



Grand Transport players celebrate after winning the championship of the White Oaks Hockey League Sunday.

Grand Transport wins second title

Milton Grand Transport rolled to its second straight White Oaks Hockey League title Sunday with a 7-5 win over cross-town rival Milton Welding.

Bob Baker paced Transport with a three-goal effort. Paul Shields, Steve Wilson, Eric Ellison and Randy Novak had the other goals.

Rod Gooding, Randy Howse, Darrell Deck, Jeff Sanford and Jim Robertson replied for Welding.

Transport, winners of the previous two games, held period leads of 2-1 and 4-2.

Phil Bailey guarded the net for Transport while Dave Echbecht handled the duties for Welding.

Grand Transport coach Martin Farrell said the game was close for 40 minutes, but Transport had stronger third period legs.

The club, throughout the playoffs and regular season, has played a strong final 20 minutes.

"We've got a good club," said Farrell, "a good, strong skating team. We have a very good defence and some guys who can put the puck into the net."

Transport came into the four-team league four years ago. The other two teams are Dennox Industries and Control Access Engineering out of Oakville.

Farrell said the Grand Transport team is "just a bunch of guys who got together" to play some hockey.

The club has been in the league four years. In the team's first two seasons, they come close, but couldn't upend perennial champs Milton Welding.

Farrell said time might now be catching up to some Welding players. Games are three periods of 20-minute stop-time hockey.

But Transport players didn't take their series with Welding lightly. After all, Milton Welding beat Transport twice in regular season play.

Farrell doesn't know if Grand Transport has the making of a dynasty, but is sure all the players will be back next year.

Some play in another Milton league and are in the hunt for another hockey title.

Grand Transport finished first in league play with 12 wins and six losses. CAE was next, 9-7-2, Milton Welding, 7-9-2 and Dennox Industries, 6-12.

In semi-final play, Grand Transport played Dennox Industries. Dennox took the first game of the best-of-three series 5-3, but Transport got untracked to take the next two by scores of 6-0 and 5-3.

Milton Welding opened their series with CAE by beating them 6-1. Welding lost the next game 8-6 and bounced back to take the final 4-3.

Grand Transport finished the season with the best goals against average of 3.77.

Medics blank Flamboro

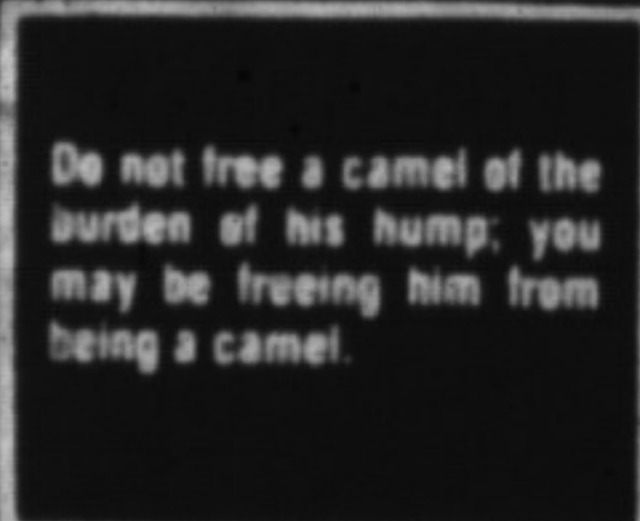
The Docs and Dents minor atom team finished the year on a high note with a 5-0 shutout over rival Flamboro.

Adam Johnson ripped in three goals to pace the Medics. Doug Frehs and Fabio Pento got the other goals.

Medic goalies Kevin Wilson and Ryan Smith combined talents for the shutout turning aside 11 Flamboro shots.

Docs and Dents entered the game coming off a tournament win in Niagara Falls.

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Mustangs win curling bronze

Milton District High School's curling rink captured a bronze medal at the provincial championships beating St. Clair of Sarnia 4-1 on the weekend.

The win ended a four-year medal drought by Milton, which had last won the Ontario High School provincial curling championships in 1984.

That gold medal was won by Steve Oldford, older brother of Dave, who skipped the 1988 Mustang rink to their bronze.

"He would have liked to have done that again," said coach Mike Sheppard of the '84 victory.

The 1988 rink was skipped by Oldford with Jody Rowley playing vice. Sean Thompson threw second stone and David Rus lead. John Peddie spared.

In pool play, Milton racked up wins against Orillia, St. Clair and Arnprior before losing a 6-5 decision to Kirkland Lake. The Mustangs rebounded to beat Senator O'Connor 7-4 ending round-robin play.

Milton avenged their lone loss with a 6-3 win over Kirkland Lake in quarter-final play.

"The fellows played a real careful game," said Sheppard. "Just one of control all the way."

Milton's bid for gold was ended by Osgoode, High School of Metcalfe which nipped Oldford's gang 6-5.

Sheppard said Oldford played a clean game and had a 5-3 lead going into the last two ends when trouble struck.

"Everybody missed a shot," said Sheppard.

The last-end mistakes, combined with some bad ice conditions, put Milton out of the gold medal hunt.

Osgoode went on to win the gold while Belle River District Secondary School took the silver.

The loss smarted and the Mustangs took it pretty hard. In the bronze medal game against Sarnia, the foursome tried to rattle the Mustang players by reminding them of the defeat.

There was psychological pressure from Sarnia, said Sheppard.

St. Clair asked for an official to watch the bronze-medal game, but Sheppard said the move backfired. Milton played a con-



Bronze winners Sean Thompson, Mike Sheppard, Dave Oldford and Dave Rus, back. Front, Jody Rowley and John Peddie after returning from the provincial curling championships. The team narrowly missed winning the whole shebang.

rol game and soon the Sarnia skip was arguing with the official.

Some Sarnia players started arguing amongst themselves. The skip didn't throw his last rocks of the game as the Mustangs had the win wrapped up.

Milton entered the 18-rink bonspiel played at the Welland Curling Club with ideas of taking the gold. Sheppard said all Milton needed was a little luck and everyone curling around 70 per cent.

"In total, I think we did quite well as a team and we worked well together," said Sheppard.

Oldford and Rus curled their last games for Milton as they are graduating off the team. Rowley will move up to skip and Sheppard said there should be no trouble icing a strong team for next year.

Milton advanced to the provincial championships by winning the Halton and Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conferences.

Optimist tourney in full swing

Hockey is being played this week at John Tonelli Sports Centre as 30 teams have entered the Milton Optimist tournament.

The tourney is open to rep C calibre teams in a variety of divisions.

In minor novice play, Milton beat Oakville 3-0 Monday. Games this week have Flamboro playing Burlington Wednesday and Friday has Oakville tangling with Burlington and Milton playing Flamboro.

Erin beat Dundas 3-2 Monday to win the opening game of the major novice pool. Milton plays Burlington Wednesday while Friday has Erin playing Burlington and Dundas going against Milton.

Minor atom pool started play Tuesday with Milton going up against Brampton. On Thursday, Burlington plays Mississauga and Friday's action sees Milton playing Mississauga and Brampton playing Burlington.

In major atom, Milton starts play with a game against Streetsville Thursday. Brampton and North Toronto follow. Friday has Brampton playing Milton and North Toronto playing Streetsville.

Minor peewee started Tuesday with Milton playing Oakville. West Mall plays Burlington Wednesday while Thursday's action has Milton playing Burlington and Oakville playing West Mall.

Major peewee started Monday with Burlington shutting out Oakville 3-0. Milton plays Chinguacousy Wednesday. Thursday has Burlington playing Ching and Oakville facing off against Milton.

Silver, bronze medals for local track athlete

A 10-year-old Milton student won silver and bronze medals at an indoor track meet held at York University.

Michelle Ashley came second in the 1,500 metre race and third in the 800 m.

Coach Omar Guzman said Ashley's 1,500-m time of 5:50.02 was one-tenth of a second away from first. She finished the second run

with a time of 3:02.24.

Guzman said she could've won the race, but was slowed by a pain in her side.

Ashley, who goes to Robert Baldwin School, was one of 750 athletes competing in the Ontario minor track and field association championships. She runs for the Etobicoke Husky Striders club.

Guzman said he's been working with Ashley just over two months.

"I didn't know what to expect," said Guzman. "It was the first time I had seen her race. She's got a lot of potential."

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