

Kings' four-goal rally completes comeback for tie

The Milton Pro Sport Kings overcame a four-goal deficit to secure a tie with the SKD Blues in Milton Hockey League action last week.

The game ended 6-6 despite a 6-2 lead held by SKD with three minutes gone in the third period. The game had been tightly contested until the Blues exploded for three markers early in the third period to break open their 3-2 lead.

The Kings refused to quit and fought back to within a goal with less than four minutes remaining. They pulled their goaltender and Dave Milne converted the extra player into the tying goal to cap the amazing comeback with four seconds remaining. The tie preserved SKD's unbeaten record and moved the Kings into third place at 3-3-1.

Derek Meraleese netted two for SKD while Bob Mills, Dave Dumencu, Greg Faucher and Bob Dingle counted singles. John Tyndall and Todd Laing earned two assists each while Steve James, Mark Haskett and Faucher all picked up one.

Rick Growden led the way for Milton Pro Sport with a pair of markers. Singles went to Howie Scannell, Earl Sheppard, Ralph Serafini and Milne. Two assists went to Pat McManus while Ted Vandenheuvel, Don Habkirk, Glen Collier and Mike Henneberry picked up singles.

The Carefree Flyers won their third consecutive game when they downed the Milton Winterhawks 6-3. Six different players found the range for the Flyers as they scored twice in

each period.

Kevin Elkins, Blair Phillips, Jim Newman, Fred Pinnell, Joe Gaeton and Brad Nadalin were the scorers for Carefree. Nadalin also had two assists.

The Winterhawks collected their goals from Guy McGuinness, Roger DelNin and Trevor Riebot. Assists went to Riebot, Doug Hopkins and Paul McCain. The result left both teams in a deadlock for fourth place though Carefree has a game in hand.

The evening's final contest saw Apple Auto Glass shatter Fat Freddy's 7-3.

Apple Auto Devils started slowly with only a single goal in the first period but they turned up the heat with three in the second and a matching

three in the third. Fat Freddy's spread out the wealth, scoring once in each frame.

Chris Turner was the Devils big gun with a pair of goals and assists. Paul Wilson, Tom Chuchmach, Mike Mangotich, Glen Houston and Jeff Bullock were the other scorers.

Willy Ceelen, Bullock and Houston all earned a pair of assists with Mangotich, Wilson, Joe O'Grady, Craig Germain and Chuchmach collecting singles.

Ken Fox scored twice for Fat Freddy's and he picked up an assist on John Hackett's goal. Also providing help were Kevin Hughes and Jeff Fleet. The win gave the Devils sole possession of second place while the loss put Freddy's in the basement.

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Photo by JON BLACKER

Just a little more . . .

Milton District High School hosted a senior boys' basketball tournament last weekend, won by Orangeville. Mustang Craig Batstone goes up for a shot with 16 seconds remaining in a Milton District victory over Oakville's White Oaks. The scoreboard reveals the comfortable spread Milton enjoyed late in the game. Frank Pascoe (12) attempts to stuff Batstone as Shawn Francis (23) waits for a rebound.

Reduce imports to 4

Merchants bubble over Pepsi; trade away two tough guys

By BRAD REAUME

Milton Merchants spent most of last week playing in the Pepsi International Hockey Classic for the Bauer Memorial Cup at Weston Lions Arena in Toronto.

Despite playing well, according to coach Rick Bince, Merchants were left with an 0-2-1 record in their three games.

"I was really proud of them and pleased with the strong effort," said Bince.

Milton opened against Detroit Junior Red Wings on Wednesday. The Wings were silver medalists last year in the tournament losing to Bramalea.

Trailing 3-2 with just two minutes left in the game, the Jr. Wings tied the score on a controversial play. The linesman had been bowled over and was unable to call an off-side which allowed the Detroit winger to move right in on net. The initial shot deflected off a Milton defenceman's skate and into the net.

Wexford won silver

Merchants' lost its second game, 3-1 to Wexford Raiders, a team which eventually won the silver medal. Wexford lost the final to Detroit Compuware which is led by 16-year-old sensation Eric Lindros.

Against Wexford, Milton had tied the score heading into the third period but Raiders pushed one past Milton goaltender Jay Evershad during a power-play midway through the period.

Another Wexford goal came with six minutes to go as the Merchants let down after the tie breaker. Bince said his team dug in and produced a flurry of activity around the Wexford goal for the rest of the contest but were stymied.

"I've got to give the boys credit, they played well," said Bince. "There were lots of scouts around and they seemed pleased with what they saw."

Lost of Orillia

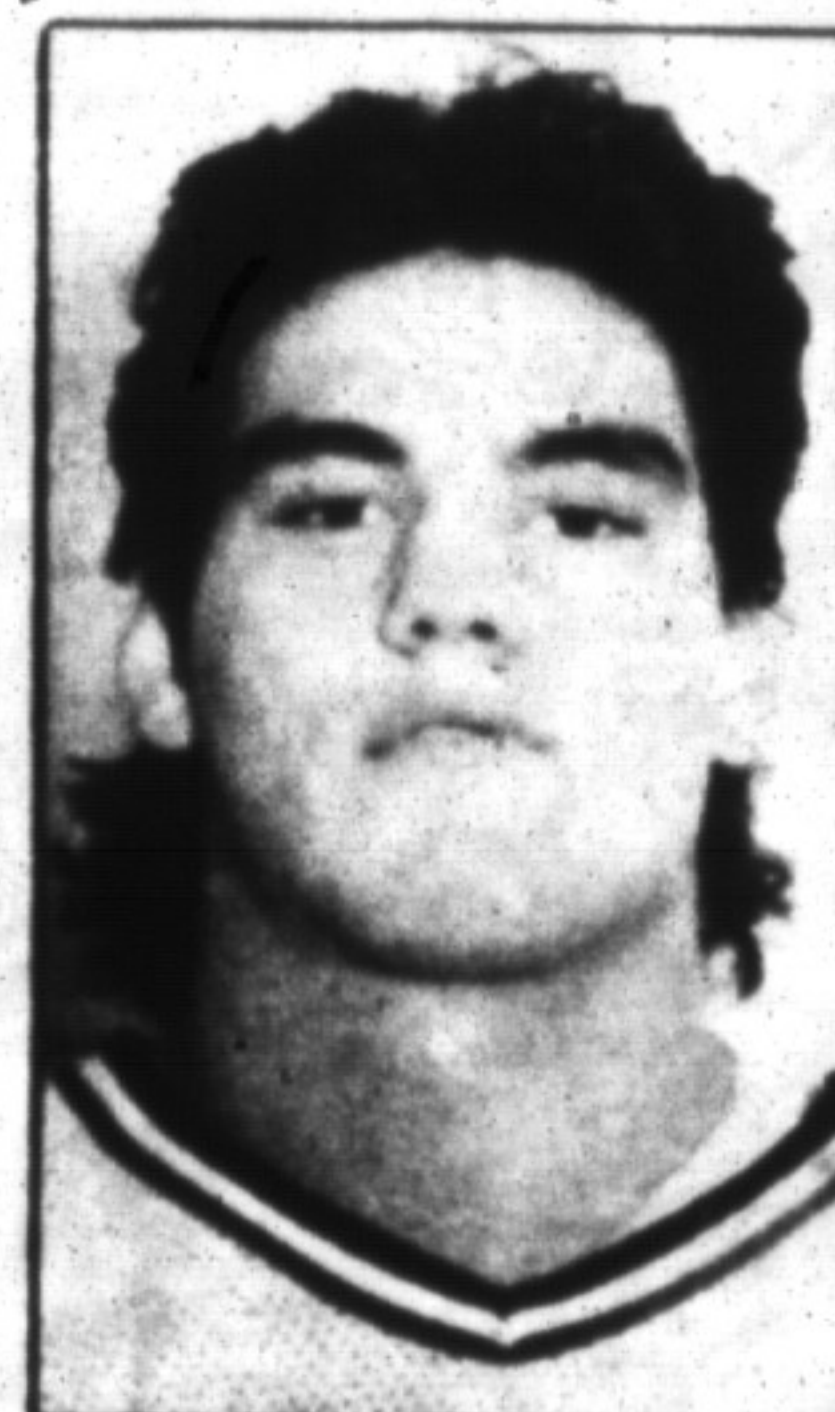
Merchants lost to Orillia by the same 3-1 score on Friday. Again the game was tied 1-1 in the third period, this time with only three minutes to go when Orillia took the lead. The Merchants were unable to play effectively after the goal and gave up another marker. The game ended in an ugly scuffle which produced some minor injuries, said Bince.

"We entered the tournament to showcase the guys, and let them show their wares in front of the scouts from the NHL and U.S. colleges. Five or six guys were approached by various scouts," Bince said.

Goaltender Jay Evershad, and defensive pair Paul Hartley on the left and Trevor Dodman on the right were



John Kovacs



Mike Crespeigne

selected for the tournament all-star game. The West all-stars, which the Milton players represented, won the game 7-4 with Evershad making a half-dozen spectacular saves.

Merchants made some changes after the tournament sending imports John Kovacs to Aurora and Mike Crespeigne to Cambridge in exchange for future considerations. Kovacs is from Barrie and Crespeigne from Fort Frances. Both players were drafted by the Junior A Kitchener Rangers.

"I had to make some changes and I did," said Bince.

Some muscle

"Those guys gave us some muscle but they were both among the league penalty leaders. We're sitting pretty now, with only four imports."

Each team is allowed seven imports and the low numbers for Milton give them room to move as the January roster deadline approaches. Bince said he is still looking for three shooters.

"Right now our midget affiliate players are doing quite well. I played Pat Henneberry, David McDuffe and Mike Cox quite a bit in the tournament and they played very well. Everything is according to Hoyle," Bince said.

Merchants played last night (Tuesday) in Peterborough and face league-leading Streetsville at home on Friday at Memorial Arena. Derbys' captain Cam Cuthbert, out of the lineup when the teams met last Tuesday, will be back to help Streetsville avenge last week's 5-1 loss to Milton.

Westside team

Local players help volleyball club serve up success

By BRAD REAUME

Club volleyball, the equivalent of rep hockey or soccer, is becoming the place to play for those players seeking higher competition.

The Westside Volleyball Club, founded by present McMaster University volleyball coach Regg Miller, takes its players from Halton and Peel regions (the west side of Toronto).

The club, which has operated for five years, added a Midget team (under 16) last season.

That team is coached by John Burt, who started out as a volleyball official and was recruited into coaching by Miller.

Last year the club boasted Ontario champions in the three levels at which they have teams: Under 16, Under 18 and Under 20.

"The shortness of the high school season limits the development of player skills," said Burt. "The demands on the players are school-based. It's like a houseleague. We work through nine months of the year."

Westside recently competed in the McGregor Cup Tournament, at Scarborough College, taking the goal medal without losing a game. Westside vanquished teams from around Toronto and those from London and Brock-

ville.

E.C. Drury student Jody Brown, 15, started in both final games for Westside, having adapted well from the high school game.

"He played a very strong game," said Burt. "His tip coverage was quick and he blocked effectively. He is learning quickly to enjoy the kill point (forcing shot)."

Ryan Ness, 14, also lives locally, though he attends M.M. Robinson High School in Burlington. Coach Burt said he showed courage in the tournament by refusing to give ground.

"Mistakes don't rattle him. He is a very

steady, mature player," Burt added.

David Sands, 14, and Randy Bond, 15, both attend Georgetown High School though they live near Milton in Halton Hills. Burt calls Bond "a real tiger" on the court because of the way he attacks the ball. Sands is the youngest player on the team and managed to hold serve for seven consecutive points in the opening match of the recent tournament.

"It's a difficult decision to join Westside because we demand a real commitment, Burt said. "High school players walk on the court, Westside players sprint."