

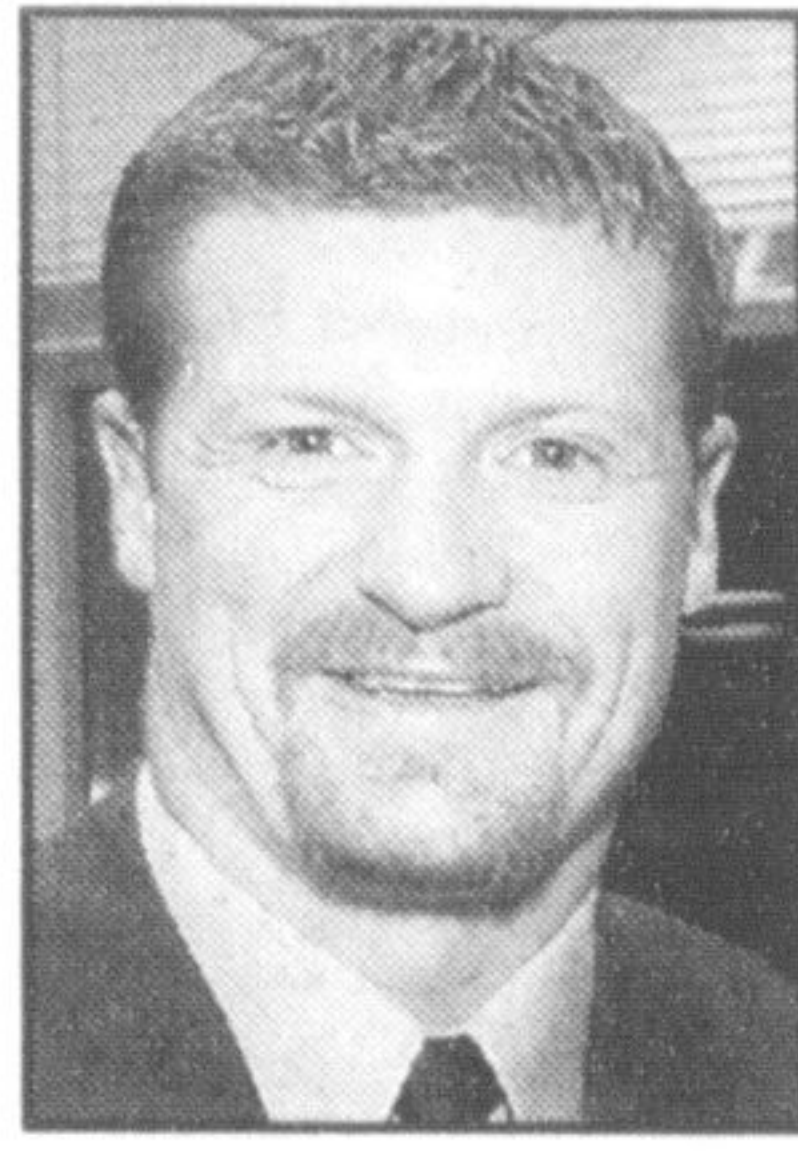
No return to Grey Cup for O'Shea and Argos

Mike O'Shea had hoped to be packing his bags for Vancouver yesterday, but instead his Argonauts were packing it in for another season.

One game earlier than they would have liked.

Despite home-field advantage and a two-touchdown lead early on, the 35-year-old Milton linebacker and the Boatmen were downed 33-17 by the Montreal Alouettes Sunday afternoon in the East Division final — crushing their bid at defending the Grey Cup out west.

A 13-year veteran of the CFL with no immediate plans for retirement, O'Shea had said Thursday morning the key to turning back the Als was avoiding the long pass. That proved to be a tall task as the game wore on, with Montreal quarterback Anthony Calvillo gradually getting his air strike rolling and throwing for 190 yards overall on 19 completions.



Mike O'Shea

That plus six Toronto turnovers and an inability to contain replacement running back Eric Lapointe proved to be a crippling combination.

Sunday's loss — which helped set up the third Montreal-Edmonton Grey Cup clash in four years — had to be especially heartbreaking for the Argos after they built a 14-0 advantage and looked poised to deliver another rout like the one they laid on the Als October 22 in Montreal.

A victory would have given O'Shea a shot at his fourth Grey Cup. In addition to last season, he won back-to-back CFL championships in 1996 and 1997 — also with Toronto.

Atom Hurricanes golden at Lake Placid tournament

The Hurricane major atoms enjoyed a golden trip to Lake Placid recently, due in no small part to a local foursome.

Campbellville's Bryce Abraham and Miltonians Jason DaSilva, Tyler Ganly and Ryan Stark all played significant roles in their team's Challenge Cup championship victory, which featured five straight wins and a mere eight goals against over that stretch.

The lone Canadian representative in the eight-team AAA division, Halton clinched the title with a 5-2 decision over Massachusetts's Valley Jr. Warriors Elite November 13.

DaSilva was between the pipes for the victory — putting the finishing touches on a memorable weekend, in which he was runner-up in the skills competition's shoot-out — while Ganly contributed offensively with a pair of assists.

Halton kicked off the tournament with a 6-0

whitewash of Massachusetts' Mill City Monsters, with DaSilva standing tall in net, and then turned back challenges from the Chicago Flames (3-1), Massachusetts' NS Red Wings (6-2) and Connecticut's Ridgefield Lions (8-3) on the way to the finals.

DaSilva backstopped the Hurricanes to victory against the Red Wings, while Abraham and Stark each drew an assist in that win.

Abraham also fore-checked well all weekend and Ganly and Stark were part of a defensive unit that severely limited the opposition's chances.

Abraham and Stark were also among a Halton foursome that took top honours in the skills competitions' relay race.

The Hurricanes' Challenge Cup win came on the same ice surface in which Team Canada struck gold at the 1932 Winter Olympics.

AE2 peewees dump Woolwich

The AE2 peewees flexed their scoring muscles at Milton Sports Centre last Tuesday night to brush aside the Woolwich Wildcats 9-3.

Rep Hockey

Kenny Paguaga led the way with a hat-trick and an assist, while matching that point total with a goal and three helpers was Mitch McLaughlin. Quinn Kerr and Megan Wain each scored and finished with three-point nights and Daniel Pinder tallied twice.

Phil Geng rounded out the hit parade with his first of the season on a nifty rush. Two-assist efforts were recorded by Luke Boivin, Thomas Chuchmach, Matthew Tummers and Mason Whiting.

Backstopping the Winterhawks to the lopsided victory was Spencer Umpleby.

Now 3-7-1, the AE2 peewees are back in action tonight at Milton Sports Centre against Orangeville. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

AA minor peewees win

The AA minor peewees continue to show they have the Burlington Eagles' number November 14 at Appleby Arena, trimming the hosts 2-1 for the third straight win this season.

Matthew Hunter scored the game winner unassisted — crashing the net and putting it upstairs — while Cam Stockall and Nathan DeSouza set up the first goal by Conner Hakime.

Liam Robinson was practically unbeatable in the face-off circle, Olivia Whitford and Daniel Nickolich offered topnotch defense and Matthew Psenicka made some huge saves to win an impressive goaltender's dual.

The AA minor peewees are now 5-8-1 with the narrow victory and return to Milton Sports Centre Thursday to do battle with Stoney Creek. Game time is 7:45 p.m.

AE2 atoms keep rolling

The AE2 atoms kept pace with the division leaders with a 3-2 squeaker over Woolwich Thursday evening at Milton Sports Centre.

Corey MacDonald's last-minute goal — a shot deflected by the visiting tender — cemented the win after a couple of late penalties nearly equaled disaster for the Winterhawks.

Mathew Bergman set up brother Michael for the initial tally, while Dillon Carter scored unassisted early in the third.

Now 8-4-2, the AE2 atoms continue a four-game home stand Thursday at Milton Sports Centre versus Orangeville. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

AE2 bantams win big

The AE2 bantams capped last week in convincing fashion, toppling Woolwich 5-1 Sunday night at Memorial Arena.

Michael Haringa's topnotch cage work and a three-point game from Richard Monk highlighted the decisive win. Monk led with a goal and two assists, while Jake Cochrane also stood out with a pair of goals.

Ryan Ramiah had a goal and an assist, while aiding the cause with two helpers was Dylan Pettie. Brendan Whiting rounded out the scoring with an unassisted marker.

The win boosted the AE2 bantams to 5-6-2 prior to last night's game in Ferguson. Friday they travel to Hespeler.

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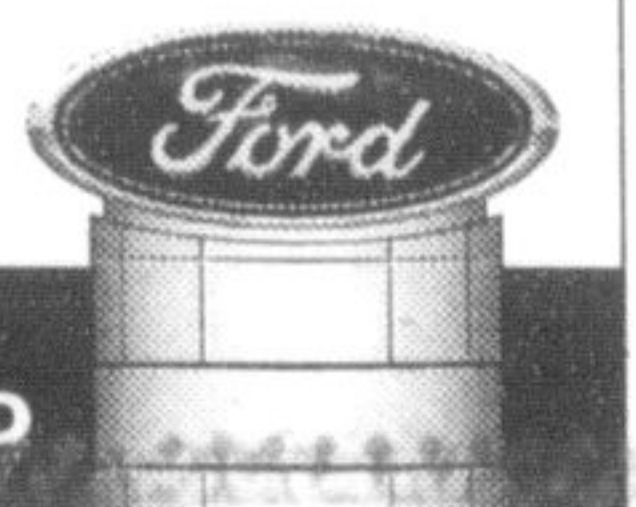
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