

# SPORTS

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**DOUBLE-TEAMED:** Mountaineer Rory Smith gets sandwiched between Mavericks Paul Ryan (left) and Brandon Meagher during Friday night action in Mimico. Milton lost 20-6, but rebounded the next night at home for their first season win against Gloucester.

GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

## Ellison's Derbys edged in Royal Bank Cup semis

By Steve LeBlanc  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

**I**t was a dog-fight rematch for championship advancement, and unfortunately for Steve Ellison his Royal Bank Cup hosts didn't quite have enough bite.

The 20-year-old Milton winger and the Streetsville Derbys gave up two early goals to Saskatchewan's Yorkton Terriers and just couldn't erase that deficit at the Brampton Powerade Centre Saturday night — losing their national semifinal clash 2-1.

The fact that they beat Yorkton by an identical score four days earlier and finished first in round-robin play at 3-1 no doubt made the narrow defeat that much more heart-breaking.

"Yeah, this hurts," said Ellison, shortly after the Derbys' hopes for a Tier 2 Jr. A Canadian title officially came to an end in front of a disappointingly-small crowd at the Battalion barn. "We gave it our all, but we had a couple of bad bounces and came up short."

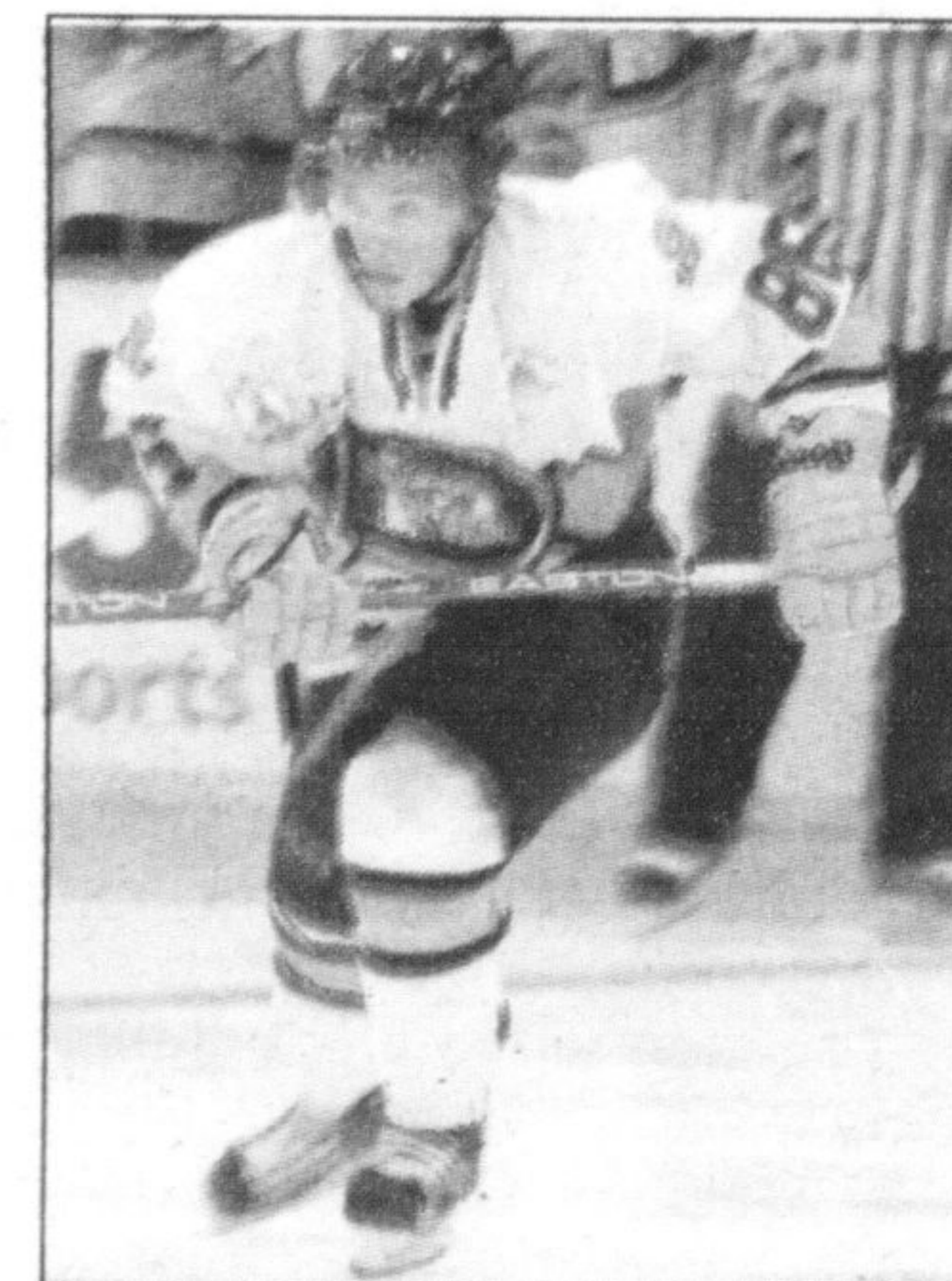
Streetsville had their prairie rivals on their heels for much of the last two periods — after killing off a two-man advantage and cutting the lead in half on an upstairs rebound deposit by former Milton IceHawk Ryan Silveira.

But two goals inside the first five minutes — both by reliable sniper Chris Korchinski — and some steady cage work by Brett Bothwell would be enough to put Yorkton in Sunday's final.

A diminutive second-year Derby, Ellison had a small but spirited fan base last week, including one especially vocal follower with an #86 painted on his chest. "Yeah that's just a good buddy looking to getting the crowd going," he said.

The local RBC participant finished the national tournament with two points — a goal against Yorkton last Tuesday and assist in a 4-1 loss to C.R. Joliette Wednesday night.

Yorkton would go on to get hammered 8-2 by B.C.'s Burnaby Express in the RBC championship Sunday night.



BRYON JOHNSON / SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION  
Milton's Steve Ellison competes in Saturday's RBC semifinal.

## Mavs secure first win since return

*Ryan fuels milestone victory with seven points*

The big donut in the Mavericks' win column is no more.

Back from a tough road trip that was capped with lopsided defeats to Barrie and Mimico, Milton secured its first victory since returning to the Jr. B lacrosse scene — toppling the Gloucester Griffins 11-7 Saturday night at John Tonelli Sports Centre.

The Mavericks kept their Ottawa-area guests off the scoresheet through the final 31-and-a-half minutes of play — with a fortified defensive effort

complementing Jeremy Smith's sharp work between the pipes — and got a big four-goal, three-assist performance from Paul Ryan.

Seven other players scored one apiece in the local juniors' most balanced effort to date.

"We played really well defensively, stayed out of the penalty box and got a couple of big goals from Paul that put them (Griffins) back on their heels," said hometown Maverick Lee Frittenburg, who scored in the first

period and remains the club's most reliable producer thus far.

Matt Muir stood out with a goal and three helpers, while Tim Sztorc also set up three markers.

Now 1-8, Milton will look to build on the win Friday night when they host the neighbouring Halton Hills Bulldogs, who've been struggling as of late with seven players suspended from an altercation in Cornwall. However, the 'Dogs will be back to near full strength Friday. Game time is 8 p.m.

The Mavericks close out the week in Oakville Sunday at 2 p.m.

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