

Sharp effort in Merchants' win

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Mike McPhail. Finn showed great hustle in the first and laying in some strong bodychecks was winger John Dasso.

It was clear early on that the local players were starting to come together as an effective unit.

Milton was first on the scoreboard at 1:52, when Mike Murray connected with one of his lethal slapshots from just inside the blueline. Assisting on his tally was fellow rear guard Steve Rocco.

Less than a minute later, Murray sent a pass to Jamie Janjevich, who slid one under Brampton netminder Chris Billingsley and put his team up by two.

With a shaky defence in front of him, Billingsley made some good stops and did the best he could to hold off Merchant attackers.

He was successful in doing so until 16:55 when captain Daner Finn dumped a rebound from Jason Stevenson's slapshot into the net. Assisting on the play was Murray.

Brampton had a few scoring chances in the first, but goalie Beals looked strong in net and sent the Capitals to the dressing room at first intermission trailing 3-0.

Brampton's offence improved in the second frame but Beals continued to shine between the pipes and allowed only one goal, a well marked slap shot in the left corner Kristian Stringer at 12:07.

Milton scored two more in the second and kept a strong lead alive for Beals. Merchant goals came from Cox at 9:38 (wrist shot in off great pass from

McPhail) and Daner Finn (backhand over goalie with assists recorded by Murray and Cox).

Brampton had some good rushes in the second, particularly by Marty Wells and Mike Henderson. Milton rookie Travis Riggin showed some good hustle and continues to excite Merchant hockey fans.

Brampton took a lot of penalties in the final period which didn't help their chances at staging a comeback. While they were able to unload some nice shots on net, Beals turned them all back with some strong glove and pad work.

Finn and company continue their strong team effort in the third and skated away with the 5-1 win.

"It wasn't a very good game for us, we took a lot of penalties that hurt our game," said Capital head coach Lou Carnevale.

Milton deserves a lot of credit for keeping Brampton brothers Marty and Derek Wells off the scoreboard in last Tuesday's match-up. Both forwards are strong hockey players and appear ready to put some big numbers up on the board this season. Marty was a scoring leader last season and it's not too often he finds himself scoreless.

Beals earned his second win of the season and has held opponents to one goal a game in his last two outings.

The Merchants will have a chance to up their win record to three this Friday when they travel to Burlington to face the Cougars. Their next home game is slated for Tuesday, October 13 when they host the Cougars, start time 8:15 p.m.

Triple title wins cap girls' house league season

The Canadian Tire under 14 girls house league soccer team saved the best for last.

The girls staged a major coup as the curtain fell on the soccer season, winning three titles in the final week of play. They earned the North Halton-Peel House League Championship, a tournament title in Grimsby, and the end of season league cup. Earlier in the summer, the girls won a championship in Brampton.

Milton nailed down the North Halton-Peel under-16 house league championship in late September. On a cold, wet night the girls downed Brampton 1, thus edging out Acton for first place in the league standings. Milton's only losses of the year came at the hands of Georgetown and Acton. In both contests, Milton played shorthanded.

"The girls were consistent and improved steadily throughout the year," said coach Willie Ceelen.

Milton edged Oakville 1-0 in the championship contest of the

Grimsby tournament. Canadian Tire played four games in one day in the rain-delayed tournament. Enroute to the championship, Milton battled Grimsby in a nailbiter that went to overtime after regulation play remained scoreless. Kelly Bramwell scored the winner for Milton roughly 20 minutes into overtime.

"That was typical of the entire weekend," said co-coach Colin Henderson. "We had a lot of games and most of them were close. The Milton players were in great condition and outlasted the competition. Our supporters really got their money's worth."

"The defence was a big reason for our great season," Henderson added. "They really kept the competition from getting quality scoring chances."

In the house league championship tournament, Milton clinched the cup with a 2-1 victory over Acton. Kelly Pierson headed in the winner with 15 seconds left in the contest.

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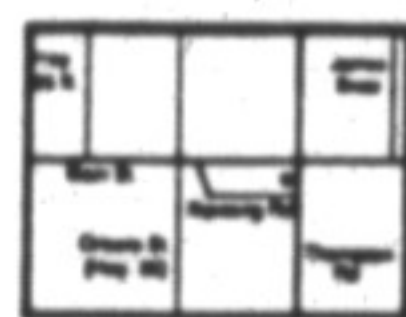
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Young Drivers of Canada produces safer drivers

Young Drivers of Canada isn't just for young people, although most of the students are between the ages of 16 and 25 years.

While the company is best known for teaching first-time drivers the ropes and cutting the cost of auto insurance, it also offers driver improvement courses.

For the new driver, the course entails 25 hours of classroom education and 15 lessons of 45 minutes each in a car. Tim Danter, owner of the franchise that serves Oakville and Milton stressed that in-car learning is done on an individual basis with only one student in the car.

"There's no peer pressure," he says.

Graduates of the program are rated as third-year drivers and benefit from the subsequent lower insurance costs, according to Mr. Danter.

"The biggest saving is for males as principle drivers. They can save up to \$1,000 a year on insurance," he explained.

Students benefit from the Young Drivers approach to accident-free driving. While behind the wheel, there is always a 30 per cent risk of having an accident. Young Drivers students are made aware of the risks and how to avoid dangerous situations and how to react. Advanced emergency manoeuvres, risk perception, driver responsibility and driver attitudes are discussed and put into practice.

Milton students are given more intensive training in head-on collision avoidance swerves as there are several two-lane highways and main roadways in the area with gravel shoulders, says Mr. Danter.

Students can be picked up anywhere in Milton for the in-car sessions. Classes are not held at high schools but a Young Drivers classrooms.

Instructors receive upgrading annually and Young Drivers produces its own videos to ensure up-to-date information is provided. To learn more about Young Drivers of Canada call 845-7200 or 875-0480.