

You're the winner when you buy from

**THE RACER'S EDGE**

**HONDA** The Reason You Ride

**SPECIAL 1985 CB 750's NIGHT HAWK**

SALE PRICE \$3,839<sup>00</sup>

32 Bronte St. 878-4212

WE ARE THE DEALERSHIP THAT CARES

# Sports

Wednesday, April 2, 1986

919 MARTIN ST.  
MILTON  
878-4137

**NISSAN**

1987 STANZA & SENTRA NOW AVAILABLE AT NORTH-END

**NISSAN**

## Close contests dominate in championships

Saturday Milton's house league hockey teams faced off in division championship. In a series of generally close, hard-played hockey games the champions emerged as the Milton Minor Hockey Association brought the curtain down on another season. The following is an account of the action.

### Pre-Novice

Pre-Novice competition, which took place on half sheets of ice, was a chance for Milton's youngest players to show the skills they have cultivated over the year. The program emphasizes basic instruction rather than winning records. Members of the four teams, Best Buy Pet Products, Tony's Barber Shop, Knight's Dry Cleaners and Straight Line Fence put on a spirited display for the crowd. Best Buy Pet Products edged Tony's Barber Shop 5-4 while Straight Line and Knight's battled to a scoreless tie. Michael Brown and Jamie Comba scored a pair apiece for the winners while Ryan Parke chipped in with the other Best Buy goal. Steven Roy scored twice for Tony's while Ryan Leal and Bill Williams scored Tony's other goals.

### Minor Novice

It took two periods of overtime. And a late rally to force that overtime. Milton Skate Exchange was a team looking down the long barrel of defeat with one minute to go in their game against Downs Trenching. Skate Exchange, a team that was unbeaten at the Christmas break and not used to losing, came within a whisker of doing just that to Downs Trenching in the minor novice championship. But Downs Trenching had been the thorn in Skate Exchange's side through the season and in the playoffs. The ditchdiggers had beaten Skate Exchange twice in the regular season. The two squads tied once and Skate Exchange had earned one win. But in playoff action Downs Trenching had Skate Exchange's number again, defeating them 5-2.

Bradley Jenkins and Eric Medeiros were the big guns for Skate Exchange, netting a hat trick apiece. Skate Exchange jumped to a 2-0 lead after one, but the ditchdiggers rallied strongly and the score was knotted at three after two periods. The teams swapped pairs in the last act to force overtime. Medeiros decided the issued at 8:20 remaining of the second overtime.

Skate Exchange opened the third-period scoring to break the tie at 3:44 remaining but Downs Trenching scored with 1:12 left and then again 12 seconds later. Matthew Brownell tied it on a power play and Ryan McDonald put Downs in the lead when he popped a wrist shot after the puck squirted loose from a scramble with one minute remaining.

Skate Exchange tied it with a six-man attack as only 10 seconds showed on the clock. Jenkins scored unassisted.

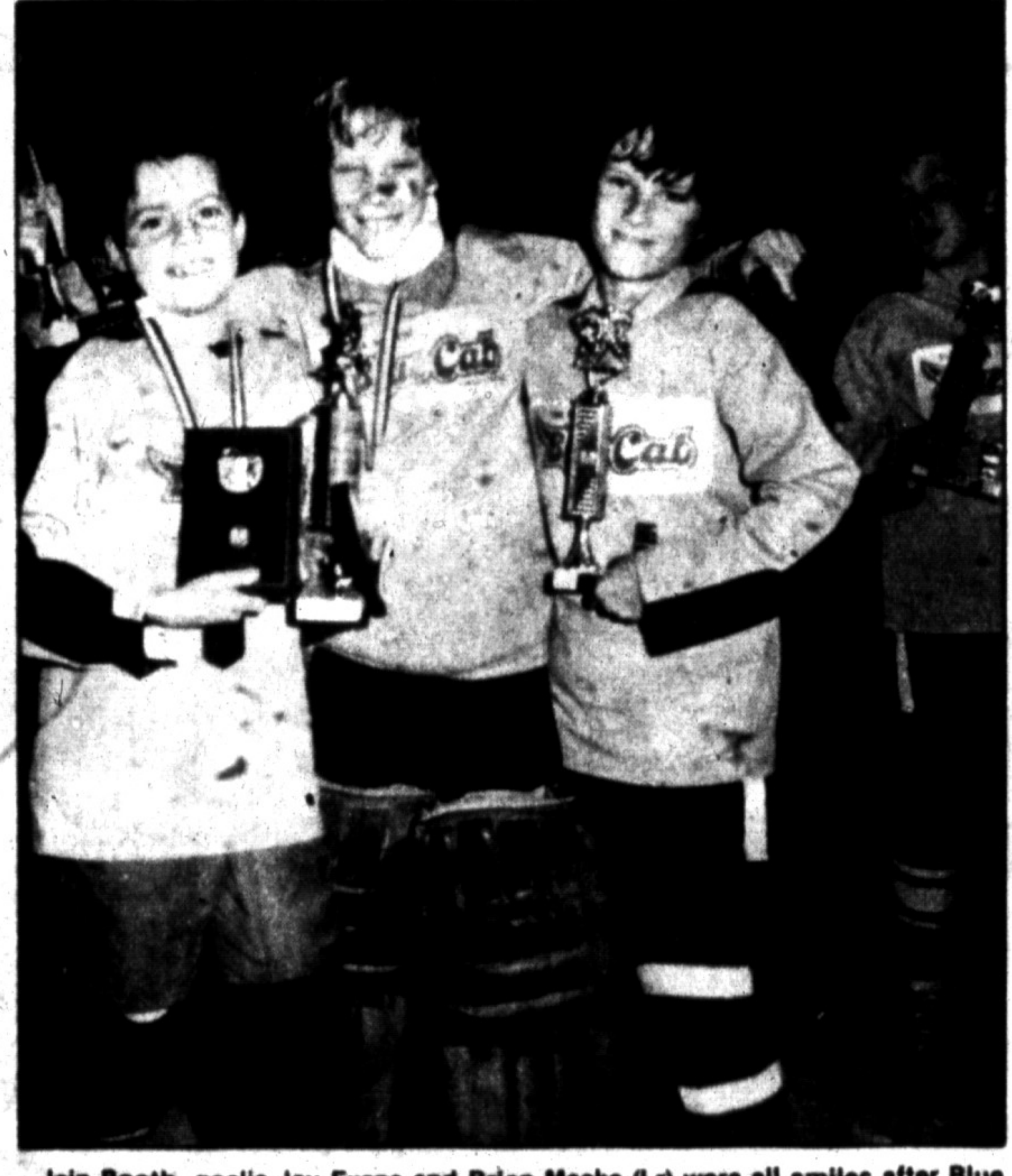
It was no small feat for Skate Exchange to come back. We had only lost four or five games all year," coach Sam Rigo explained. "We have a lot of good players. They were used to winning all year. Whenever we had started to lose we got behind the eight-ball. But they all came out to play today. These kids wanted to be number one."

Skate Exchange took a first firm step in that direction with opening period goals from Medeiros and Jenkins. Chad Broussard broke it up at 9:40 of the second with a low shot but Jenkins stole the momentum again with his second goal eight seconds later.

With a minute left in the second Downs made it 3-2 as Brownell got the first of his pair when he converted Broussard's passout. Scott Hammill made it a tie with a sharp wrist shot.

Skate Exchange took the lead at 3:44 remaining in regulation time as Medeiros closed alone on Downs goalie Lee Hulan. Hulan challenged, but Medeiros managed to get the puck in the net while tumbling over the sliding goalie.

Brownell and Cameron Davies combined for a one-two scoring punch to put Downs in the driver's seat with a minute remaining, but Jenkins came back with the tying goal and later Medeiros with the winner.



Iain Booth, goalie Jay Evans and Brian Macks (l-r) were all smiles after Blue Cab came up big in a tense major novice final, defeating Shopsy's in overtime.

### Major Novice

Around the middle of the hockey season, Milton Blue Cab did what appeared to be an abrupt about face. They turned their backs on their defeats (many) and switched into the winning gear, claiming victory in 12 of their last 13 contests. But it wasn't quite the radical break it appeared.

Blue Cab had lost a lot of their early games by only one goal, coach Rick Goodings explained. It was a process of experimentation and growth that led to a winning formula for Blue Cab in the second half of the season, a formula that took them to the major novice division championship Saturday.

Blue Cab edged Shopsy's 2-1 in overtime to claim the title that must have seemed as distant as the moon at Christmas.

"In the first half of the season we had only two wins but in the second half we only lost two games," Goodings said. "Our goalie, (Jacob Evans) really kicked in. Different guys were trying goal and we settled on him around Christmas."

The overtime was tense, but Goodings knew his team was in their element going that extra mile. "Our team won most of their games in the last one-and-a-half periods," he noted. "These kids were late-game players. And every week the goals were coming from different people. And we've averaged pretty well only one goal against since Evans took over."

Evans recorded two shutouts as Blue Cab collected three wins and a tie in playoff action. Goodings had expected the game to be close. "I figured 2-1, maybe 3-2 either way. But in overtime you didn't see the puck in our end. In overtime they were really able to dig in and do it."

Shopsy's scored first in the championship, and the lead held until the third period when Justin Lynch tallied with a low shot, assisted by Mark Robertson. Following a close second period in which neither team was able to gain a substantial advantage, Blue Cab tied it when Joseph Early's shot trickled between goalie Ryan Smith's legs. Michael Goodings assisted.

Blue Cab killed a penalty effectively in the dying seconds of the game and won on a scramble goal at 7:46 of overtime. Brian Macks scored, assisted by Jamie Prince and Early.

### Minor Atom

Time and time again throughout the house-league hockey playoffs the point was illustrated; anything could happen. The minor atom final was just as unpredictable, worse luck for Midas Muffler.

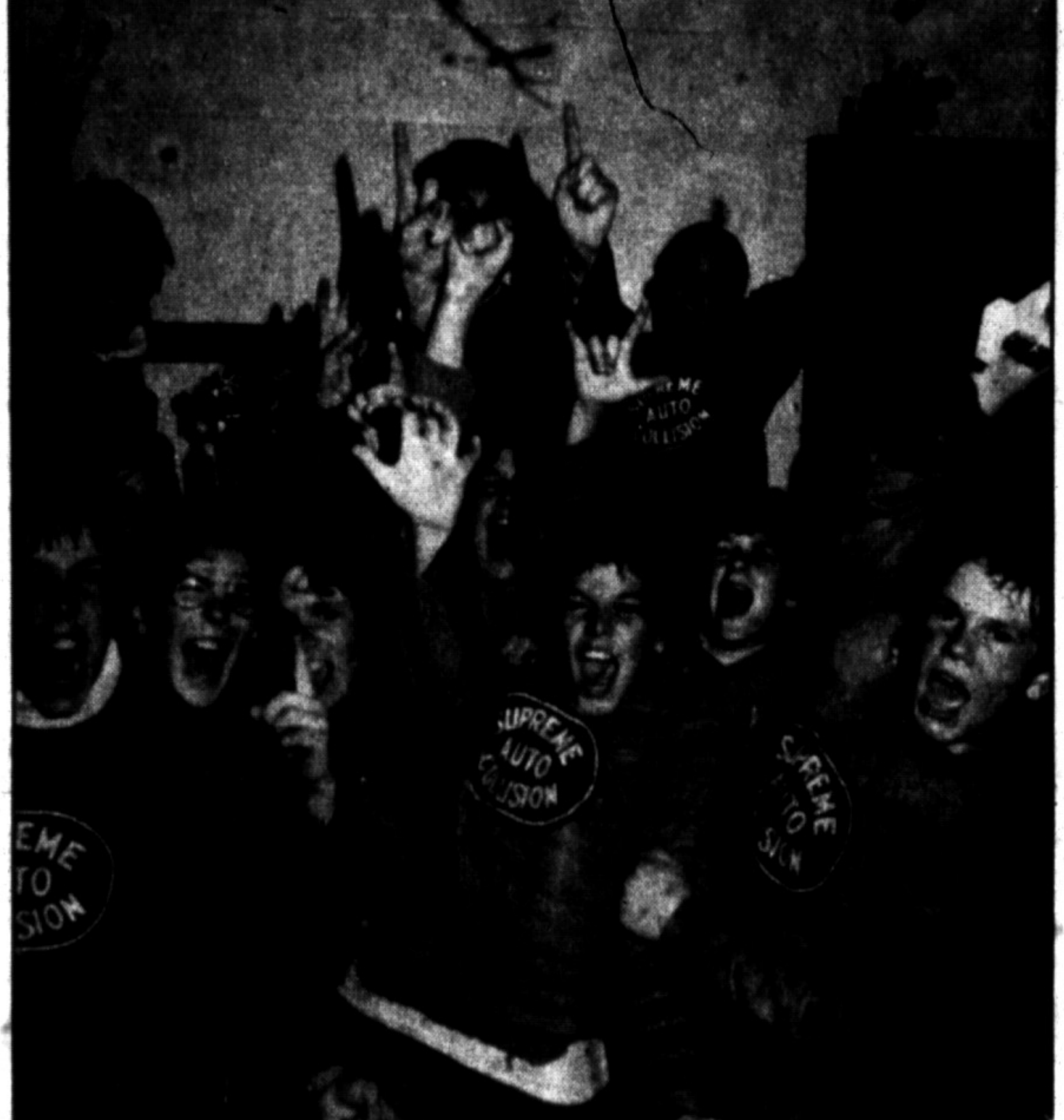
Docs and Dents downed Midas Muffler 6-1 Saturday, a result that probably surprised them as much as it did the opposition. "We had tough times in the playoffs," admitted Medics coach Dennis Charko. We lost to As We Grow (4-3) and tied Midas (4-4) and McCuaig Insurance (2-2). Medics edged the Lions Club 3-2 for their only playoff victory.

Over the regular season, Medics had beaten Midas twice, however, and tied them twice. "But it could have gone either way," Charko said. "They had the scoring champion of the league (division, John Fraser) on their team. I thought it would be a tight game and that the defence would win it. But our guys were up for the game. They played well."

Medics mounted a 4-0 first-period lead. Robert Gaeton popped two goals for Medics to pace their attack. Chris Charko got the first of his pair in the opening period.

Chris Holley opened the scoring (his first of two) for Medics at 5:42 remaining of the first and two minutes later Gaeton was warming up for two goals on the same shift. He got one, but just before he scored again Midas almost did, as they got the puck loose behind Medics goalie Aaron Hammill. But Hammill did a quick Fosbury flop on the rubber to recover. Medics immediately drove down to the other end of the ice and Gaeton got his second with a sharp backhand. Charko got his second with 32 seconds remaining in the opening period.

Mike Foster broke up Medics' momentum with the first goal of the second period. Derek Collis assisted. But Medics came back with two goals as Charko and Holley went back for seconds. Charko broke in on the goalie alone and Holley shoved in Charko's rebound. Midas goalie Ray Bastarac, despite the score, often worked well under pressure and came up with clutch saves. Hammill did the same thing late in the game, when Midas pressed vainly for a goal.



Supreme Auto minor peewee players celebrate their big win over IWA in the finals. IWA had beaten them 10-0 the week before.

### Major Atom

They had come from behind against KSA before, and they had to do it again Saturday.

St. Clair Paint and Paper was down 2-0 in the second period of the major atom championship game but slammed in three goals to take a 3-2 lead at the end of the second. The teams swapped goals in the final frame, with St. Clair scoring the tie-breaker to clinch the title at 4:16 remaining.

Winning coach Rod Kingdon may have been chewing his fingernails during the game, but at least he expected to be doing that.

"We were expecting to have to come from behind," Kingdon said.

Coming from behind is old hat for St. Clair. They rallied to beat Gus Mowbray Flames twice (3-2, 3-1) in the playoffs. Over the regular season they split with KSA, but rebounded from a 4-1 deficit to lose 4-3 in one contest. They beat KSA 3-2 in their other match.

St. Clair dropped two playoff games, 6-3 to Corbett's and 3-1 to the Tim Horton roster team.

Kingdon was pleased with the way his team had become more balanced over the latter part of the season.

"In the first three or four games we were blowing everyone away," he said.

"We had two very strong players, Adam Gould and Greg Baldwin." But other teams started to shadow the two St. Clair stars heavily.

"Our other kids had to cover for them," Kingdon said. "And then we dropped Adam back to defence and the other kids had to improve. And they did. They started playing like a team. In the last five or six weeks we've had three steady lines."

The team's growing balance was indicated by the fact that four different shooters scored goals for the winners. Jody Brown, Sean Neilson, Baldwin and Gould (with the winner) cashed for St. Clair.

It didn't look like anyone was going to score for St. Clair early on. Tony Piazzo connected for KSA's first at 8:11 remaining of the first and Mark Fielden scored their second at 9:07 of the middle period.

"When we were down 2-0 I didn't give up hope," Kingdon said. "Once we got that one goal everything just seemed to come together."

Brown was the St. Clair catalyst, scoring through a screen on a low shot at 5:10 remaining of the second. At 2:59 Neilson tied it with a well-placed low shot after St. Clair moved the puck around well in the KSA zone.

With 36 seconds remaining in the second stanza, Baldwin put St. Clair in the driver's seat by banging one in off a post.

KSA tied it at 6:00 of the final frame as Craig Janzen poked a loose puck behind St. Clair netminder Danny Florita. But Gould decided the issue with a fine solo rush to score with 4:16 remaining.

"These kids were good to work with," said St. Clair assistant coach Ken Gould. "They helped us and we helped them."

### Minor Peewee

A scoreless first period. A scoreless second period. Time slips away. Five minutes left. Four. Three. Finally it happens, and that one goal is the difference between the champions and the losers. And only the week before there had been a 10-goal difference.

And it was the other way around.

But when it counted Saturday afternoon, Supreme Auto Collision came up with the goal they needed to win it all. Sean Boyle flipped a high wrist shot, unassisted, to make the difference between his club and IWA Eagles.

Just the week before, IWA had downed Supreme Auto 10-0 in playoff action. "But it didn't mean anything," explained Supreme Auto coach George Boccanfuso. "We were already in (the final)."

Over the regular season each team had taken two wins from the other. Boccanfuso said. In playoffs Supreme Auto had finished second, beating Bell Brothers 3-1 and tying Halton Pools at one along with their loss to IWA.

"These two teams were evenly matched," Boccanfuso said. "We were just trying to keep them bottled up. They have a good, fast-breaking team. But I felt we outshot them, and that was our intention. Our team usually plays tight, low-scoring games. We've come from behind a lot through the year. But this week they buckled down. They got it into their minds, what they wanted to do."

For IWA, the goal that cost them the championship was the only one that has been scored against them in the last four games. But the squad was mis-

ing some good players, coach Dave Dermo said. Number two scorer Phillip Greg was away, as was Scott Baker. Defenceman Jeff Green was injured several weeks ago.

### Major Peewee

They had tied the championship opposition twice and lost to them twice over the regular season. They had beaten them only once. But they had beaten them 13-2.

According to coach Dean Villa, that one-sided win was the effort Speed Queen was capable of producing when they wanted to. Villa felt he had a group that could generate explosive offence when they so desired. Saturday Speed Queen didn't fire a fusillade of goals, but they scored three more than Dan's Auto Body to win by shutout.



Speed Queen shut out Dan's Auto Body 3-0 in the major peewee final but Steve Dunn (left) and Ed Dillon, the most improved and most sportsmanlike team players, didn't seem to mind too much.

"I'm not surprised we beat them with the team we had," Villa said. "When they (Speed Queen) put their minds to it, no one could beat them."

While not anticipating a shutout for Chris Cheevers, Villa acknowledged that it was a pleasant by-product of Speed Queen's game plan. "Our game plan was to forecheck. It (the shutout) had a lot to do with our forechecking."

As well, Villa's players keyed on Dan's two ace players, Ed Dillon and Chris Clark.

In playoff action prior to the championship, Dan's beat Speed Queen 3-2. Speed Queen topped first-place league finishers Thruway Mufflers 6-0 and tied Guardian Drugs at four.

But Villa said his team was gaining strength through the latter part of the regular season and the playoffs. "As we went along we gained confidence. And we were really pumped for this (Dan's) game."

Shane Miller, one of the top guns on Speed Queen, scored two goals and assisted on the third as Speed Queen got all the goals they needed in the second stanza. Adam Murray, who Villa called "probably the best two-way player on the team" scored Speed Queen's other goal.

Dan's tried to rally late in the game but Speed Queen goalie Chris Cheevers, who Villa said "played great," stonewalled them.

### Minor Bantam

Anything can happen in overtime. But a power play can make the outcome a bit more predictable. It did when Insnor Construction squared off for extra innings against Mr. Submarine.

Insnor, a peewee-aged roster team, capitalized on a four-on-three situation early in the first overtime period to shade Mr. Submarine 2-1. Jay Mallany popped the goal and Danny Hierman assisted.

Mr. Submarine had almost taken the title with 1:07 remaining in regulation time when they put the puck in the net from short range, but a penalty was called on the play and the goal disallowed.

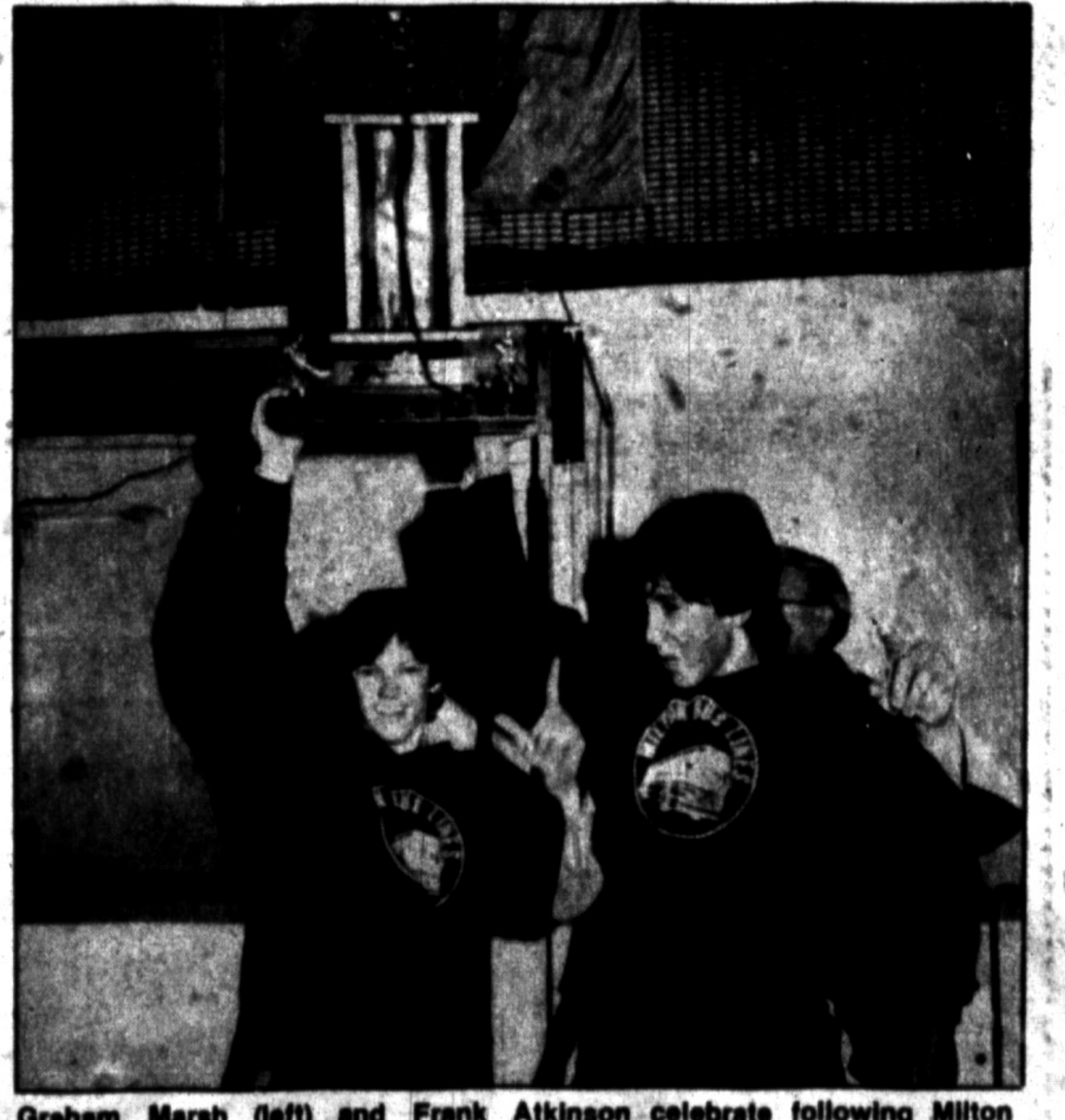
The teams battled through a tight contest, with the roster players moving the puck around adeptly and the older bantam players determined to beat their younger opponents.

Darryl Gould scored for Mr. Submarine in the first period, assisted by Todd Symmers and Dwayne Squires. Insnor didn't tie the score until the third period, when Keith Moore scored from Mario Dal Bello and Dale Bennett.

Insnor had dropped their first round-robin playoff game to Mr. Sub 1-0 but beat Remax 8-0 and downed Stella Parton Real Estate 5-2.

"When we'd played Mr. Sub all year we'd had dynamite games," said Insnor coach Doug Williams after the game. "It's been wins and losses for both teams. Rightfully it (the final) should have been a tie. It was anybody's game. I think the two best teams were in the final."

Insnor likes to stall the opposition rather than blow them away. "The strong part of our game is forechecking," Williams said. "Taking the puck away from them in their end. We don't score that many goals. But it was anybody's game in overtime."



Graham Marsh (left) and Frank Atkinson celebrate following Milton Bus Lines' 6-2 bantam win.

### Major Bantam

Sometimes the old tricks are the best tricks. That was the case when Milton Bus Lines faced Knight's Men's Wear for the bantam title. Twice Bus Lines took the back road behind the Knight's net and twice they managed to poke the puck into the corner of their nemesis' net. The goals gave Bus Lines the margin they needed to take a 3-2 hockey game and turn it into a comfortable 6-2 victory.

Cont'd on pg. 82