

Major Novices have Midas touch at Milverton

Milton Minute Muffler took some time out of their playoff schedule to compete in the Milverton Tournament. Despite an opening round loss they rebounded to claim the tournament title.

The day started off badly with a trouncing from Seaforth, 11-1. The only goal for Milton was by Jason Ford, the team MVP of the game. Milton was struck by luck and moved into the championship side of the tournament draw when Seaforth was unexpectedly disqualified.

Buoyed by the break, Milton charged into the second game against Durham.

Three fast goals put Milton ahead at the end of the first period. Adam Hearn completed a Brian Kerwin pass play for the first marker. Kris Kovacs picked up the puck deep in the Milton end and stickhandled through the entire Durham team to pot an unassisted goal.

After several shots on net, Ford connected for the third Milton goal. B.J. Forysth in the Milton net went unchallenged.

In the second period Milton pressed in the Durham end, and Ford scored again, with an assist going to Colin Carroll. Carroll collected another assist when he headmanned the puck to Ford, who flipped a pass to Brent van Loosen for the score.

The third period was a turnabout, with Durham zipping a pair of unanswered goals. Good penalty killing by Milton took the bite out of Durham's attack and helped preserve the 5-2 win. Tyrone Seeds played the final two periods in net and earned the game MVP award for Milton.

The championship game pitted Milton against the host Milverton squad in what proved to be a thrilling contest.

Milton players held their positions and pressed Milverton into their end through the first period, but outstanding play by the hometown goalie kept Milton off the board until the last minute, when Matt Brown scored from Kovacs.

Forysth made several good clean saves for Milton through the first two periods. The second period was fast paced, with aggressive hockey from both teams. After stealing the puck in Milton's end, Joey Lake broke away for a quick goal in the outside corner.

The third period was witness to end-to-end action, with strong charges by Milverton. Milton's defensive

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corps, especially Kyle Smith and Kaegen Sherriff, played strongly, stealing pucks from Milverton and taking away their breakaways.

In the middle of the period two goals from first time scorers Chris Tschirhart and Sherriff put the icing on the cake. Seeds saved the shutout for Forysth and Matt Brown was named game MVP in the 4-0 Milton win.

Minute Muffler returned from the Milverton tournament ready to play Erin. Forysth held a hot hand in the Milton net and stopped the Erin squad time and again. The first period was a wide open affair with the teams racing the length of the ice.

Lake popped the first marker of the game and Erin responded with a pair of breakaways, but when the ice shards cleared Milton held the lead 1-0. Milton capitalized on a faceoff deep in Erin territory early in the third.

Lake put the icing on an exceptionally well-played game by Milton when he pocketed a clean breakaway late in the third period. Milton claimed the game 3-0.

Minor Atom AA

The Docs and Dents posted an 8-1 record through the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) divisional playoffs to advance to the semifinal rounds.

In the opening series, Medics spotted Brampton the first goal of the initial game and then proceeded to slam the door while scoring 16 through the next five periods to claim the two-game series 7-1 and 9-0.

In the opener Jeff Seeds scored the hat trick, Darren Haydar contributed two goals and three assists and Mike Roy and Jason Pento each had a goal and an assist. Matthew Peers collected three assists in what was an extremely physical, penalty filled contest.

In the second game Brampton tried to stay out of the penalty box but couldn't skate with the flying Medics. Seeds scored a second hat trick, while Lucas Redditt popped two and Haydar, Pento, Adam Bertoli and Jeff Burnett scored singles. Goaltenders Donald Perry, who collected the win in Brampton, and Robin McCall, who shut them out at home, were spectacular.

The next series for the Docs and Dents against Streetsville was much closer. Each team took a home ice one goal victory before the Medics broke it open in game three and wrapped up the series in game four.

In the opener Seeds scored three in a row after Brampton had opened the scoring. Streetsville came back to tie after two periods but Seeds popped another and Peers capped the scoring with only three minutes remaining after another Streetsville goal.

Game two was a reversal of the opener with Streetsville coming away with a 6-5 victory in overtime. Seeds and Haydar both had a pair but Streetsville prevailed with a 6-5 overtime win.

Milton came out flying in the next contest, running up a 5-1 lead in the first period to coast to a 9-5 win. Haydar notched a hat trick and Bertoli chipped in with a pair. In the final game Streetsville twice took the lead, with the Medics coming back to tie late in the second when the

Docs and Dents finally captured the lead. Streetsville managed to tie it but Milton pulled away with a pair late in the third to win 5-3.

The divisional final had the Medics going up against arch-rival Stoney Creek but Milton carried its momentum into a three game sweep. In the opener Haydar couldn't miss, scoring five times. Bertoli got two goals within the first five minutes and the Medics were off to the races, collecting a 7-3 win.

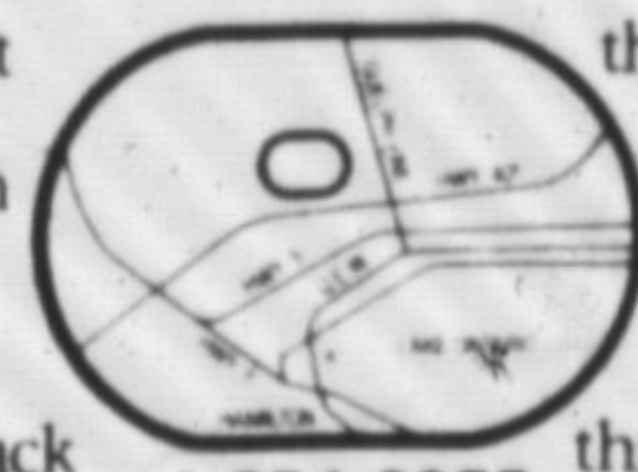
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