

Top OHL draft picks making news

Tavares lighting things up, McInerney quits Soo

The top two OHL draft picks to ever come out of the Milton Jr. A hockey club are certainly making news these days.

However, the headlines couldn't be any different for Ryan McInerney and John Tavares — both highly-gifted forwards from Oakville.

Reportedly concerned about his ice time, 17-year-old McInerney walked out on the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds last week after meeting with the club's head coach and general manager.

After failing to show up at the team's home game against the Sarnia Sting October 4, the OHL's 2004 fourth overall pick issued a statement to the Sault Star that he no longer enjoyed playing hockey

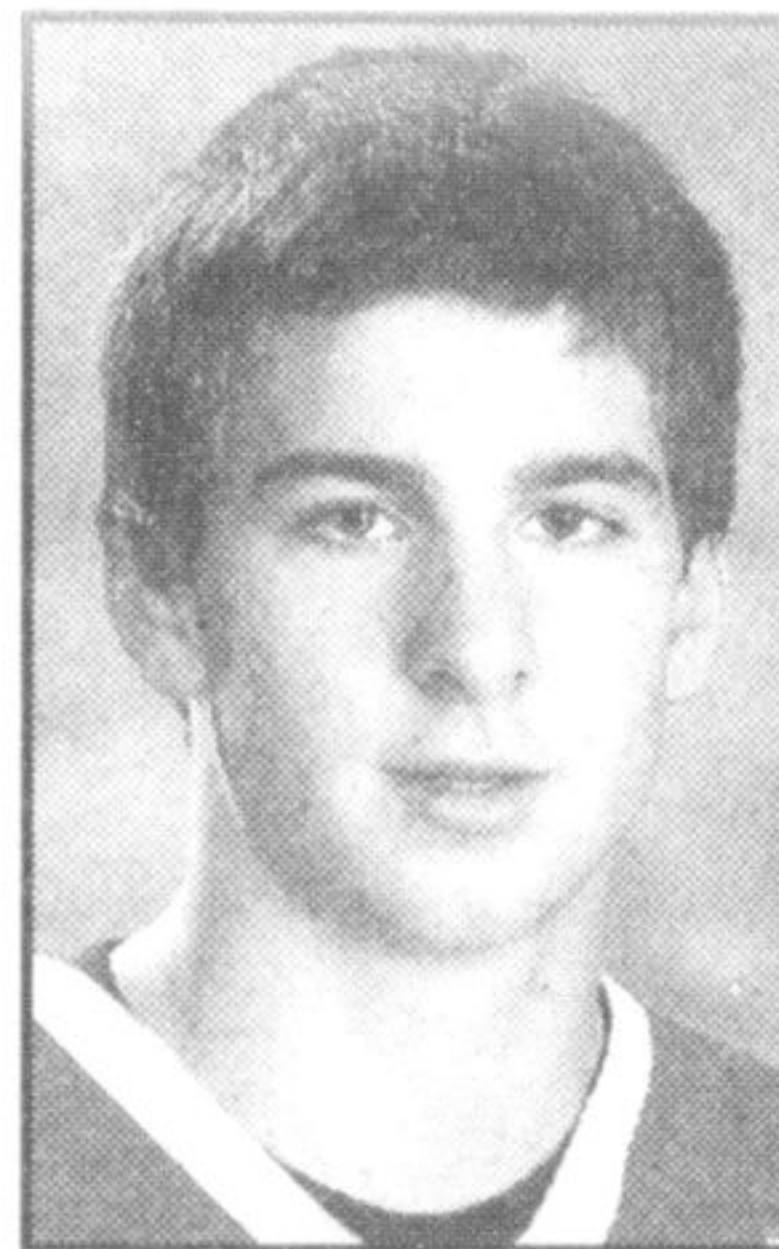
and was calling it quits.

He had a pair of goals in five games at the time of his departure, which followed an 18-points-in-64-games rookie campaign. McInerney had 18 goals and 32 points with the 2003/04 IceHawks.

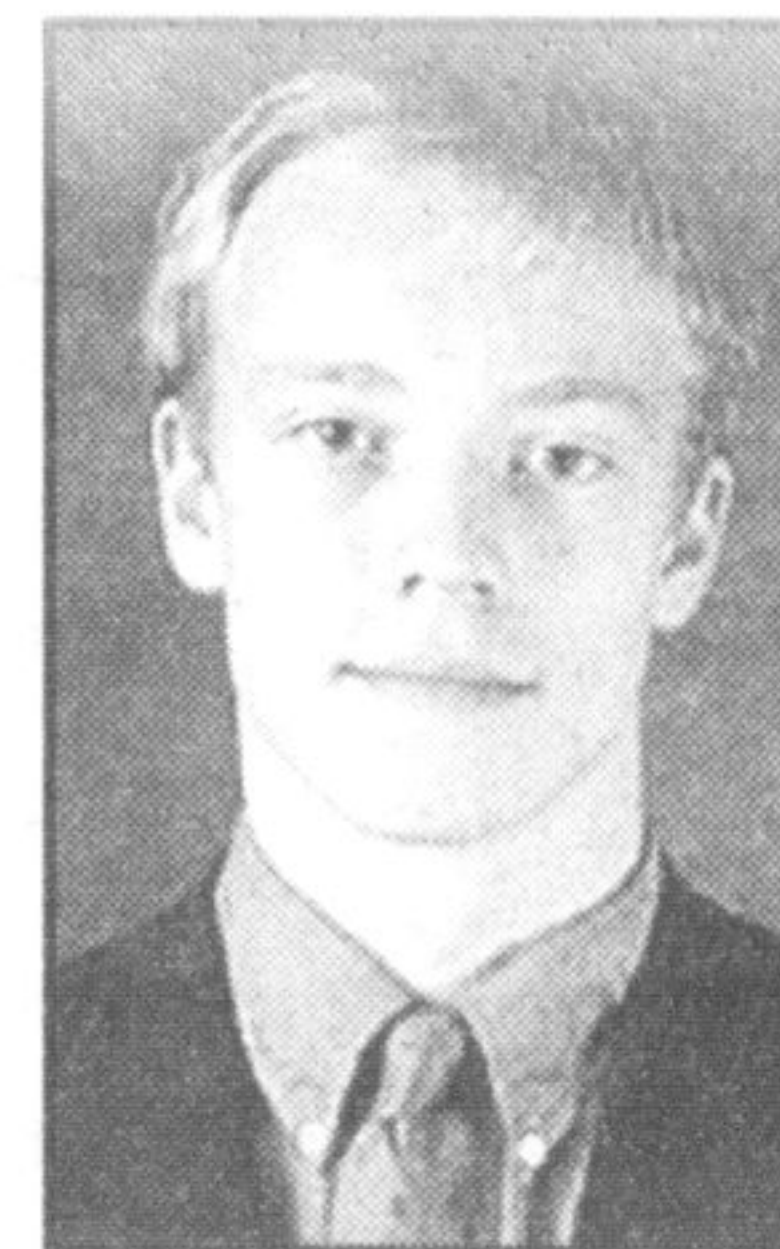
The Greyhounds now sit 4-4-1 on the year.

Meanwhile, things are a whole lot rosier right now for Tavares — who gained prominence this past spring by being fast-tracked into major-junior hockey as the OHL's first 'exceptional player'.

The 15-year-old is certainly proving worthy of that distinction, with nine goals and an assist in just seven games with the Oshawa Generals, who had the rather envi-



John Tavares



Ryan McInerney

able task of taking him first overall in the 2005 Entry Draft.

His strong start isn't too surprising for many local junior fans, who watched Tavares collect 11 goals and 23 points in 16 games as a standout affiliate player with Milton last season.

Peewees prevail

Milton's AA peewees weathered some anxious moments down the stretch

Rep Hockey

to pull out a 4-3 squeaker in Orangeville Wednesday night.

The narrow victory improved the Dunsford Landscaping Winterhawks' record to 2-3.

James Hart potted the eventual winner with five minutes remaining and delivered a beautiful pass to set up Mark Nordstrom, who finished the game with a goal and an assist as well. Also lighting the lamp were Marcus Dunsford and Brandon Nicols, who ended the second period with an impressive coast-to-coast rush and subsequent deposit.

Tyler Jordan backstopped Milton to victory, the second straight after three losses to start the season.

AE atoms win big

Milton's AE atoms flexed their scoring muscles in Ancaster Tuesday night to dump the host Avalanche 7-2.

Five Winterhawk players recorded multi-point games in the decisive victory, their second straight after a season-opening loss to Georgetown. Victoria Medeiros tallied twice and added an assist, while matching that point total with a goal and two helpers was Ryan Tanason.

Zach Wadham also potted a pair, with a goal and an assist contributed by Tyler DeMeo — who scored shorthanded — and two helpers chipped in by Owen Cutrara. Milton's other goal was deposited by call-up Matthew Bergman. Goalie Mack Mindenhall had a shutout going until the third period.

Peewee Twisters take silver at tourney

North Halton's B peewees enjoyed a silver lining over the Thanksgiving Weekend — delivering second-place honours at the inaugural St. Catharines Chaos Girls Hockey Tournament.

The Twisters — who include Miltonians Vanessa Hartwick and Tamara McKelvie — were unbeaten en route to the finals, which they dropped 2-0 to the Oakville Hornets.

North Halton reached the championship by virtue of wins over Niagara Falls (5-1) and Mississauga (2-0) and a 1-1 tie with Sarnia. Terrilyn Digout was rock-solid between the pipes all weekend.

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