

Novice Sockets win Bolton tournament consolation title

The P.L. Robertson minor novice double 'A' Sockets had a busy weekend recently with games in the first round of the playoffs bracketing a tournament in Bolton. Milton made it to the tournament's consolation final while managing a sweep of their playoff series with Georgetown.

Milton opened against Georgetown with a 6-0 win. Craig Macdonald led off with a goal less than two minutes into the game assisted by Jason Holota.

Georgetown regrouped quickly and held the score until midway through the second frame. In a 42 second span Milton erupted for three goals, two by Macdonald and one from David Kornack. Assists went to Caleb Moffat, Fraser Komow, Sean Mahoney and John Melito.

In the third frame Macdonald added another

Rep Hockey

pair to give himself five on the day and his team a 6-0 win. Garrett Lauzon claimed the shutout.

The team then travelled to Bolton for a one day tournament. Milton ran straight into a disciplined Grimsby team that kept them off balance with good positional play. Jeff Johnson had an outstanding game but couldn't keep Grimsby off the scoreboard as they won 2-0. Milton managed three breakaways but no goals.

The loss knocked Milton into the consolation

side of the tournament where they met Hespeler. The Sockets were a little loose and fell into playing catch-up. Hespeler scored 16 seconds into the second period but Craig Macdonald and Matt Ventura clicked to tie it up before the period ended.

Halfway through the third Hespeler went ahead again. As time passed Milton got stronger, until, with 1:51 remaining, Moffat found Ventura to even the score and send the game into overtime.

Milton took command in the sudden death overtime and just over three minutes in Macdonald went in alone to settle the score at 3-2.

The win put Milton into the consolation final against Brampton, a team the locals had lost to twice in regular season play, both times the winner was scored with less than 15 seconds

remaining on the clock. Macdonald and Ventura picked up two goals each while Moffat and Melito each notched one and Milton downed Brampton 6-1 to claim the consolation title.

The next night the Sockets were back in Georgetown for the second game of their best two of three playoff. Milton was on a roll but Georgetown put up a fight. Four minutes into the initial frame Milton pressed into Georgetown's end where Andrew Marshall passed back to Komow. It was his rebound from a point shot that was stuffed in by Holota.

The teams played it safe until the second frame. In the space of two and a half minutes Milton scored three times and Georgetown replied twice for a 4-2 Milton lead. Ventura

• see REP HOCKEY on page 12

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In dressage

Stubbs trying for third Olympics

By BRAD REAUME

To Lorraine Stubbs life is a merry-go-round.

She began her ride on the roundabout as a city kid who wanted to learn to ride horses. She worked her way up to represent Canada in international equestrian events and on the way earned a masters degree in English Literature at York University, eventually forsaking a teaching career for life on the farm.

Now Stubbs, surrounded by horses on her Rock Eden Farm, has come full circle. But it won't be any tinny carnival music that accompanies her,

it will be the Olympic hymn. Stubbs is aiming for Barcelona, site of the 1992 Summer Olympic Games.

No stranger to international competition Stubbs nevertheless has to qualify for her Olympic berth. She has, after all, had a 15-year layoff from major international competition in her specialty: dressage.

"It's been called a ballet on horseback," she said. "It's strenuous, follows a set routine and demands a number of prescribed movements, much like figure skating. It demands a lot of grace."

It will be Stubbs' third Olympics. She competed in Munich in 1972 and was a top 10 finisher in Montreal in 1976. She claimed gold in the 1971 Pan American Games in Cali, Columbia, competed in the world championships at Copenhagen, Denmark in 1974, won a silver in the 1975 Pan American Games in Mexico City, and won double gold in the 1991 Pan American Games in Havana, Cuba.

The majority of her international success was with her horse True North but now she rides Firmus a

horse she bought in Germany which is a hotbed of the sport.

"We are on the fringe of the sport here in North America," she said. "Europe, especially Germany is its centre. In Germany there are more than 2,000 internationally registered dressage horses. In Canada there might be 50."

In addition to riding and working her horse breeding farm, Stubbs works as an international dressage judge, teaches riding and breeds horses for all types of use. Dressage horses, jumpers and even racing horses come from Rock Eden stables. She has also written a number of articles and books on dressage.

"It's a business, not just a hobby," she points out. "In Germany the riders have a lot of government, support and sponsorship is easier to get. I have to make it pay."

As for judging, Stubbs says it takes a long time to know the sport. "There's a lot of feeling involved because you are dealing with an animal. I try to judge what I see but it

• see ROCK EDEN on page 11



Photo by GRAHAM PAINÉ
Lorraine Stubbs, with Rio, works toward her third Olympic Games in the equestrian discipline of dressage. She was recently at Eden Park giving lessons and is now in Florida competing in an Olympic qualifier.

OT bests Reding 5-4 in hockey

By BRAD REAUME

First place in high school hockey's Volpe Division is important this year. Usually it's nice, a laurel of achievement, a cap to a fine season. This year it keeps you away from the dreadnought called Nelson.

The Nelson Flames have captured first place in the Richardson Division, and will, assuming they manage to continue to win, cross over into the Volpe Division and play the second best team that remains after two playoff rounds reduce the division to a pair of eligibles. The Burlington high school, which has not lost in league play, has been ranked for most of the season atop the *Toronto Star's* poll of best high school hockey teams.

Milton's Bishop Reding Secondary School, which has been fighting all season for the coveted Volpe lead, took to the ice in a key match-up with the team they had to beat, Oakville Trafalgar High School, on Friday afternoon and lost 5-4.

"Yeah, we needed this game," said Oakville Trafalgar coach Dale Law. "Appleby College is now our major competition for first and we've assured ourselves second place."

Law said that there was no team that Oakville Trafalgar wanted to avoid in the playoffs with the exception of Nelson.

To the Red Devils of Oakville Trafalgar winning was as easy as one, two three as they knocked in three quick goals in the second period. The game had been scoreless through the first frame.

Dave Blyth knocked home his own rebound off the post after a give-away behind the Reding net. The goal came at 2:37 and was followed only 42 seconds later by Chris Groves' goal when the Royals

• see MALLANY on page 11

MDHS leapfrogs past Reding into first place

By BRAD REAUME

Milton District High School's junior basketball team leaped over first place Bishop Reding Secondary by beating them in their own building 36-33 on Thursday.

The Mustangs kept up the pressure to the beat of coach Keith Swarbrick's constant instructions from the bench. They attempted to play a ball control offence which would draw the Reding defence away from the basket, allowing the quick pass inside against fewer defenders. The strategem met with limited success as Reding posted a 9-7 lead after the first quarter.

Forward Todd Dowell managed to score early baskets for Milton District ending with 12 points in the game. Reding got points from Carlo Zoffranieri who used his drives up the alley from his guard position to draw fouls. He ended the game with six points.

As the half wore down Milton District took the lead, cementing it on a three pointer by Jeff McKenzie at the buzzer. Milton District led the game 21-17.

In the second half Zoffranieri began to show signs of wear as he went off working a sore shoulder. He had already been out of the game briefly because of a groin injury and had complained about being knocked in the face by a stray elbow.

At this point Milton District's centre Paul Brown began to make a

difference. While he finished the game with only six points he was instrumental in controlling the floor in the offensive area. His efforts helped push the Mustang lead to 29-23 at three-quarter time.

Jacob Swarbrick, playing guard, managed a three point play on a drive to the basket and a foul to restore the Mustangs' three point lead with six minutes remaining.

Reding was in the bonus situation with three minutes left while Milton District never had that advantage. The Royals took that advantage and almost won with it as Mark Freeman knocked down two of his three points late in the game on free throws and Zoffranieri did the same. Reding had cut the score to 34-33.

With only 11 seconds to go Reding had the ball in the Milton zone. Peter Stelter, who had 15 points for Reding, took the ball into the corner and as he tried to turn along the back line, bounced the ball off his foot and out of bounds.

After a pair of foul shots were made by Milton District, the Royals inbounded the ball and at the buzzer Zoffranieri fired a long three point try from just inside centre. The ball hit the rim.

Jacob Swarbrick moved deeper into the zone in the fourth quarter and managed seven final period points for nine on the day in the win. Gabriel Barrett added six for the winners.

Merchants' opening playoff series set

The waiting is the hardest part.

For Rick Bince and the Milton Merchants the waiting is almost over. On Monday night the Georgetown Raiders knocked off the Burlington Cougars to sweep their series 3-0 and advance to play the first place Merchants.

In the other preliminary playoff series the Brampton Capitals demolished the Streetsville Derbys for the right to play the second place Oakville Blades. In addition to their already vaunted offence Brampton has recently added three players from the Bramalea Blues of the Metro Junior A League.

Milton hosts Georgetown in their series opener on Friday at 8 p.m. at Memorial Arena. Game Two is scheduled for Saturday (Feb. 22) at 7:30 p.m. in Georgetown, Game Three on Tuesday (Feb. 25) at Memorial Arena at 8:15 p.m., Game Four is in Georgetown at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday (Feb. 27).

The final three games in the best of seven series, if necessary, will be played Friday (Feb. 28) at Memorial Arena at 8 p.m., Sunday (March 1) in Georgetown at 7:30 p.m. and the final game is scheduled for Tuesday (March 3) at 8:15 in Milton.

"We'll be a little flat in the first 10 minutes," said Bince, coach and general manager of the Milton team. "We practice Wednesday and have a team meeting Thursday but the guys are just itching to play. The problem is, with all this waiting, you can get stale."

The winner advances to the division final to play the winner of the Brampton-Oakville series. The winner of that series will play the eastern division winner for the Central Ontario Junior B League title.