



Acton Bantam Firefighter goaltender Tim Baker moves out of his net in an attempt to block a shot off the stick of Petrolia shooter Pat Verbeek during game four of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association 'BB' bantam playoffs. Acton played one of their poorest games of the

season in the Friday contest, losing 8-1. On Sunday they fell in Petrolia 4-1 eliminating themselves from contention. Bantam captain Tim Ferguson attempts to get a stick on the Petrolia shot while defenseman Rick Smith stands his ground.

OMHA semi-final

Firefighters cooled out by a hot Petrolia team

It's all over for Acton Bantam Firefighters hockey team.

Firefighters dropped two straight games at the hands of Petrolia last week to eliminate themselves from a chance at an Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship.

After dropping the first game of the best of five series, 5-2, the Firefighters came back strong recording an easy 8-2 win and giving the local supporters hope they could topple their competition.

It was not to be so easy for the Acton side. Game

three ended in a 4-4 tie in Petrolia and it looked as if Acton could win one of the next two games they would force a sixth game on Acton ice.

The game the Firefighters were looking to win was game four in Milton. The game was scheduled for Milton when time at the Community Centre became impossible to obtain with the Centennial Atom tournament having all the ice time booked. The contest must be considered one of the worst performances by the Acton team this year as Petrolia scored six times

over the first two periods in recording an 8-1 win.

Facing elimination the Firefighters fought hard but ran out of legs over the final 15 minutes as they allowed Petrolia three unanswered goals and a 4-1 win to cop the series and the right to move to the OMHA finals against Stouffville.

In game three in Petrolia, a 4-4 tie, the Firefighters got on the board first with a goal by Tim Evans at 4:21 from Gord McArthur and Rick Greenley.

Petrolia fought back with two goals within 20 seconds to take a 2-1 lead and then with only three seconds remaining in the opening period fired a third marker.

Acton picked away at the Petrolia lead, getting a goal from Mark Duval at the end of the second frame and a second from Duval at 4:04 of the final stanza from Gord McArthur.

For the first time since the game's five minute mark Acton took the lead as McArthur found the net from Tim Evans and Brad Manes.

Petrolia evened the count a minute and a half

later and the two teams played scoreless the remainder of the way, eight minutes of regulation time and ten minutes overtime to keep the series tied.

Coach Steve Marshall was not pleased with his team's performance over the first two periods of the contest but felt they had played good hockey over the final frame and the overtime period. "In the first two periods they did not dump the puck in and forecheck" said Marshall "and that means so much to our success."

Game four of the series spelled disaster for the local pucksters as everything they did turned into a Petrolia scoring opportunity. The Firefighters found themselves one step behind Petrolia all evening, having to fight to keep control of the puck.

Acton's lone goal came early in the third period as Tim Evans slipped a shot under Petrolia goaltender Jeff Simpson to break his shut out. Gord McArthur and Rob Vermeulen were credited with assists.

Petrolia got the goal back at the period's midpoint, bringing an early end for Firefighters starting goaltender Tim Baker and the first bit of play-off action for back-up netminder Bruce Shannon. Shannon, a minor bantam, brought the crowd to their feet giving them something to cheer about as the minute puckstopper handled several point blank Petrolia shots.

Petrolia beat Shannon only once in the final eight minutes as a low slap shot caught the corner of the net, producing an 8-1 final score, sending the Acton fans who had made the journey to Milton home in disbelief.

The fifth game of the series marked a definite improvement for the Firefighters as they attempted to prolong the series.

Acton scored what was to be their only goal of the game at the 1:50 mark of the first period as Acton

carried the play to Petrolia. Rob Vermeulen scored the goal from Gord McArthur and Mark Duval on a power-play.

Petrolia evened the count before the frame had ended as they began to play more to their own style of hockey.

Acton outshot Petrolia in the first period 10-4 but in the second frame it was all Petrolia. Acton goaltender Tim Baker made stops on shots that were labelled for corners as he kept the Firefighters in the contest with a hope they could pull off the win. As a reflection of Baker's performance in the second stanza there was no scoring despite the fact that Petrolia levelled 18 shots at him while Acton fired only two at the opposition net. The score remained tied at one.

Petrolia counted two goals early in the third period that salted away the win. Acton pressed trying to get back in the match but Petrolia goaltender Jeff Simpson was equal to any Firefighter blast.

The home side added an insurance marker into an empty Acton net with 59 seconds remaining to produce the 4-1 final score.

The team has nothing to be ashamed of," said a proud Steve Marshall of his hockey team. "They worked hard all year and gave it a hell of a try. They were beaten by a good hockey team."

Marshall had good reason to be proud of his team and facts to back up the statement that Petrolia was a good hockey team. The team that eliminated Acton in five games are three times Ontario Minor Hockey Association champions.

In 1975-76 the same Petrolia team won the all-Ontario minor pee-wee 'A' title. In 1976-77 they captured the major pee-wee 'BB' crown and last year as minor bantams they took the Ontario 'A' title. This year they are looking for a fourth.

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Sports & Recreation

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Second Section

Bowmanville cops Centennial crown, Acton eliminated in tourney semi-final

An overtime goal gave Bowmanville the tournament championship in the Acton Centennial Atom Tournament on the weekend.

The Bowmanville side topped Unionville 3-2 with a goal by Mark Hickey in extra time to wrap up the crown.

Acton played what some area fans considered their best hockey as they fought hard in an attempt to reach the final falling short when two late third period goals by Unionville sidelined them from further play, 5-3.

Acton came from behind to defeat Milton in the first round and then entertained the fans with some exciting hockey as they edged Stoney Creek, 1-0, to advance to the semi-finals.

Hespeler topped the consolation crown with a 5-2 win over Thorold.

Game One
In the first clash of the tournament Unionville served notice that they would be contenders as they scored a 5-2 win over Cambridge (Galt).

All the scoring came in the first period of the contest as Unionville built up a 3-0 lead over the first four minutes before allowing Cambridge on the board.

Mitch Carless paced the Unionville side with three goals while Terry Beauchamp scored both for Cambridge.

Game Two
Chris Harper provided steady goaltending for Stouffville as the defending champions topped Hespeler 4-0. The loss was a blessing in disguise for Hespeler who continued on in the

consolation to take the crown.

Stouffville counted once in the first, twice in the second and again in the final period.

Kevin Ferris was the only Stouffville skater to pick up two points.

Game Three
Stoney Creek scored first and then felt behind before coming on like Gangbusters to record a 5-2 win over Kitchener.

Two goals in the final 35 seconds of the first period gave Kitchener a 2-1 lead but Stoney Creek took offence storming back with four unanswered goals in the second frame recording the win.

Len McFadden scored twice for Stoney Creek with Gery Bretz counting a goal and an assist for Kitchener.

Game Four
A big third period gave Acton an opportunity to move into the championship round. Four third period goals gave Acton a 5-3 win over rival Milton.

Brad Demone paced Acton with a pair of goals while singles went to Steven Wagner, Kevin Lobsinger and Scott Phelan. David Jansen and Gord Mitchell counted two assists each with Lobsinger adding a single.

Game Five
The only game of the tournament that had to be decided by shots on goals had Orangeville nip Beamsville 5-2 on shots after the teams had sawed off at three goals each.

Orangeville scored first then allowed Beamsville to tie the score in the second

frame. Orangeville jumped up two in the third frame but allowed Beamsville two goals in the last five minutes, including one with only seven seconds left to force overtime.

Game Six
Three goals within a minute and a half lifted Saltfleet to a 4-3 win over Barrie.

Barrie counted the game's first goal early in the game but three quick goals before the period ended put Saltfleet in control.

Game Seven
In one of only two mismatches of the entire tournament, the eventual champions from Bowmanville manhandled Thorold to the tune of 10-2.

Bowmanville jumped to an early 3-0 lead but Thorold got themselves back into the victory hunt with one of their own at the 3:13 mark of the opening frame.

Bowmanville came back with six unanswered goals to give them the easy win and the right to advance in the championship round.

Peter Hughes fired four for Bowmanville while Mark Hickey added three.

Game Eight
After a slow start Niagara-on-the-Lake found their potential and the net as they skated to a 9-1 win over Hanover.

Niagara scored the first two goals of the game but Hanover came back with a single before the first period ended.

Seven straight Niagara goals over the last two periods produced what would be the last one-

sided battle of the event.

Game Nine
Hespeler did their bit for anti-regional government in the first game of second round action at the atom tourney as they topped Cambridge 3-0 to advance to the consolation semi-finals.

All scoring came in the first half of the contest as Hespeler counted twice in the first and then again early in the second.

Andy Stephenson scored two for Hespeler.

Game Ten
The defending champions from Stouffville met their match in a second round game with Unionville. Unionville, who reached the tournament final, topped Stouffville 5-2 after a quick start.

Unionville had a 3-0 lead before Stouffville was able to find the range in the middle of the second frame.

Game Eleven
Three first period goals was the margin of victory as Kitchener skated to a 3-0 win over Milton.

Jason Beliki paced Kitchener with a goal and an assist.

Game Twelve
Acton played heads-up exciting hockey in their second round match with Stoney Creek. It was to be one of the most exciting games of the weekend as the home town side scored a thrilling 1-0 win.

The lone goal of the contest came off the stick of Steven Hubbard with David Jansen assisting.

Acton goaltending combination of Mike Ormsby and Brent Connors played standout hockey as they foiled numerous Stoney Creek chances.

Game Thirteen
A goal at 2:52 of the

overtime period gave Barrie the right to advance in consolation play as they topped Beamsville 3-2.

It was Beamsville's second overtime defeat in as many games.

The teams exchanged goals with Barrie holding the lead each time.

Game Fourteen
Orangeville looked as if they would advance to semi-final play after the first period of their match with Saltfleet but a strong comeback over the final two periods enabled Saltfleet a 4-3 win.

Orangeville held a 2-0 lead after the first frame but Saltfleet led 3-2, after the second.

Game Fifteen
Hanover rebounded from a 10-2 shellacking in the first game to hang tough in second round action although falling to Thorold 3-1.

Thorold held a 2-0 lead heading into the final frame but a Hanover goal at the midway point of the period set the stage for a thrilling ending and a last minute goal by Thorold.

Game Sixteen
Bowmanville looked as if they had met their match early in the second round. Niagara-on-the-Lake scored twice in the first four minutes to give the crowd the impression that a cake walk was coming but Bowmanville had other ideas.

Bowmanville evened the count by the third minute of the second period and the two teams exchanged a pair of goals until Bowmanville broke things open with 1:50 remaining in the second period, scoring four times for an 8-4 victory.

Game Seventeen
It was a case of too little too late for Kitchener as they fought back over the final period from a 3-0 deficit only fall 4-3.

Hespeler got a pair of goals from Tom Halliwell while Gery Benki was in on all three for Kitchener with a goal and two assists.

Game Eighteen
Acton fans were in full force as their team prepared to do battle with Unionville but had little to cheer about until the 6:52 mark of the second period.

It took Unionville only seven seconds to quiet the partisan Acton crowd, as off the face-off, they broke in beating Acton goaltender Mike Ormsby.

Things got worse before they got better. Two goals later Acton started to come back.

Steven Hubbard fired the first Acton goal and then Kevin Lobsinger pulled to Acton to within one. An outstanding individual effort by Scott Phelan evened the count with seven minutes remaining and it looked as if Acton would maintain their pressure.

Three penalties within one minute cost the locals dearly as two powerplay goals put Unionville into the final.

Game Nineteen
A goal late in the second period gave Thorold a 3-2 edge and physiological advantage as they scored a 5-3 win over Barrie.

The goal with 32 seconds remaining in the second period lifted Thorold to two more goals before Barrie had regained their direction.

Game Twenty
Two powerplay goals

enabled Bowmanville to remain in the hunt for the tournament crown as they scored a 4-0 win over Saltfleet.

Bowmanville scored early and then added a second late in the middle stanza before tallying a pair over the final ten minutes.

Game Twenty-one
A quick start enabled Hespeler to walk off with the consolation final with a 5-2 win over Thorold.

Three unanswered first period markers proved to be the difference as Hespeler held Thorold scoreless until the seven minute mark of the second.

Final score
Bowmanville 3-Unionville 2.

Bruce Hikker paced the Hespeler attack with two goals and two assists.

Game Twenty-Two
The first two shots labelled at the Unionville net resulted in goals and it looked as if the final would be of the one sided kind but Bowmanville could not keep the pace allowing the Unionville side to get back into the contest with a pair of their own markers before the opening frame ended.

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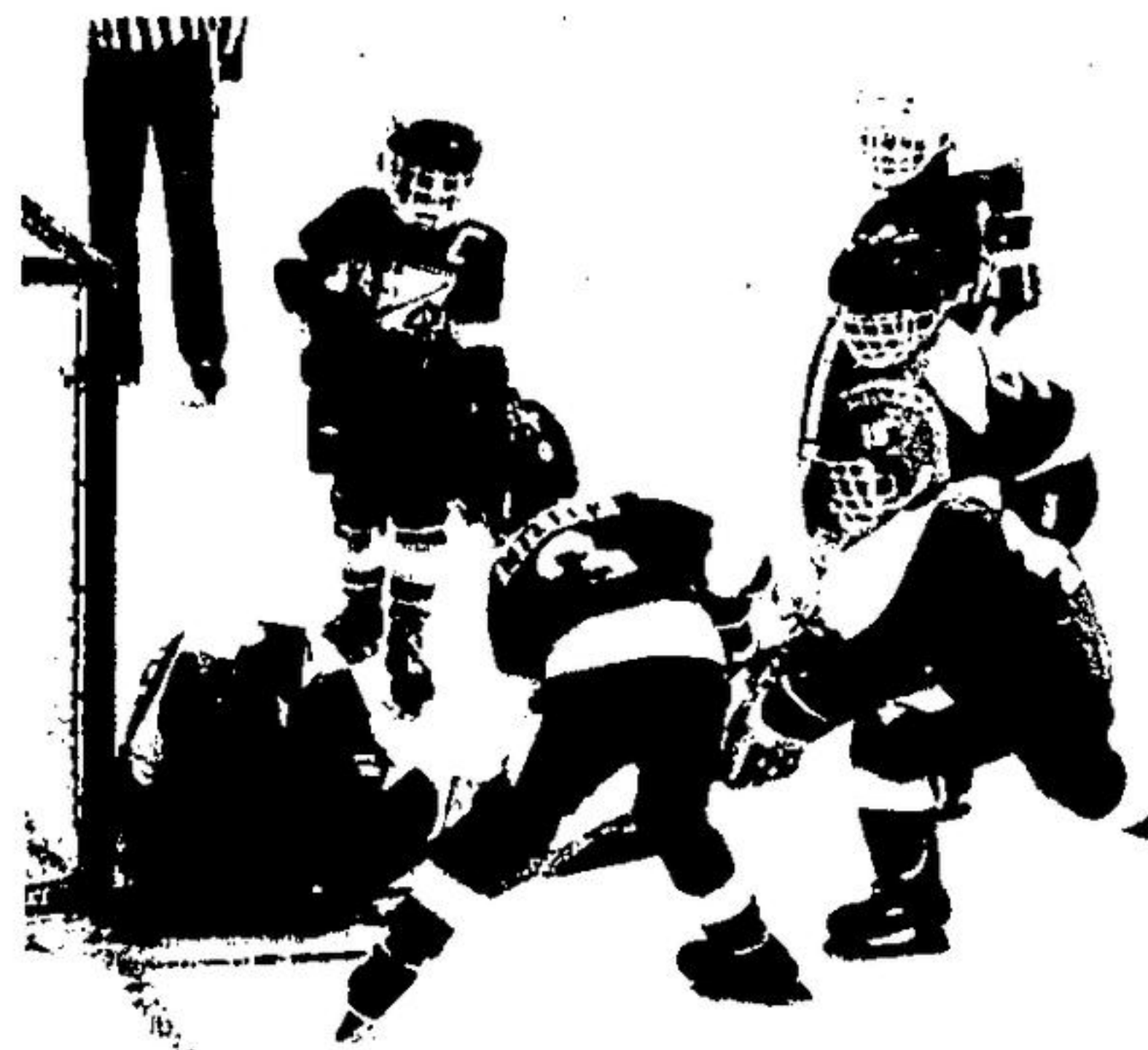
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Milton Minor Atom goaltender David Dillon covers up on a loose puck at the side of the net before Acton's Brad Demone found the handle. Demone and teammates came back from a 3-1 deficit over the final period to record a 5-3 win that put them in the championship round of the tourney. Later in the day the locals topped Stoney Creek 1-0 in a thrilling contest and advance to the semi-finals where they were edged 5-3 by Unionville.



A three man break! Bowmanville Toros assistant captain Peter Hughes (4) breaks in past the Unionville defense during the final of the Acton Centennial Atom Tournament on the weekend. Toros Kelly Haison (10) and Mike Knight (9) follow Hughes looking for a rebound. Bowmanville copped the title with a 3-2 overtime win. Hespeler won the consolation crown with a 5-2 victory over Thorold.

Halton Hills ice rent costs as high as any in region

by Gord Murray
Varying ice rental rates in Halton's four municipalities make direct comparisons difficult. However it is clear new rates for next fall place Halton Hills in the position of fighting it out with two much larger centres, Oakville and Burlington, for the most expensive ice in the region. Milton rates are much lower.

A check around Halton shows each municipality uses different formulas for ice rentals. Recently Halton Hills council quietly passed

new rates