

Woodcroft continues productive start for IceHawks

But club's early-season woes go on with two more losses

While the IceHawks will be hard-pressed to climb out of the West Division basement this fall, their hometown captain may well be ready to take up prolonged residency around the top of the league's individual pecking order.

Adding another goal and assist this past weekend, 20-year-old Miltonian James Woodcroft — who's factored into all but two of the club's 14 goals so far — sat in a three-way tie for first in the league scoring race as of last night, sporting five goals and seven helpers.

Though still very early, he represents Milton's best shot in recent memory of cracking the 100-point barrier.

While Woodcroft continued adding to his

point total, the IceHawks did likewise with their loss count — dropping a pair of four-goal decisions over the weekend.

The first of these came at Memorial Arena Friday, with Milton getting toppled 5-1 by the Buffalo Jr. Lightning.

Eighteen-year-old netminder provided the only real bright spot on the night, turning back 43 of 45 shots in the first two periods — and making 51 saves overall — to prevent a full-fledged blowout.

The visitors put things away with three goals in the last 13 minutes, after Woodcroft scored his second shorthanded marker of the season 4:53 into the third.

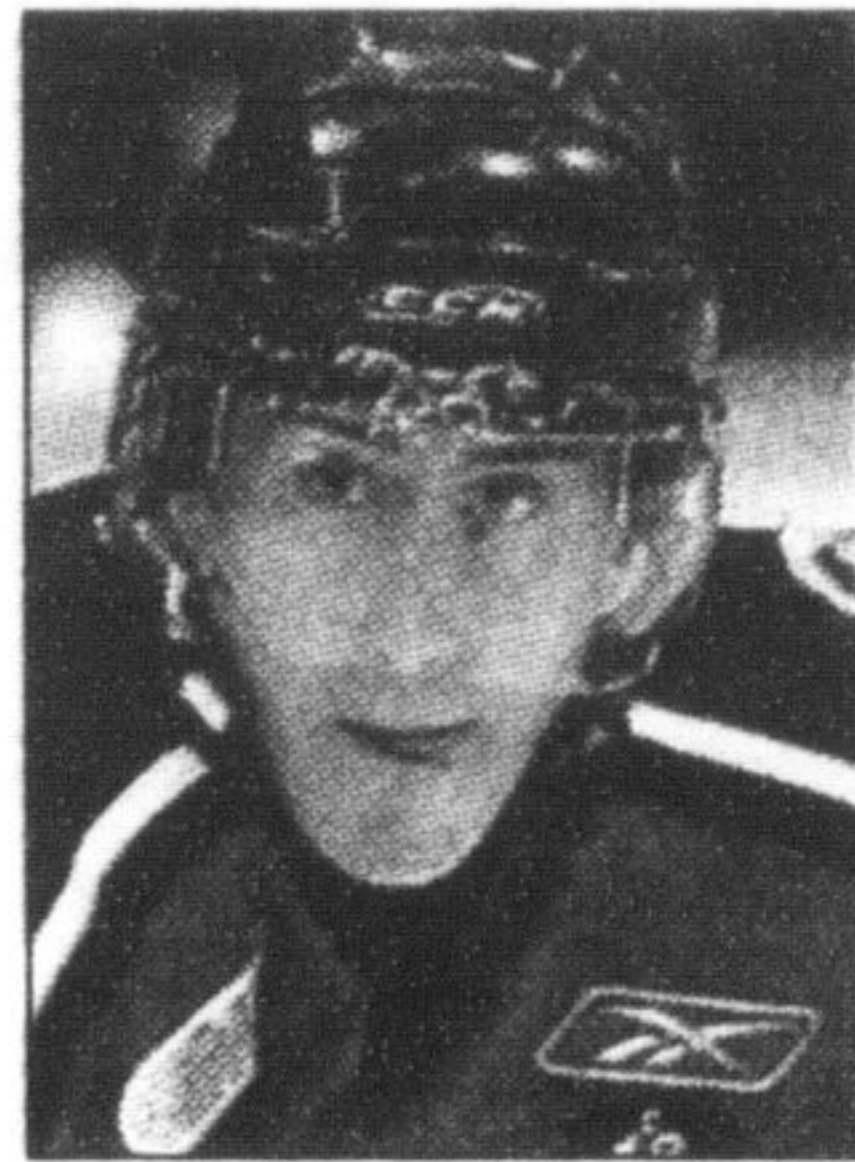
It was a too-little-too-late scenario the following night as well, as the IceHawks fell 6-

2 to the Mississauga Chargers at Port Credit Arena.

Both Milton goals — by newcomers Len Fabri and Jimmy Kim — came in the final five minutes of play.

The shots were much closer in this one, favouring the hosts 33-24.

Now 0-4-1-0, the IceHawks will look to break into the win column Friday, when they host Brampton, starting at 7:30 p.m.



James Woodcroft

Solid performance in latest win

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(since midway mark of season) and they're starting to understand each other. They're gelling."

Goaltending captain Scott Cliff showed strongly — beaten only on a big drive by Jeremy Shepperd in the 33rd minute — while his defence did a good job plugging up the middle of the field and guarding against the corner kick and a couple of free kicks.

Also of note, midfield/forward Agustin De Medina returned from a three-game suspen-

sion and got the ball within striking distance a couple of times.

Carbajal switched back to a 4-4-2 formation in the second half, which met with noticeable improvement for the hosts' attack.

MFC visits London City Saturday and is back at Reding Sunday, Oct. 3 at 4 p.m. for its final regular season home game against last-place St. Catharines. A make-up game against Hamilton Croatia will be played right before the playoffs, either October 5 or 6 in Hamilton.

Elite softball program holding tryouts

The newly-formed Ontario Stars Elite Softball program is looking for female players and team coaches.

For potential players between 11 and 18 years of age, tryouts will be held at The Baseball Zone in Mississauga (1081 Brevik Place) this Friday and next (October 1) from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

The new program will include skills training, strength and conditioning work, nutrition and for those looking toward an athletic scholarship, academic progress will be followed and course selection assistance will be offered.

Players are asked to pre-register with Dean Bezanson at deanbezanson@live.ca.

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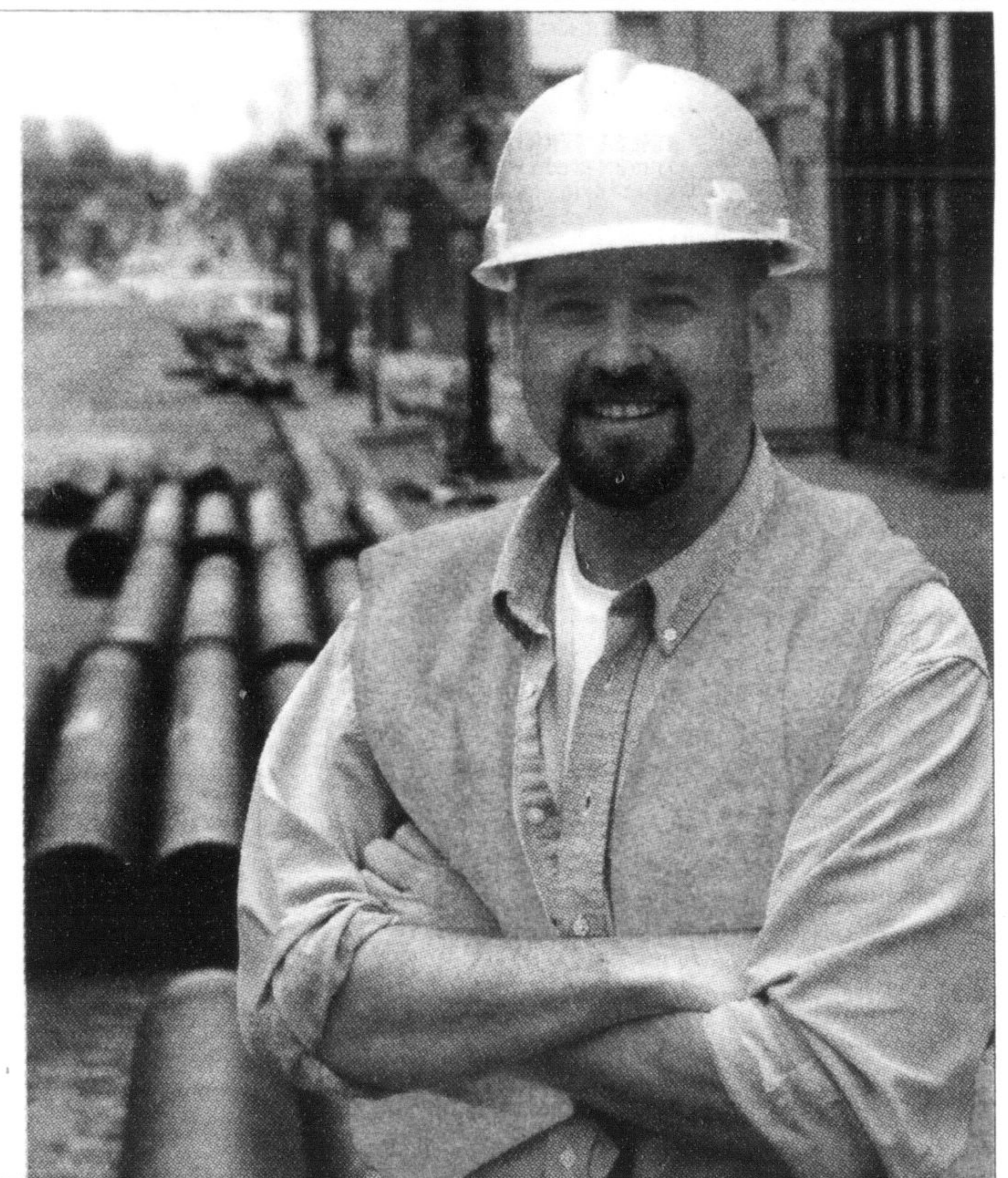
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