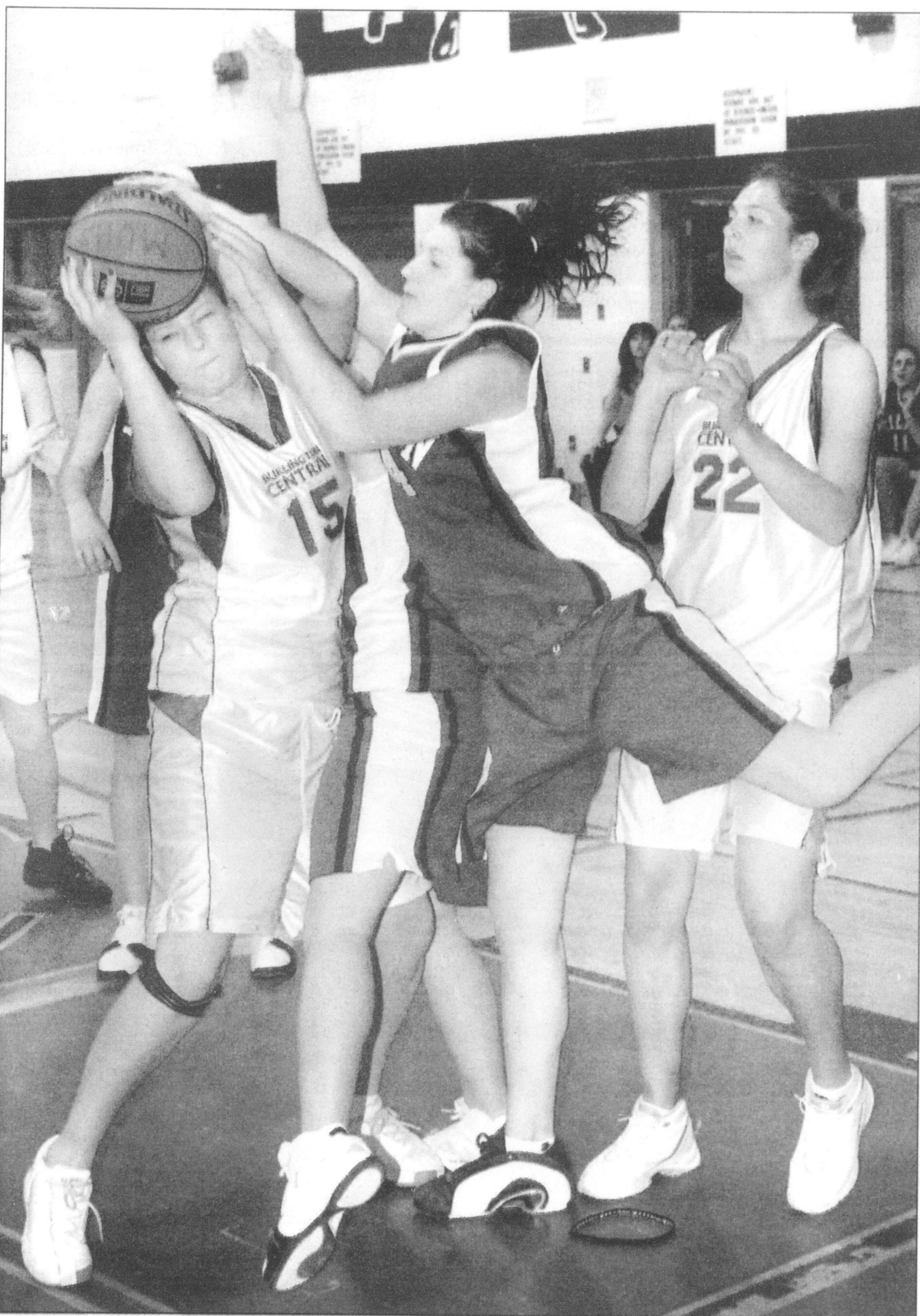


SPORTS

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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

IT'S MINE! Burlington Central's Steph Kasprzyk tries to hang onto the ball as Shannon Laing and Talyn Martin of Milton District attempt to wrestle it away in senior girls basketball play at MD Wednesday afternoon. The host Mustangs led by as much as 10 points early on, but faded down the stretch against the Tier 2 leading Trojans and lost 36-24 — dropping them to 2-3 as of yesterday afternoon. Laing and Liz Clark led the Mustangs with nine points apiece.

O'Shea tackles career milestone

But narrow loss mars linebacker's enjoyment of feat



Mike O'Shea

anything else — it's doubtful that O'Shea would have spent much time discussing the feat even if his Boatmen had prevailed.

"Thanks for all the support, but as great as this feels I'm more

A consummate team player, Mike O'Shea wasn't focused on his just-reached milestone when the final whistle blew at the Rogers Centre Friday night.

Driving Saskatchewan Roughriders running back Kenton Keith out of bounds to prevent a first down midway through the third quarter, the 36-year-old Miltonian became just the third player in league history — and first Canadian — to reach 1,000 defensive tackles.

But a 13-9 setback for his Argonauts would take much of the lustre out of the achievement, at least for the seasoned linebacker — who described the narrow loss as another missed opportunity to deliver 'the perfect game'.

Having downplayed the impending milestone for weeks — suggesting it has more to do with his longevity than

proud of my teammates," said the spotlight humble CFL veteran from the sidelines, as he was congratulated by teammates just moments after putting tackle 1,000 in the record books.

While missing a chance to lock up first place in the East Division was certainly a touch pill to swallow, the Argos' defence — which three-time Grey Cup champion O'Shea captains — held the Roughriders scoreless through the second half to maintain the fewest points against this season in the CFL.

Now 10-7, the Argos can clinch top spot in the East — and automatic entry to the conference championship November 12 — at home this Saturday, when they close out of the regular season against the Montreal Alouettes.

'AA' atoms snap slump

Milton's AA atoms put the brakes on their early-season slump with back-to-back low-scoring wins late last week.

Connor Hallyburton's sharp cage work and some effective playmaking by Marcus Miller and Adam Wilson highlighted a 3-1 victory over host Flamborough Thursday night.

Miller and Wilson had two assists apiece, while Robert James, Ben Preisner and Marcus Kotyk lit the lamp in the first win of the season, which followed five straight losses.

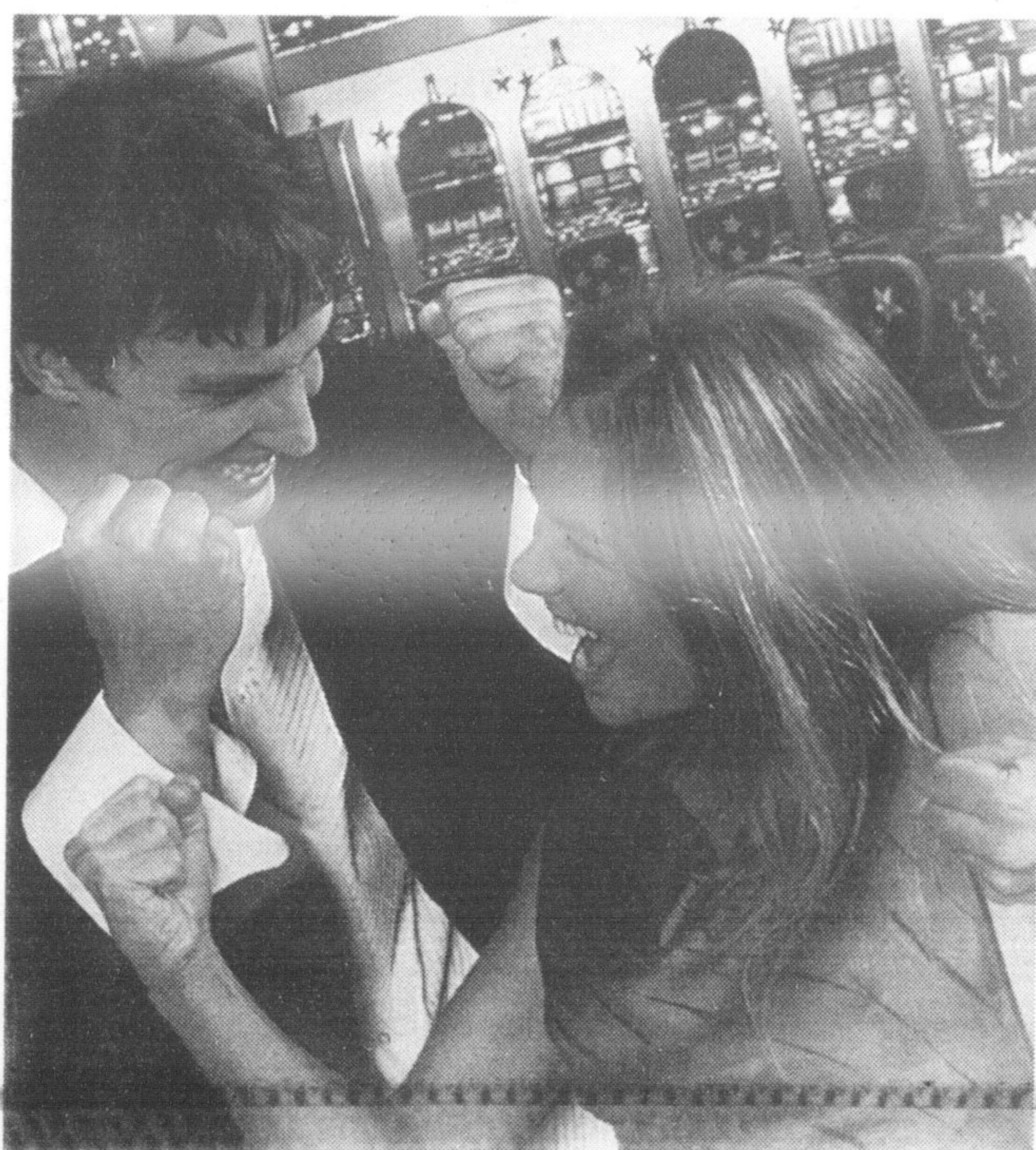
The Winterhawks kept things

rolling two days later at Milton Sports Centre (MSC), with a goal and an assist by Preisner fueling a 3-2 nail-biter over previously unbeaten Stoney Creek.

Two goals against in the third period made things quite interesting, forcing Nicholas Hoffman to come up with some big saves down the stretch to preserve the lead.

Austin Dezeeuw and Matthew Gooding rounded out Milton's scoring.

The AA atoms will look to make it three in a row tonight, when they host Flamborough at MSC, at 6:45 p.m.



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