilate Ticats

Mike O'Shea couldn't have picked a more memorable game for his return.

Back from a shoulder injury that sidelined him for the Argos' 33-30 Labour Day loss to the Tigercats, Milton's 34-year-old linebacker led a Toronto defense that earned its first shutout victory in more than a quarter of a century with Saturday's 48-0 annihilation of Hamilton.

The monster payback victory — pushing the East Division-leading Boatmen to 7-4

— saw O'Shea and company completely neutralize the Ticats, who crossed midfield just once all game.

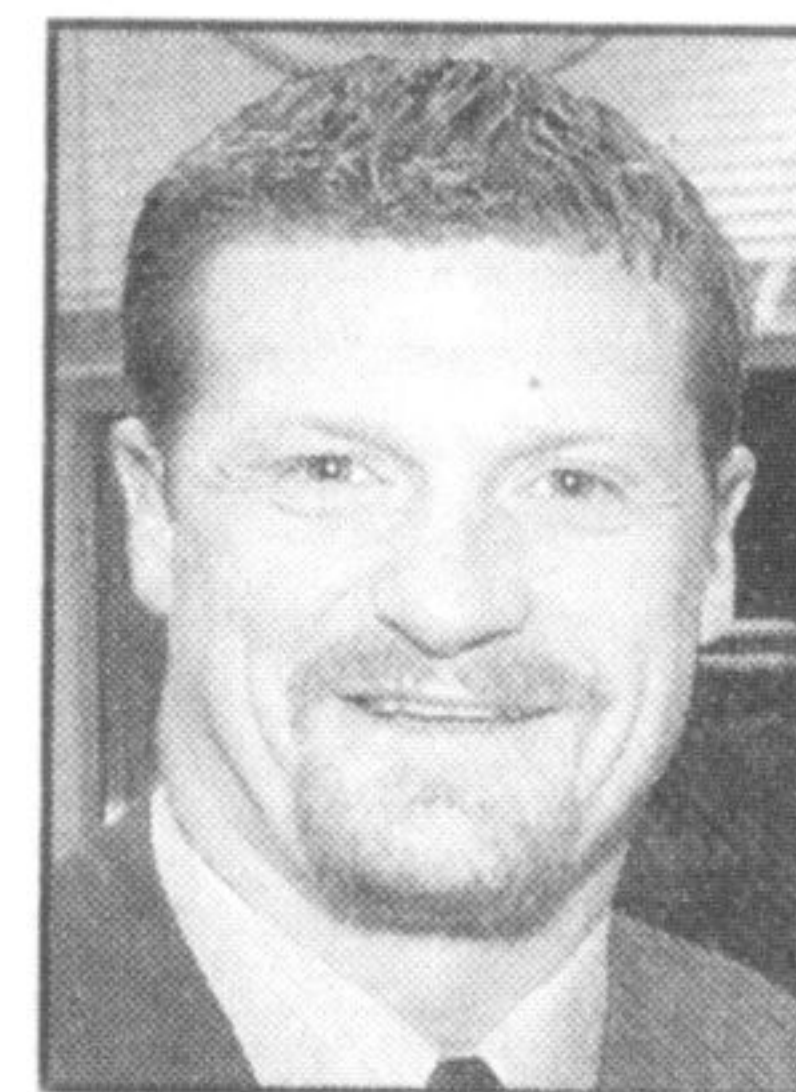
The blowout victory was all the more satisfying given that Hamilton had won two straight and was beginning to look better than its basement-dwelling status would suggest. Toronto scored two dozen points in each half and intercepted opposing quarterback Danny McManus twice.

The lopsided win had to be especially

gratifying for O'Shea, whose absence from the Labour Day clash was his first in 161 games — dating back nearly a decade.

He and the Argos are off this week, with their next challenge coming September 23 in Saskatchewan.

The Roughriders — who signed fellow Matt O'Meara to their injury reserve list this past spring — edged Winnipeg 19-17 Saturday for their second win in a row after dropping five straight.



Mike O'Shea

Milton Minor Baseball Association

COME OUT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE 2006 SEASON!!!

MAJOR MOSQUITO

Sept 20th 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Sept 24th 2:30 - 4:30 pm
Sept 25th 10:30 - 12:30 pm

MINOR MOSQUITO

Sept 24th 12:30 - 2:30 pm
Sept 25th 12:30 - 2:30 pm

PEEWEE

Sept 17th 10:00 - 12:00 pm
Sept 18th 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Sept 24th 12:00 - 2:00 pm
Sept 25th 2:00 - 4:00 pm
(invitation only)

ROOKIE BALL SENIOR & JUNIOR

Sept 24th 12:30 - 2:30 pm
Sept 25th 12:30 - 2:30 pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, October 1st, 2005
Milton Sports Centre
Room to be announced.



905-876-2288 - All tryouts are at Rotary Park.

or visit us online at www.milton-baseball.org and download an application form.