

Milton Indoor Soccer League swings back in action

By MARK ALLSOP
Special to The Champion

The Milton Indoor Soccer League swung back into action last weekend with all 10 teams playing.

There have been a number of sponsorship changes with the Optimist Centre, Fearmans, Halton Outdoors, Milton Honda and The Dickens dropping out in favour of Pratt and Whitney, Halton Flour Milling, Milton Pro Sport, Town Chev-Olds, Flash Gas, and Fat Freddy's.

The first game of the year pitted Flash Gas against the Oakville Rangers.

This game offered almost non-stop excitement, with plenty of skill, stamina and endurance exhibited. It resulted in a 4-0 Flash Gas win.

The indoor league experience of the Flash Gas squad seemed the major factor in their win. Peter Ward, one of last season's top scorers, potted the first goal after some intense effort around the Oakville goal.

Quickly, Flash Gas took a 2-0 lead when Iggy

King sped down the wing and hammered home a strong shot.

Kevin Griffin carried the team in the second half. He managed two goals for the Flash side, putting the game out of reach.

In game two Halton Flour Milling beat Milton Pro Sport 6-1. Peter Wright started the Millers rolling with an impressive and crafty off the wall pass for a goal.

A pair of quick goals, less than two minutes apart, put Pro Sport in a deep hole. The goals came courtesy of Paul Nolan and David Banks. Peter Wright struck again and he was matched by Steven Smith to notch a 5-0 lead before halftime.

John Dwyer in the Pro Sport net turned in a fine performance despite the score. The Pro Sport defence also rose up in the second half to limit the Millers to only one goal. David Entwistle capped the scoring after George Dawson broke the shutout for Pro Sport.

Webs United battled Town Chev-Olds to a 3-3 tie in the third game.

The play was excellent on both sides with fast breaking offences and solid defence. Town Chev-Olds' Anthony McLaughlin started the scoring but quickly Les Meeney of Webs equalized.

Wade Beattie ended the half for Town Chev-Olds with a goal to give them a 2-1 lead. Webs managed two quick markers to switch the lead with goals from Eric Geldard and Brian Leiper. Webs protected the lead well, but with only two minutes left, John Moynian scored to make it 3-3.

Hi-Five Hair Design played Pratt and Whitney, defeating them 3-2. The latter squad started with a burst of power and energy, taking control of the play and potting two first half goals. Bill Petrou managed the first goal with a long shot from 15 yards out. Teammate Rick Soder took a long throw from his goaltender and carried the ball to the edge of the crease before letting go with a shot to make it 2-0.

Just prior to the end of the half John Connolly

of Hi-Five blasted an extremely powerful shot past three players and into the mesh. As the second half got underway Hi-Five's George Vasluianu tied the game at two by dribbling the ball past the defenders with skilful wall passes.

Andy Garside put the final touch on the Hi-Five victory when he came out of nowhere to score on a free kick pass from Tony Bynkus, last year's playoff MVP.

In the final game Milton Youth Coaches took on Fat Freddy's in a close checking contest that ended 2-2.

The Fatmen managed a pair of first half goals by John Reid and Anthony Goodban while keeping their opponents off the board.

The Coaches replied in the second half when Ian Jarvis potted a superb back heel shot and Andy Szafer carried it from his own end to score the tying marker.

Indoor Notes: The league is still looking for a team sponsor. Interested parties can call Eric Allsop at 878-7612 or 878-9497.

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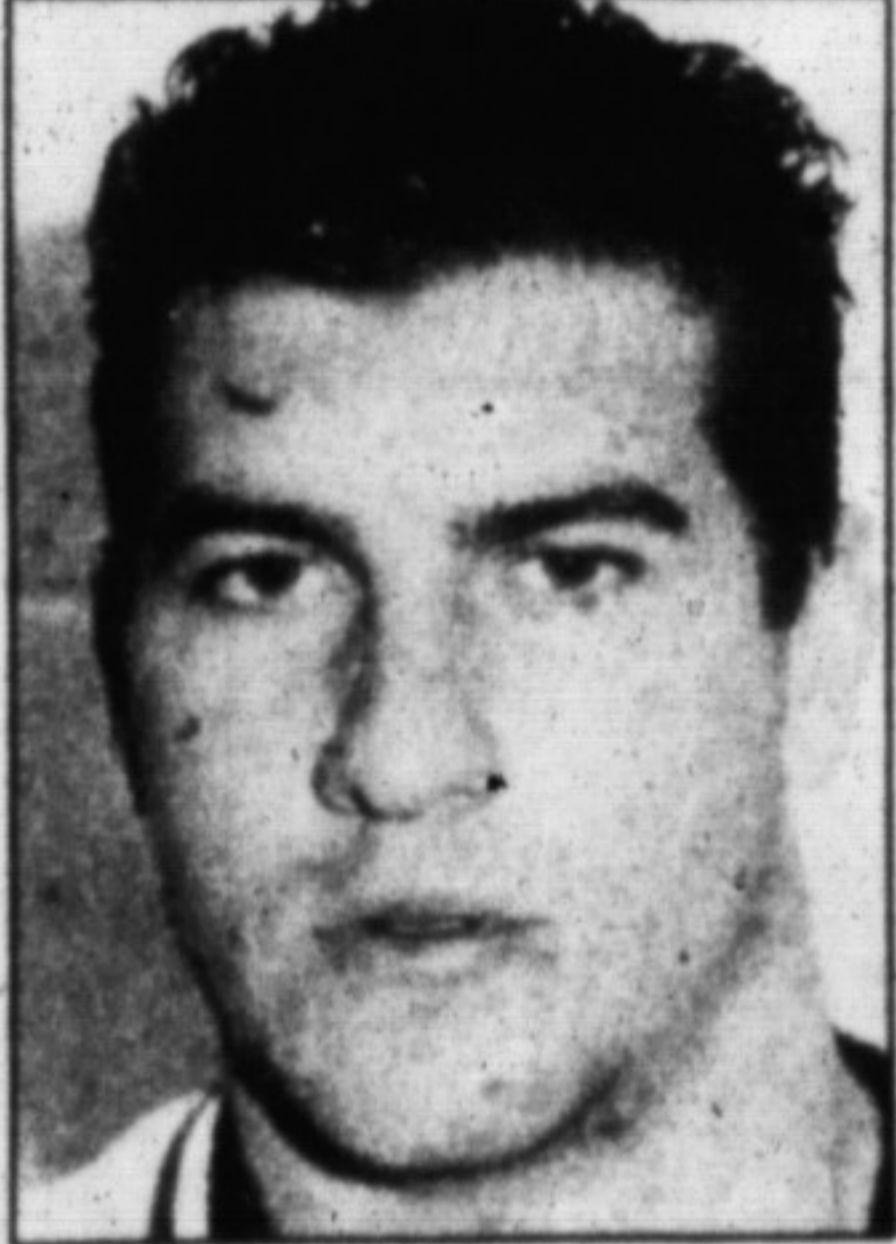
Major brawl

Merchants sweep pair extend record to 13-2-2

By BRAD REAUME

If there were any doubts about the skill level of the Milton Merchants they should be dispelled after Friday's 8-4 win over Peterborough at Memorial Arena.

The victory not only solidifies Milton's reputation as the team to beat in the Central Ontario Junior B Hockey League, it's also testament to their ability to bounce back and make adjustments.



Shawn (Bart) Simpson ... four-goal game

Milton lost their two top scorers to suspensions in Brampton the previous evening in a game, marred by a late brawl. (Please see story on page 16).

The 8-5 win against Brampton, coupled with Friday's 8-4 victory, gives Milton a 13-2-2 record.

Although missing both Chris Clarke and Jeff Daw due to the suspensions, the Merchants still played cat and mouse with the Jr. B Petes, keeping the visitors in the game but maintaining control when it counted.

The Merchants got a four goal performance from Shawn (Bart) Simpson, who opened the scoring at 4:10 of the first period when he converted a powerplay melee into a goal. Peterborough tied it less than two minutes later when Aaron Gavey scored.

Milton jumped back into the lead when Jason Ritchie picked up a rebound, spun around to his forehand and potted it at 15:42. Less than three minutes later Rob Figliano broke out of the Milton zone, and laid a perfect drop pass off to Kane Edwards. The rebound of his shot went straight to Simpson, who lifted it into the net for a 3-1 advantage.

Peterborough scored early in the second to get within one but Shawn Healey restored Milton's 4-2 lead with an exciting rush in which he beat the lone defender, then hit the high twine. The teams traded goals again with Ken Watson scoring for Peterborough and Figliano for Milton.

Simpson stole a pass and scored on a breakaway to push the score to 6-3 Milton by the time the second period ended.

Simpson notched his fourth goal of the contest at 15:06 of the third when he scored a shorthanded marker after a steal at his own blueline. The teams traded goals again as Paul

Devries scored on a rebound for Milton and Andrew Hamilton scored with seven seconds to go for Peterborough.

"The first time we were here the players were playing timid," said Petes' assistant coach Russ Smith. "The players played bigger tonight."

"We're 11 or 12 games smarter now than we were before. Our guys are young, still gaining experience and they'll get better every game they play. Down the

stretch we'll be competitive." Merchant coach Rick Bince said his players were methodical, doing only what they had to do to win. The last time these teams met Milton triumphed 14-4.

"I was tired, the team was tired," Bince said. "We've been going all week and the little injuries weren't getting time to heal. The loss of our two top scorers hurt."

In Brampton, there were very few penalties called until the contest blew open late in the third frame. Figliano popped a pair in the first period while Daw added one to stake the Merchants to a 3-2 lead. Clarke added two goals for the Merchants while Simpson and Jantie Selfridge added singles. For Brampton, Marty Wells scored twice.

Milton hosted Burlington Tuesday, then travelled to Brampton Thursday and were back at Memorial Arena on Friday for their regular home game. The team now sports a 13-2-2 record, tops in the Central Ontario loop. Their next scheduled home game is against Oakville, Friday at 8 p.m.

Central Ontario Junior B
Western Division

	W	L	T	F	A	Pt
Milton	13	2	2	116	67	28
Brampton	9	7	1	86	79	19
Oakville	7	4	2	82	50	16
Streetsville	7	6	2	74	80	16
Burlington	7	7	1	66	61	15
Georgetown	2	11	0	44	85	4
Peterborough	1	10	0	45	89	2

BINCE REACTS TO VIOLENCE / 16



Paul Hartley has a crack at the open net in Thursday's Milton Merchant 8-5 win over Brampton. Marty Wells (19) and another Capitals' player managed to keep Hartley off the scorecard. In the latter stages of the game (below) Peel Regional Police went on the ice to restore order after a major brawl threatened to move into the stands. Merchant coach Rick Bince's reaction to the brawl is on page 16. Milton next plays at home Friday at 8 p.m. against Oakville Blades at Memorial Arena.

