

Veteran Tier 2 Jr. A forward **Steve Ellison** has seven points in his last five games with the 2006 Royal Bank Cup host Streetsville Derbys — including back-to-back three-point performances in a successful home-and-home series with Hamilton. He sits just two points behind the team scoring leader with eight goals and six assists in 15 games.

With just one point in his first four games with the AHL Milwaukee Admirals and Nashville currently enjoying their best start in franchise history at a near-perfect 8-0-1-0, **Darren Haydar** isn't likely to get a call-up to the big club anytime soon. His Admirals are also struggling out of the gate with a 0-3-0-1 record.

The **IceHawks** have been doing more than excelling on the ice these days. The Western Conference frontrunners recently initiated a 'Reading for Success' program at the local elementary schools and donated the proceeds from last Friday night's program sales to ongoing hurricane relief efforts.

October hasn't exactly been kind to **Erick Lizon** and his QMJHL Victoriaville Tigres. Since enjoying a strong start, the Tigres have dropped six of eight games this month, while Lizon has just one assist over that stretch. Victoriaville currently sports a 7-8-0-1 record.

Sporting seven Milton-area players this season, the 'AAA' **Hurricane minor midgets** have put together three straight wins following their only loss of the year, with their latest victory coming in a 5-1 decision over the Grey-Bruce Highlanders Sunday. They sat at 7-1-1 prior to last night's game in Stoney Creek.

While his IceHawks are certainly thriving these days, the rest of **Mario Forgiore's** hockey stable isn't faring so well. His recently-acquired Pensacola Ice Pilots of the ECHL dropped their first two games of the season last weekend while the OHL Mississauga IceDogs sit last in the Central Division at 3-10-0-0.

Red Wings ground 'Hawks

Milton finally beaten in regulation time

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

The IceHawks certainly remain the team to beat in the Provincial Jr. A League, although they're no longer unbeaten — in regulation time, that is.

Stifled by a thoroughly-effective neutral zone trap in Hamilton Monday night, the Western Conference front-runners were held to 23 shots and had their eight-game winning streak snapped with a 2-1 setback to the Red Wings.

The loss marked the first game this season that the now 12-1-1-1 IceHawks — now seated second in the national rankings — didn't earn at least a point, since their only other loss came in overtime to Mississauga.

It was also the first time in over a

month that they were kept under the 30-shot plateau.

An 0-for-9 powerplay campaign also factored heavily into the defeat.

Veteran defence-man **Ryan Bernardi** was the visitors' lone marksman, burying his first of the year a little over a minute into the second period with help from **Aaron Lewicki** and **Matt Read** — who has at least one point in his last seven games.

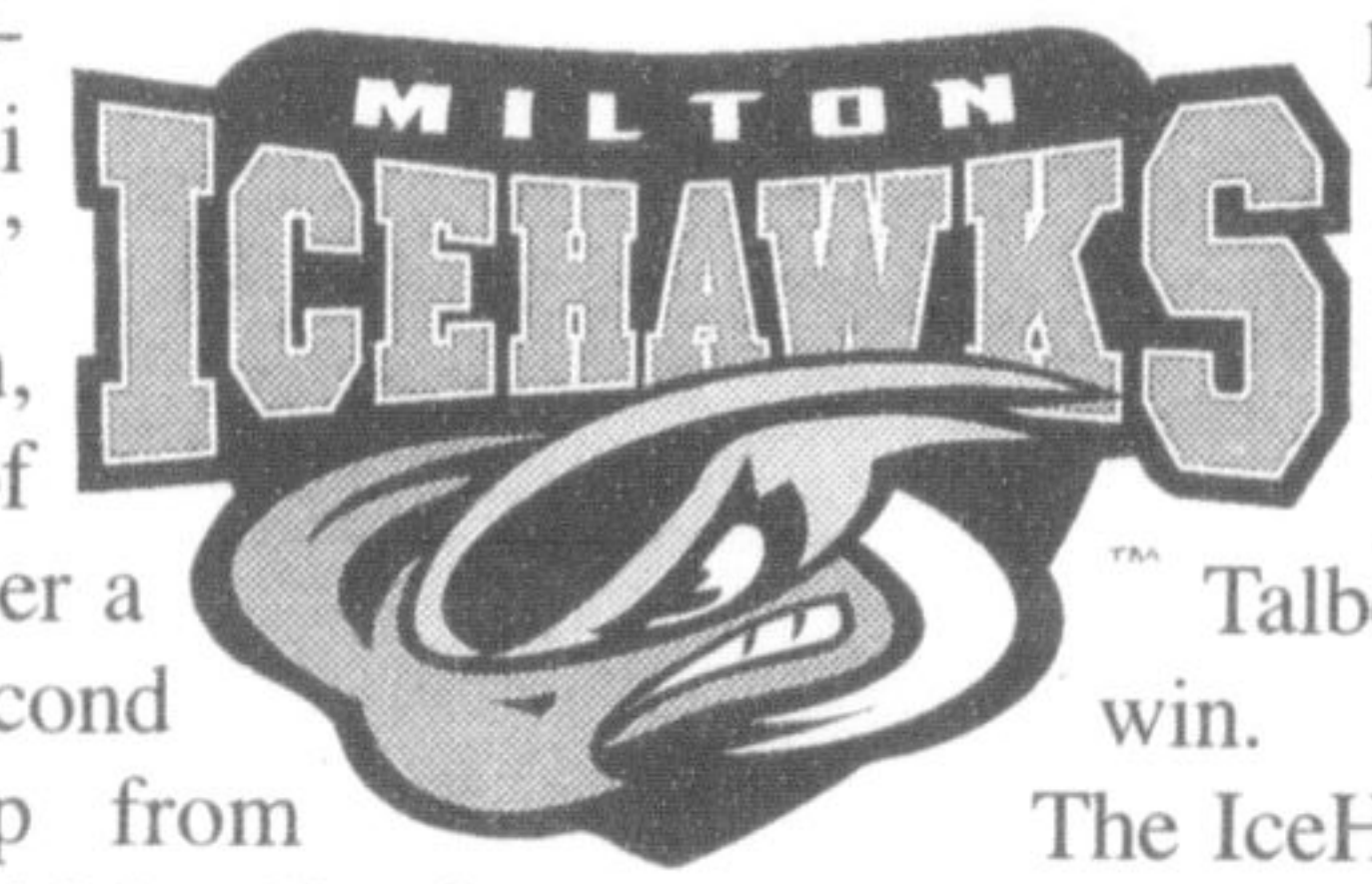
Perhaps turning a corner from a lacklustre stretch that included losses to Streetsville and Bramalea, Hamilton sandwiched Bernardi's tally with powerplay goals in the first and final frames. Mike

Galbraith's game winner came on a two-man advantage early in the third.

Zach Kleiman was between the pipes for the loss and has now played eight games in which he's given up two goals or less, which

puts him among the league's top netminders. Red Wings counterpart **Cameron Talbot** picked up the win.

The IceHawks will look to make a quick return to their winning ways tonight at Burlington's Central Arena when they cap a two-game road trip against the Cougars. They're back at Memorial Arena next Friday evening to begin a three-game home stand against the Brampton Capitals.



Jr. Royals' gridiron woes go on



Bishop Reding's football juniors continued to struggle offensively in Burlington Tuesday afternoon, getting whitewashed 15-0 by the Robert Bateman Wild.

With minimal success running the ball outside, the Royals fell to 1-4 — with Bateman's touchdowns coming on a bad snap and missed block in the first and third quarters. Once again linebacker **Tyler LaFontaine** offered some spirited play, but otherwise bright spots in the BR lineup were few and far between.

Reding will look to snap their losing skid

in Oakville Tuesday afternoon, when they close out the regular season against White Oaks Wildcats. A victory will secure them seventh place in Halton's Division 2 ranks and set up a first-round playoff clash with the second-place finisher — most likely either Bateman or Oakville's St. Thomas Aquinas Raiders.

Meanwhile, Milton District's 3-2 juniors have already qualified for the post season and could guarantee themselves home-field advantage for the opening round with a victory at Bateman Tuesday.

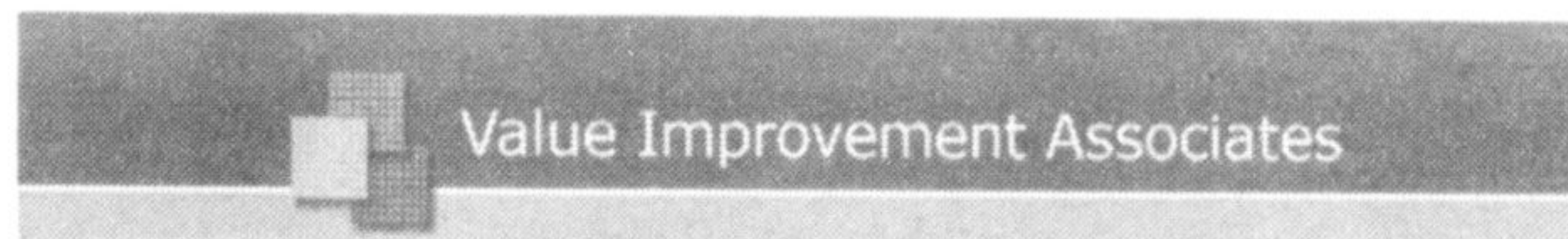


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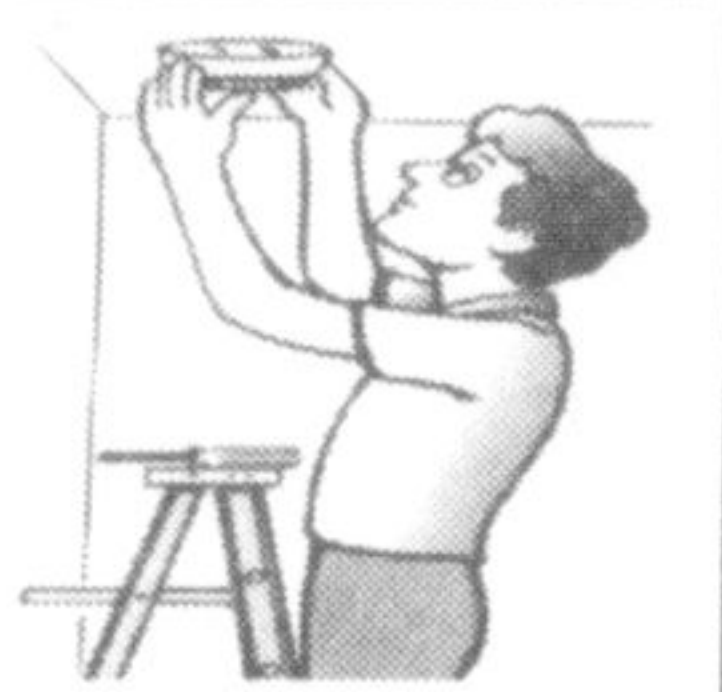
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