

Milton Mustangs waltz into playoffs

One Milton District High School football team was tuning up for the playoffs, while the other was fighting for its life in high school football action last week.

The junior Mustangs used their final regular season game against E.C. Drury to tune up for their playoff game against Blakelock, where they travel next Wednesday. Milton won the game 30-0.

"The defence played very well," said defensive coach Doug Foley. "We only allowed Drury one sustained offensive drive all game."

Foley picked out Alex Pyle, Rob Brown and Lorenzo Zanatta as having their best games of the season.

For the offence, the game was used to get some of their backups a little playing time. It was also used to find a replacement for injured running back Bill King.

"Zanatta and Brown were both very impressive at the fullback position," said coach Don Hipple.

More importantly than winning the game, the Mustangs left the battle unscathed and are in good health for their playoff game against the bigger and stronger Tabbies. In their regular season meeting this year, Blakelock won 9-7 on a late field goal.

The game is going to come down to which team can execute their offence the best, because both defences are equal. We're going

to have to play our best football to beat them," predicted Hipple.

On the senior side, the Mustangs lost a crucial 14-7 decision to Blakelock in a game which decided the fourth and final playoff spot in senior Tier II action.

"Our defence started very strong," said coach Keith Pearce, who was forced to watch the game from the stands thanks to a one-game suspension. "We sacked their quarterback three times in a row to start the game."

Blakelock scored their first touchdown when they recovered a Milton fumble in the Milton end zone. Milton blocked their attempted extra-point though.

Milton scored a punt single to take the score

to the locker room at 6-1.

"At this point it was still anybody's game," said Pearce.

A Blakelock interception deep in the Milton zone gave Blakelock excellent field position where they punched the ball in to move the score to 14-1.

A late touchdown pass from Jodie Rowley to Ben Swarbrick made the final score 14-7. The loss left the Mustangs with a 2-4 record for the season.

"We accomplished our goal of being competitive this season, but next year our goal will be to turn the close losses into wins and make the playoffs," said Pearce.

CANTEL APPROVED AGENT
Fran Coulter

Coulters Vehicle Leasing Ltd.

at North End Nissan
878-4137

610 Martin St., Milton
Tel. 821-3513

Sports

Wednesday, November 9, 1988

SHOWROOM
from \$449.00
SALE PRICE

HONDA BLOWS HOT OR COLD

GENERATORS from
\$489.00 SALE PRICE

THE DEALERSHIP THAT CARES!

THE RACER'S EDGE
32 Bronte St. 878-4212



Milton Merchant captain George Bach (9) gets ready to fire the puck at the Oakville Blades net during Friday's game at Memorial Arena. Teammate Sean Laverty is providing the screen on Oakville goalie Kevin Alcock. Oakville won the game 5-2.

Merchant's losing streak hits four

By JEFF PASQUALE

Milton Merchants' losing streak reached four games Friday night as they dropped a 5-2 decision to the visiting Oakville Blades in Central Ontario Jr. B Hockey League action.

Milton has also dropped their last four games on home ice, not winning since their home opener over a month ago, an 8-6 upset of Streetsville Derbys.

Scoring for Milton against Oakville were Mark French and Chris Reier.

Merchants suffered with an inability to capitalize on their power-play opportunities.

"We could have won tonight if our power play was working," said acting head coach Gary McFadyen, subbing for the suspended Gary Ford. "We're working hard on the power play, we're just not getting any results."

On the night, Milton was given eight man-advantage situations, including a two-man advantage for 1:35 of the second period, and failed to score on any opportunities.

"When you miss your power play chances, it's really deflating," said McFadyen.

"Tonight was frustrating because these are guys we should be beating. To do anything this year, we're going to have to beat the clubs we're close to."

One recurring problem for the Merchants on the night was a lack of discipline, which was shown by four consecutive unsportsmanlike conduct penalties over the second and third periods. Two penalties were handed out to captain George Bach.

"This has been a problem all year," said McFadyen, working his second consecutive game behind the Milton bench. "The players aren't kids, they're young men. They've got to learn to discipline themselves."

Milton opened the scoring with French finishing a pretty three-on-two passing play with Sean Laverty and Jeff Daw, both affiliated players called up to replace suspended Merchants.

Oakville came back two minutes later, with Brent Mahoney beating Milton netminder James Smith with a good shot. A power-play goal with less than two minutes remaining in the first period by Oakville's Mike Orzel, gave the Blades a lead they would never relinquish.

Oakville upped the lead 1-09 into the second period with Chris Krbavac doing the honours.

The lead was cut to 3-2 on a goal by Chris Reier. Reier took a pass from Paul Hartley and roared down the left wing where he uncorked a slapshot which beat Kevin Alcock in the Oakville net cleanly to the far, top corner. That was it for Milton though.

Oakville got goals from Mike Foy

and Mike Zita to complete the scoring.

One player who couldn't be faulted was Milton goalie James Smith, making his second start since being signed. His first was a 9-1 shellacking at the hands of Streetsville.

"I thought Smith played very well in net," said McFadyen. "He can't be faulted for any of the goals tonight."

McFadyen says the team's fortunes can be turned around fairly easily.

"We need to improve the power play and we need to work on bringing the puck out of our own end. We just need a win or two to get our confidence back up. These are young guys and they'll bounce back with some confidence."

The Merchants next game is Friday night when they host Mimico Monarchs at Memorial Arena at 8 p.m. They travel to Georgetown Saturday night.

Merchant Scoring

Player	G	A	TP
Chris Reier	9	12	21
George Bach	7	8	13
Scott Gale	6	6	12
Shawn Healey	8	4	12
Brian Haringa	1	6	7
Mark French	6	1	7
Paul Hartley	0	6	6
Paul Allen	1	3	4
Sean Laverty	1	3	4
Jason Caccamo	1	3	3
Mike Dunphy	0	3	3
Warren House	1	1	2
Bob Anderson	0	1	1
Dave D'Amico	1	0	1
Damian St. Croix	1	0	1
Tim McDonald	1	0	1
Paul Harron	0	1	1
Mark Zebedee	0	1	1
Paul Jeffery	0	1	1
Jeff Daw	0	1	1

Cagers advance

It was a good night for junior girls high school basketball teams Monday night.

The first-place Milton Mustangs knocked off Oakville's Q.E. 33-25 and Bishop Reding 33-25, while the second-place Oakville-Trafalgar 33-25 whipped Oakville-Trafalgar 33-25. Both teams now advance to the Halton quarter-finals tonight. Milton takes on Lord Elgin of Burlington while the Royals will face Burlington's Nelson.

In other junior action, E.C. Drury narrowly lost to Oakville's White Oaks 42-38, to drop them from the playoffs.

The only local senior team to make the playoffs was Milton, and they were badly beaten by the first place T.A. Blakelock Tabbies 63-29. They join E.C. Drury on the sidelines.

Minor atoms shut out Brampton

Minor Atom A

The Milton minor atom AA rep team won once and tied once in their last four outings.

Milton minor lost to their major cousins 3-1 with the only goal being scored by Billy Robbins on a second-period end-to-end rush.

Milton then blanked Brampton minors 4-0. It marked their first shutout of the year.

Derek Rockel opened the scoring on a well-executed passing play from linemate Graham Darling and defenceman Jamie Walker. Just 26 seconds after the first goal, Robbins increased the lead to 2-0. Rockel and Robbins both added additional markers to make the final 4-0. Peter Dennis and Steven Glover shared the shutout goaltending.

Oakville taught Milton a lesson in their next game, handing them a 9-0 defeat. Oakville did everything right and completely dominated the game, making use of their superior skating, passing and shooting abilities. Milton was constantly caught out of position and their lack of backchecking was obvious.

Milton held Burlington to a 1-1 draw Sunday. It was a well-played

game both defensively and offensively.

Burlington scored first on a good play in front of the net. Robbins tied it up at 1-1 on a close shot off of Don Ellison's rebound. The biggest chance to win the game went to Burlington when they were awarded a penalty shot in the second period but Glover stopped them cold.

Minor Pee wee A

In league action last week, Chris Glover stood tall among his teammates with two goals and an assist to lead Milton Skate Exchange minor pee wee A rep team to an 8-1 drubbing of Georgetown.

The prettiest goal of the game featured an end-to-end rush by defenceman Arden McIntosh.

Darren Murphy with a goal and two assists and Sean Holloway with two goals were also offensive standouts. John Moffat and David Griffiths added single goals while Todd McKay and Kevin Goodearie chipped in with a pair of assists each.

For the second week in a row, Skate Exchange entered a tournament and played well defensively.

In their first game, Milton opened the scoring but couldn't hold the

lead, losing 2-1 to Devonbridge. The Skaters goal was scored by Erick George.

The squad's second game some offensive power was obvious as they overwhelmed Thornhill 6-1. With a goal and an assist each were McKay, George, Griffiths, McIntosh and Glover. Robbie Miller also added a marker.

The win put Milton into the consolation final where they lost a nail-biter to Bolton 2-1.

The Exchangers came out of the gate tough and fast, dishing out some crunching bodychecks and took the game to their opponents. Jim Heffren scored a pretty goal in the first period.

Milton held the lead through end-to-end, hard-hitting action until Bolton tied the score with five minutes remaining.

One 10-minute overtime was played to no decision and two minutes into the second, the organizers decided the teams would have to play with no goalie to help determine the outcome. Bolton scored shortly thereafter to take the win.

Danny Luoma provided the game's outstanding goaltending.