

Minor football coming to Milton

Is this town big enough for two minor football programs? The answer to that question will begin taking shape Saturday, when both the established Halton Invictas and upstart Milton Marauders officially introduce themselves to the sporting community.

Founded by Alan Collver, the Marauders will have their registration from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Milton Sports Centre. Meanwhile, Invictas president Jack Crawford is set to hold an information session at Milton Leisure Centre, starting at 4:30 p.m., which will serve as a prelude to a February sign-up.

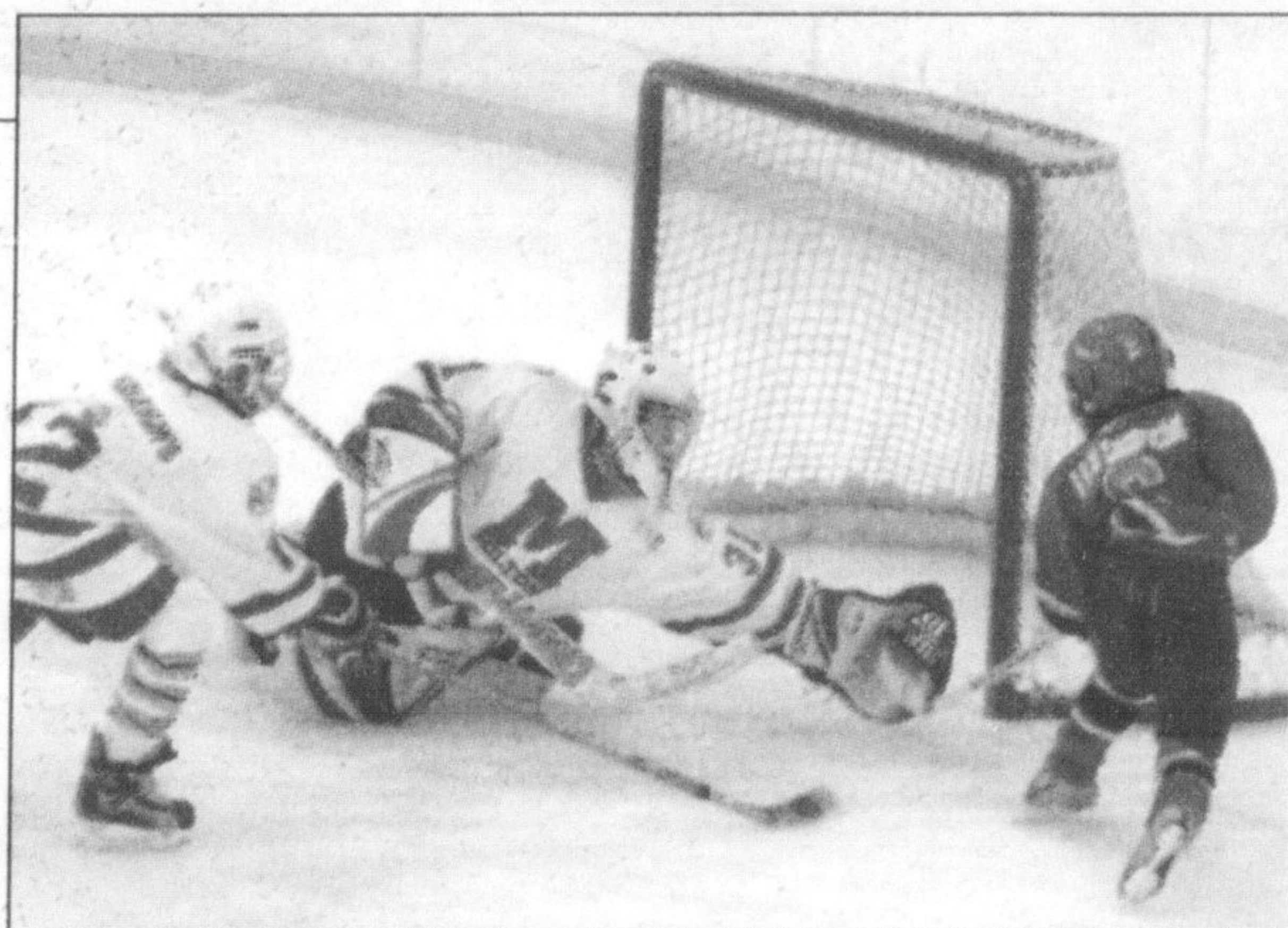
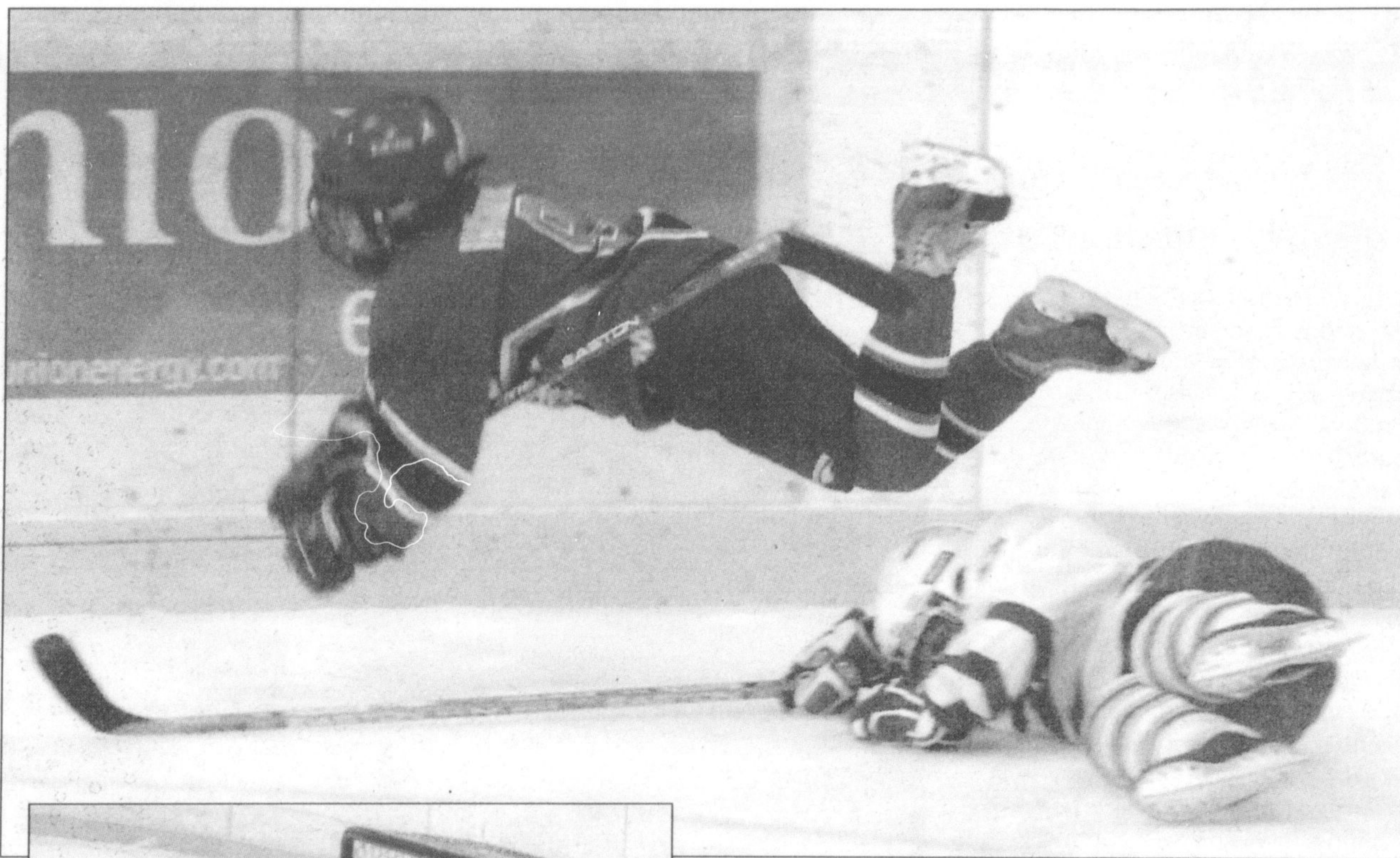
Both organizations hope to start peewee (12 and 13-year-olds) and junior varsity (14 and 15-year-olds) next summer, with a nine to 11-year-old atom squad also planned for the Invictas — who've recently moved their base of operations from Burlington to Oakville.

Each owning the local rights to different minor football leagues, Collver and Crawford had originally met to discuss working together to bring minor football to town, but those negotiations broke down over differences of opinion.

"I've got \$2-million to invest in Milton for new fields and the Invictas have graduates in both the CFL and NFL," said Crawford, whose teams would play in the Ontario Minor Football League. "If another group can compete with that, I wish them well."

Stating that he's got strong contacts with both Bishop Reding Secondary School and Milton District High School, Collver said he's not sure there's enough local interest yet to field two teams at either level, even with his South Central Ontario Football League rights extending to Acton.

"I doubt the numbers are there yet. It's a regrettable situation, having the two groups vying for players. But we'll just have to let the chips fall where they may."



GOING FOR A RIDE: Above, an Acton Tanners player goes sailing over sprawled Winterhawk Joel Chudleigh during AE2 peewee play at Memorial Arena Sunday afternoon. At left, Milton goalie Michael Welanc — seeing brief replacement duty for Robert Manning — makes a diving glove save as teammate J.J. Schaap moves in to help out. Dylan Burkholder scored his second of the game with 1:19 remaining to lift the hosts to a 6-5 decision, after they surrendered a 4-0 lead in the second period and wound up battling back to eke out the victory. The Winterhawks are now unbeaten in their last four games and sit at 7-4-3.

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Best to just move on: Novak

• from NOVAK on page A16
 refused to discuss the matter, stating only that "He (Novak) didn't get let go, he quit. You'd have to talk to him about it."

Novak denies indications made by MacDonald that he had threatened to quit on two other occasions this season over disagreements with the team's

executive, but admits there had been growing dissension.

"Basically the more success we had the more Dave wanted to get involved, where he didn't in the past. It's quite disappointing, but the majority of the players have called me to express their disappointment and I certainly appreciate that. Bottom line is that when you've got guys running teams that don't know what they're doing, it's best to just move on."

Although now out of the Jr. A coaching picture, Novak remains quite active with hockey, running skills development with a number of organizations, including his hometown Winterhawks.

Novak was the first of two Western Conference coaches let go late last week. Raiders bench boss Blaine McCauley — who was originally expected to be an IceHawks assistant coach under Jay Anderson until Rick Heinz bought the team in July — was released Saturday night, in the midst of some major struggles for Georgetown.

— with files from *The Brampton Guardian*

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We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

WAL-MART CORRECTION NOTICE

The Nintendo Wii™ video games and accessories (#529253/68) advertised in our current flyer (expiring Nov. 24th) will not be available until November 19th.

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