



SPORTS

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THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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17—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, November 4, 1992



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Going up

Reding Royals junior basketball team captain Charity Crombie scored 10 points to lead the team on its way to a 44-20 win over White Oaks Thursday. The senior girls also won 46-15.

Merchants continue home win streak

By STEVE LEBLANC

Special to The Champion

The Milton Merchants took a two-game split in Central Ontario Junior A competition last week, losing 9-7 to the Capitals in Brampton Thursday and taking down the Mississauga Derbys 5-2 at Memorial Arena Friday night.

This split puts Milton at a 6-3-1 season record, good enough for fourth place in Central Ontario Junior A West Division standings. While the team's goaltending has been inconsistent in recent weeks, the offence has been strong and the defensive unit is showing signs of improvement.

The win at home Friday stretches the Merchants unbeaten streak at home to five games. Local fans in attendance saw some strong goaltending from the home team as well as powerful offensive efforts.

"Their (Mississauga's) goaltender was fantastic in the first period, we could have easily been up by three or four goals. We played very disciplined hockey in the third period," explained head coach Rick Bince. "It was a good game, I'll take the win."

Mississauga was first on the scoreboard Friday night with a deflected slap shot by Shane Buckle from Todd Hore past puckstopper Aaron Beals at 3:07.

Milton outshot the Derbys in the opening period and if it were not for countless strong saves by netminder Jeff Decosta, the local crew would have come away with a sizable lead at first intermission. However, the home town players only managed to tie the score at one by the end of the first with a well marked slap shot by Mike Murray (assisted by Steve Rocco and Jason Ritchie) at 17:39.

The Merchants were skating much better in the second period and came away with four tallies to Mississauga's one. Netting goals on the home side were Sean Lindsay, Jason Ritchie (2) and Mike Cox. Shane Buckle scored the Derbys' lone goal.

Beals turned back a lot of shots in the final frame and with some strong defensive efforts by Rocco and Murray, the Merchants came away the decisive victors. Also putting in strong performances for Milton Friday were Sean Lindsay, John Dasso and John Palmer.

Thursday in Brampton was one of those nights where every shot found its way into the net. Aaron Beals and Jeff Stoddart made a few nice saves but couldn't stop Brampton's overpowering offensive attack — led by Marty Wells who scored a hat-trick and assisted on two other tallies.

Scoring for Milton were Lindsay, Cox, Dasso, Rocco, Clancy Seymour, Murray and Ritchie. Seymour and Rocco also assisted on three goals apiece.

The team has already begun a busy week of hockey action. Monday and Tuesday they played Burlington and Oakville while tomorrow night they travel to Caledon to face the Canadians. The team returns home Friday to take on Brampton at 8 p.m.