

SPORTS

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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

TAKEDOWN: Milton District's Ben Millar (#20) gets hauled down by Georgetown defender John Vankooten during junior football play last Wednesday. MD won 14-9, thanks to two touchdowns from quarterback Darren Prong and a big defensive stand in the dying minutes of play. Jase Lavigne scored two TDs for the senior Mustangs — including a 90-yard return of the opening kickoff — who rallied to edge Iroquois Ridge 13-10 last Wednesday. See page A15 for Bishop Reding football results.

IceHawks take point from red-hot Raiders

Branco big in OT loss

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Another winless weekend, but not a pointless one. Closing out the holiday weekend with something to be thankful for, the IceHawks gained their first point in four games — against none other than the red-hot Georgetown Raiders.

Enjoying the best first period of their current six-game losing streak and stellar cage work from Dillon Branco, Milton pushed the conference leaders — who've now won 11 straight — to overtime before being vanquished 3-2 Saturday at Alcott Arena.

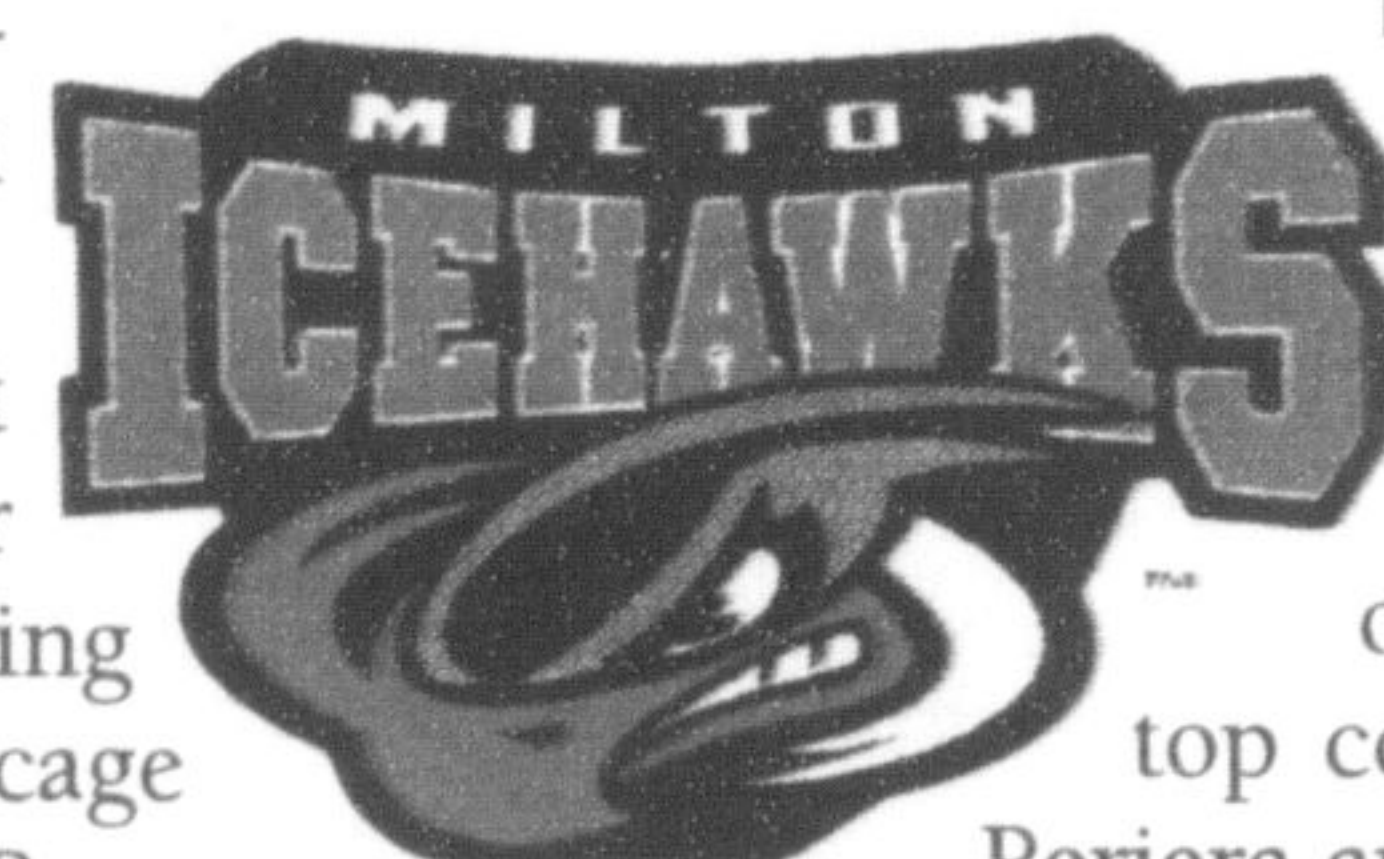
"It's a point... a big one on the road and against the top team," said head coach Bill McDougall, whose team now sits sixth at 5-6-1-1.

While encouraged by two early goals and a better overall effort clearing the zone, the IceHawks' first-year bench boss admits there's been a bit too much reliance on his goalie to keep things close.

"Dillon's the best goalie in the league. We're lucky to have him."

That was certainly the case Saturday, with Branco turning back about 50 shots and serving as the only line of defence for significant stretches of the last two periods.

Milton's bid to upset its neighbouring rivals was finally squashed two-and-a-half minutes into sudden death, with an upstairs deposit



by Kyle Essery. He also scored in the final minute of the first, after the IceHawks jumped out to a 2-0 lead on top corner shots by Justin Periera and Justin Basso.

That early production was especially pleasing to McDougall after a string of fruitless first periods. Providing just as much optimism was the return of veterans Allen Petretic and Dean Kulla, whose long-awaited comeback from a head injury should add to the club's grit and bolster its sub-par face-off efficiency.

Said McDougall, "Dean's still not quite in peak shape yet, but he's definitely going to help us."

Kulla did just that in his first game back Friday, recording a power-play marker and adding an assist.

Unfortunately his efforts came in a too-little-too-late showing for the IceHawks, who didn't get on the board until the final few minutes of play and fell 5-2 to the second-place Burlington Cougars.

The visitors mounted a 4-0 lead after a scoreless opening frame, and sealed the deal with an empty netter. Tyler Stothers had a goal and an assist and Kevin Caister drew two helpers.

The IceHawks visit the mid-pack Brampton Capitals tomorrow and host Georgetown Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Arena.

Ouellette hits milestone with photo-finish win at Woodbine



Luc Ouellette

Luc Ouellette joined some elite company this past weekend when he reined in his 8,000th career win.

The 43-year-old harness racing driver — a Quebec native who now calls Campbellville home — hit the milestone Friday at Woodbine, piloting Longbeach Tuffy to victory in the seventh race.

The final outcome was in doubt right up until the end, as Longbeach Tuffy hit the wire in a dead-heat with pacesetter Bacchus Marsh, who refused to relin-

quish the lead he enjoyed from the onset. The 1:58 win was Longbeach Tuffy's third in 19 starts this season.

Capturing most of the sport's premier races — including the Pepsi North America Cup, Little Brown Jug and the Meadowlands Pace — Ouellette is one of just 15 drivers to hit the 8,000-win plateau and now sits with 153 victories on the year.

That number would no doubt be substantially higher had he not been side-

lined for four weeks with a fractured ulna (elbow bone), after being tipped out of the bike in an accident at Flamboro Downs July 11. He escaped serious injury in another mishap last month at Mohawk, when the crossbar of his bike collapsed underneath him.

Along with being among the top winners each year, Ouellette is also one of the top money drivers in history, with a career bankroll of more than \$120 million.

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Annual General Meeting

Oct. 18, 2007

9:30am - 11:00am

Sports Center

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