

# Chemistry and experience paying dividends for junior Royals

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Reding overcome any kind of adjustment period.

"They all seem at ease, they know where they are going to be and they move well with each other," said Reding coach Cailin Miziolek. "It's like they are reading each other's mind."

Even the lone starter to not come out of Holy Rosary knows her teammates well. Bruce Trails grad Natalie Samuels played

## 'Stangs devour Lions in week-three sweep

Reacquainting themselves with victory after a winless 2009, Milton District's football seniors improved to 2-1 in Halton's Division 3 ranks Friday — disposing of the visiting Aldershot Lions 30-7.

The win came with just 19 players, as field trips and injuries depleted an already thin roster.

Stymied by a host of procedural glitches and missed blocking and tackling assignments, the Lions were stuck in neutral offensively for the entire afternoon. Their lone touchdown came on a second-quarter interception that cut the Mustangs' lead in half.

MD would soon restore its hammerlock, with Jordan Richards kicking a 20-yard field goal just before half time and his teammates adding two more majors in the third quarter.

Standout Ben Millar returned a punt 52 yards to the house, while Cameron Stockall connected with Dale Murdych for a 25-yard touchdown pass at the end of the third.

with Schroder, Furik and Vis on the Milton Madd Dawgs rep team that won three consecutive Ontario Basketball Association atom titles between 2006 and 2008.

Tessie Ecclestone and sisters Amy and Corrine Lintack also played on both the Madd Dawgs and Holy Rosary while Joselle Alcantara was also part of the undefeated Holy Rosary team, so the Royals are not lacking in players with big-game experience and their depth should pay off in the playoffs.

Dan Nikolich punched in the Mustangs' first two majors — both on short carries in the opening frame, set up by Millar — and provided some solid blocking.



Though not quite as dominating, the junior Mustangs capped an afternoon sweep with a strong finish to down the Lions 22-6.

This marked the juniors' first win of the season after being held to eight points in their first two games.

Afforded good field position throughout the latter contest — thanks to big kicks by Patrick Darabont and a number of lengthy carries by running back Mike Parent — MD erased an early deficit and kept the visitors in check over the last two quarters.

Parent sealed the deal with a 25-yard scamper into the end-zone with two minutes left. Quarterback Jake Lavigne hit Jesse MacDonald for a second-quarter touchdown pass and ran in a two-point convert, while Malik Hamil did likewise on the final TD.

Seven different players contributed points in the win over OT, including Samuels with eight, Schroder with six.

So far the Royals have shown the ability to win with defence — they held opponents to 27 points or less in three of their wins — and with offence — they scored 57 and 59 points in the other two victories.

Offensively, the Royals pass the ball quickly and patiently wait for lanes to the basket or open shots. It's the defence, though, that Miziolek believes will ultimately bring the Royals success.

"We live and die with our press," she said. "When it's not doing well, we struggle. When it is, we turn turnovers into layups and that's

when we have our best outcomes."

BR's press broke down against Abbey Park and the Royals surrendered a season-high 47 points — 14 more than their season average.

"We don't want to get ahead of ourselves, but I'd like to play them again," Miziolek said.

Barring a playoff upset, the Royals should get that chance. Bishop Reding should be able to maintain its hold on second place. Of the four teams behind them in the standings with four wins, the Royals have already beaten three of them. Their next three opponents are a combined 5-14 and the lone remaining threat is a home date with Corpus Christi (4-3).

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