

# Under-18 girls eclipsed in League Cup finals

*Under-15 boys off to championship as well*

By Steve LeBlanc  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Milton's first taste of League Cup championship play in nearly a decade wasn't so sweet.

In fact it's hard to imagine a more heartbreaking swan song to youth soccer than what the Under-18 Magic girls experienced in Hamilton Sunday night.

As if losing in a shoot-out by a single goal wasn't tough enough to swallow, the local ladies hit the post on their last attempt — giving Clarkson a 4-3 decision and the South Region Soccer Premier Division trophy in a thrilling showdown that saw them even things up twice.

The second of these equalizers came with about six minutes to go in the last overtime session, with Caroline Shaw making good on a penalty kick to inject a final spark into Milton's title drive.

Adding to the sting of championship defeat was the fact that the Magic held a late lead, courtesy of a nifty cross-header by Anna Garcia-Ambler midway through the second half.

That 2-1 advantage wouldn't last long, as Clarkson capitalized on a penalty kick.

Amanda Cameron sank the initial marker, taking a big pass from midfield and putting one just past an outstretched goalkeeper's hands into the top left corner.

Providing solid defence in the Under-18 girls' season finale were Laura Wilson, Sarah Lalonde, Samantha Stockall, Lindsey Atkinson and Tina Husarewych.

Marking the first time a local team had played for the championship since the late '90s, Sunday's shoot-out came less than two weeks after Clarkson had disposed of the Magic 5-0 in regular season play.

Milton reached the finals with an 8-2 rout of Brams United and a 1-0 white-wash of Flamborough.

The Magic has one more shot at

Premier League Cup gold this summer, with the Under-15 boys victorious in Hamilton Sunday.

Sanjay Moodie scored in the last 15 minutes of play — undressing the final defender and putting one upstairs — to cement a 2-1 semifinal win over Dixie.

This followed back-to-back 3-0 shutouts over Clarkson B and Caledon respectively.



See more sports on page A24.

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