

SDOITS

Friday September 8, 1989

NORTH END NISSAN

610 MARTIN STREET MILTON, ONTARIO L91 3H6 TEL (416) 878-247 878-4137

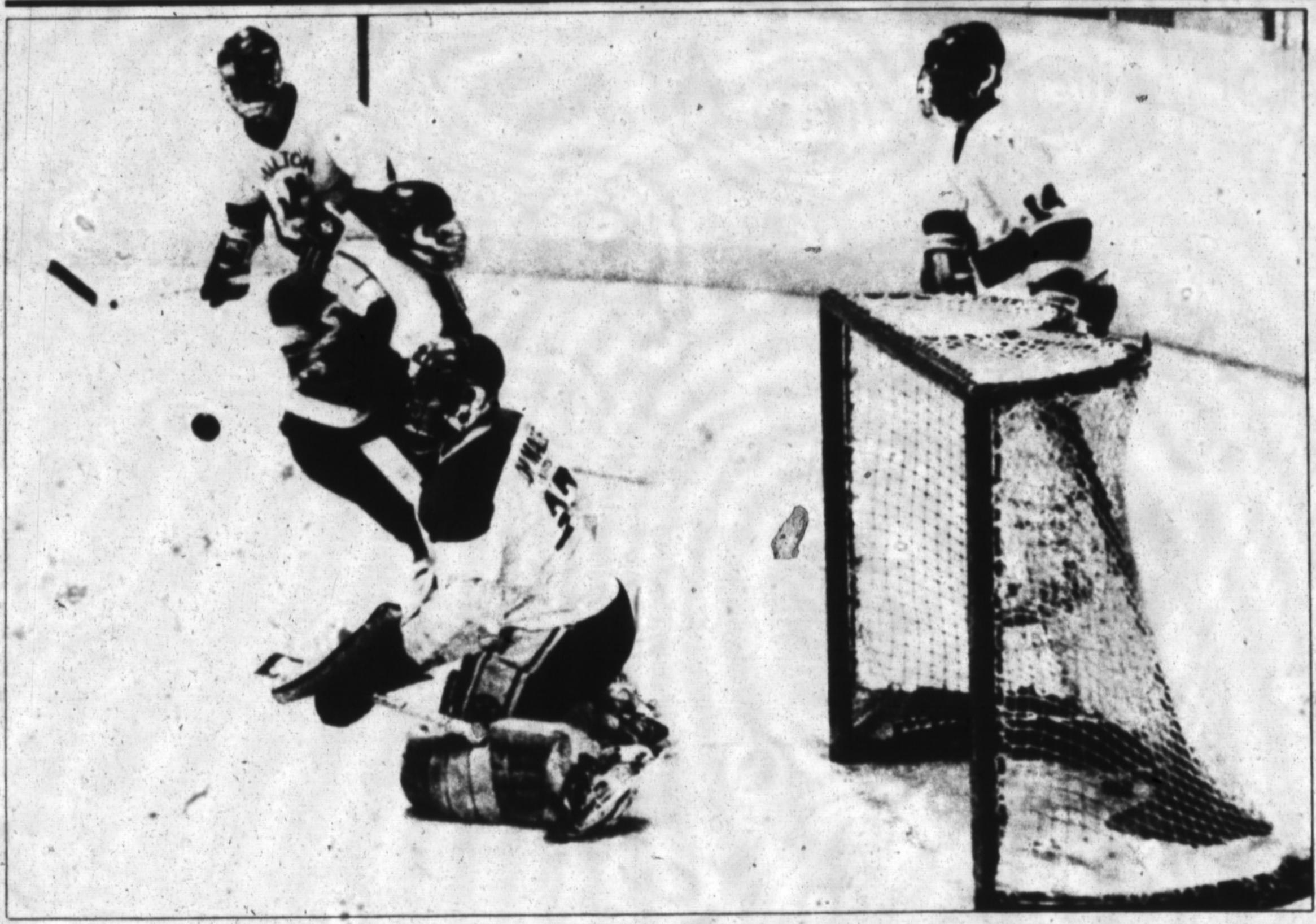


Photo by John Warren

The Milton Merchants of the Central Ontario Jr. B Hockey League go through some drills in an attempt to prepare for the upcoming season. The first real action for the team comes tonight at 8 p.m. at Milton Memorial Arena when the Merchants host the Grimsby Peach Kings. Milton coach Rick Bince looks as if he's going to have some tough decision to make before the Merchants get down to their final roster,

Merchants find going tough

By JEFF PASQUALE

Tonight (Friday) is the first chance fledging Milton Merchants will have to impress their coach, Rick Bince, and make the Jr. B squad for the upcoming season. But for Bince, recruiting players has been a long, hard struggle.

"Everywhere I turned, I got a door slammed in my face," said Bince. "It seems like nobody wants to help Milton. They want to keep us the doormats of the league."

Signing trouble

players. Everytime he thinks he has be around," said Bince. a player that can help him, a wrench seems to get thrown in the works.

"I thought I had a kid signed from Mississauga, but Streetsville puts in a claim on him. One kid I'm really high on is Jay Evershed, a goalie with the Guelph Platers last year. The problem is Burlington says they have the rights to him. There's still three weeks to go, though, and some things are starting to happen."

The first chance for the kids who are in-camp to strut their stuff comes tonight (Friday) at 8 p.m. when the Merchants host the Crimby Peach Kings. Bince is warning people not to put too much stock into the preseason results.

positions," he said. 'There are still getown. going to be some kids in here before the season gets underway. We may take our lumps early, but I've got some things starting to happen now."

New lineup

One thing Bince's team won't be the team. called this year is, "the same old

"It seems like nobody wants to help Milton. They want us to stay the doormats of the league," Rick Bince.

George Bach, leading scorer Chris Reier, Scott Gale, Geoff Pollen, Graham Taylor and Bryan Haringa.

Reier is overage, Taylor is in New Westminster, B.C., playing Tier II Jr. A, Gale joined the Marines (honest) and as for the rest, well.

"The one thing I'm looking for on this team is a good attitude and if the guys don't have one, then they won't

Old faces

Some names that should ring a bells are defenceman Robb Wilson, currently the only defenceman signed, Shawn Healey, Mike Dunphy, Mark Zebedee and Darren Bain. Newcomers who should be ringing up the points include forward Pat O'-Leary and Ken Gilford. Gilford played with North York last year.

The local hockey scene has been very active the last week. The Acton Jr. C Sabres, who last year affiliated with the Merchants, are with the Georgetown Raiders this year. One of the key figures in that switch was "I'm going to have a lot of kids in last year's Milton coach, Gary Ford, the lineup who are still vying for this year an assitant with Geor-

Juvenile team

The other major rumbling in town is the possible formation of a juvenile team to compete in the tricounty loop for this season. Barrie Elliott has been approached to coach

"Three or four kids who I've Merchants". Very few of last year's coached in the past got together and players will be back. Among those got about 15 names down on a list. missing will be last year's captain, They then approached me to coach

and I said I'd be interested," said Elliott, who coached the E.C. Drury High School team and the Canadian National Deaf team last year and ad vowed not to coach anyone this year. "I told them they would-have to approach Milton Minor Hockey,

which they've done, and I'm just waiting to hear back."

Brad Grant has also been approached and seems enamoured the idea. The Merchants could use the team as their farm club. Grant has said he will approach MMHA president Terry Brandt with the idea, and if no sponsorship could be secured, he would do it.

The team would mark the long overdue return of juvenile hockey in town, and would provide a chance for some talented players to shine.

Under 15s take P-H league title

The Milton under 15 rep boys team put a cap on their successful year with a pair of wins to clinch the Peel-Halton first division regular season league title.

In a strong display of offensive firepower, Milton roared to a 6-1 thumping of a host Streetsville

Bryan Jewell fired home two markers for the winners while singles went to Ryan McLean, Mark Wild, Don Smulders and Kian O'-Higgins. The game was dominated by the Milton midfield of Tim Shier, Wild, McLean and Paul Sewitt who took the play to the homeside for the full 90 minutes.

The closing game of the season was a home contest to the second place Burlington squad. The two earlier games these two teams played ragainst each other, which had been split, were rough and tough affairs and this one proved no different. The referee, though, kept the game in control and Milton did the same as they fought to a 2-0 win.

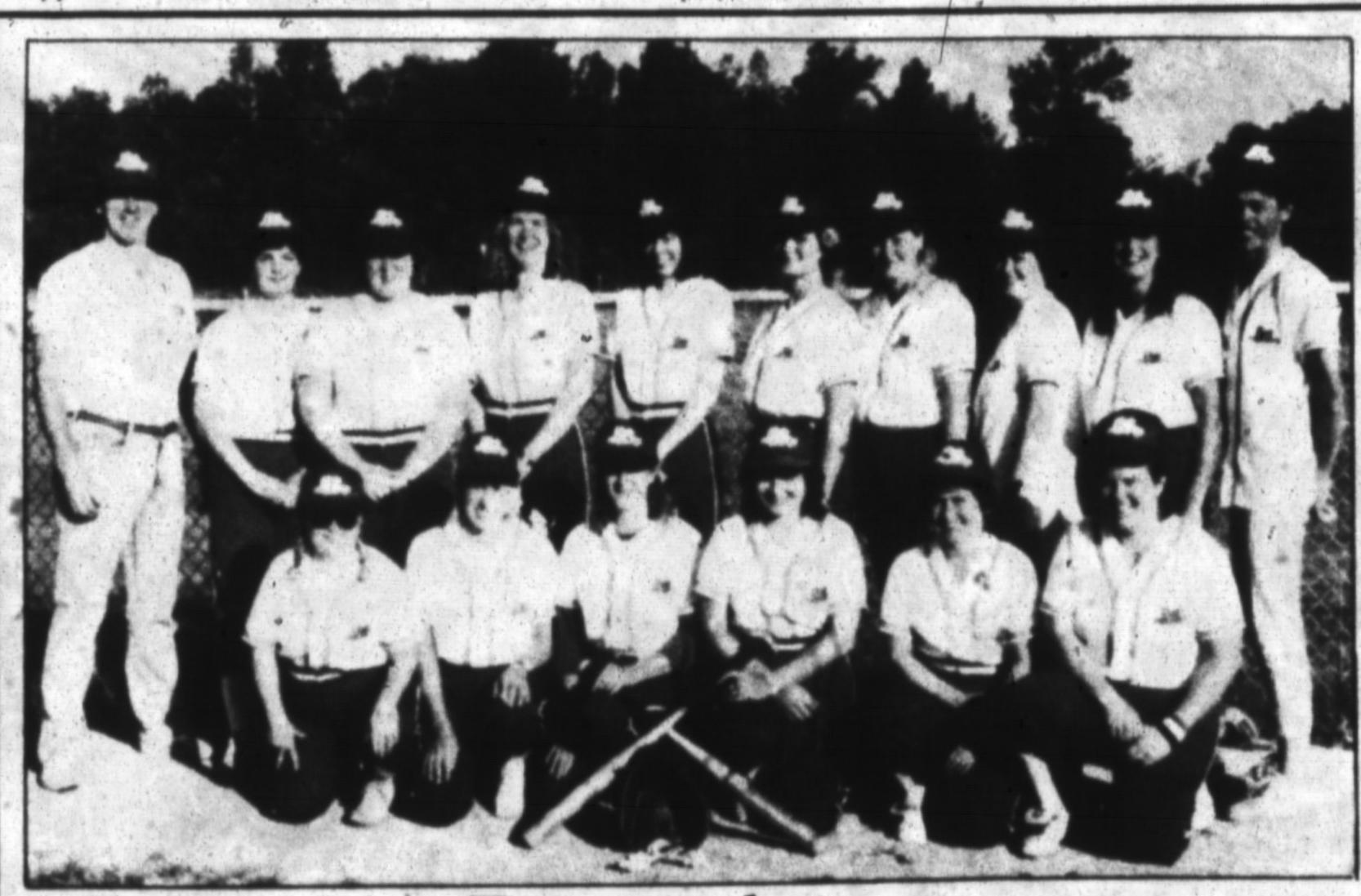
Wild and Jewell did the honours for the offence while Scott Mac-Donald came up with some key saves to preserve the shutout. Mac-Donald and the defence deserve special mention for their effort as the game was the first time Burlington has been shut out all year.

Winning the title, with an 11-2-2 won-loss-tie record, was especially sweet for this team according to, coach Ian McLean.

"The first two years this team played in the Peel-Halton League they had one win and two ties, but we stuck together, played in some tough tournaments and slowly improved," said McLean. "Two years ago this team was the first one to win the Milton Friendship Tournament and just when it looked like there was a bright future, the team folded.

Many of the boys played in other areas last year but this year they decided to give the Milton squad one more chance.

Other members of the team were Todd Dowell, Dominic Walker, Jason Penman, Mike Gliddon, Don Smulders and Bill Cillies.



Tourney champs

Fat Freddy's took the honours at the 1989 Milton Ladies Softball Tournament held recently at Drumquin Park. The winning team is, front row, left to right; Catherine Thomas, Cathy Hartley, Wendy Trencs, Marie Hryco, Shella Bell and Helen Raynor. Back row; Pat McManus (coach), Jaon Dermott, Andrea Rienhardt, Robyn Motton, Leslie Maskell, Dariene Wasilkowsky, Janet Cary, Doreen Clarke, Denise Madden and John Wasilkowsky (asst. coach). The title was taken with a 29-21 win in the finals over the Steelers.