

Peewees eye berth in final

The Acton Firefighter peewees are just one win away the Ontario Minor Hockey Association finals.

After dropping the opening game in their best-of-five semi-final to Kincardine, the local area squad has rebounded for two straight wins and are hoping to put Acton into an OMHA final for the first time in recent memory.

Kincardine gave the Firefighters all they could handle in game one as they rallied late in the third to score a 6-5 overtime win. Acton got some revenge in game two scoring an impressive 6-2 triumph and then took control of the series last Sunday with a 4-2 win in Kincardine.

Kincardine trailed all the way in game one, claiming the win with two minutes remaining in overtime.

The two sides traded goals over most of the contest with Acton taking the lead and Kincardine rallying on four occasions. Trevor Malloy led the Acton attack with

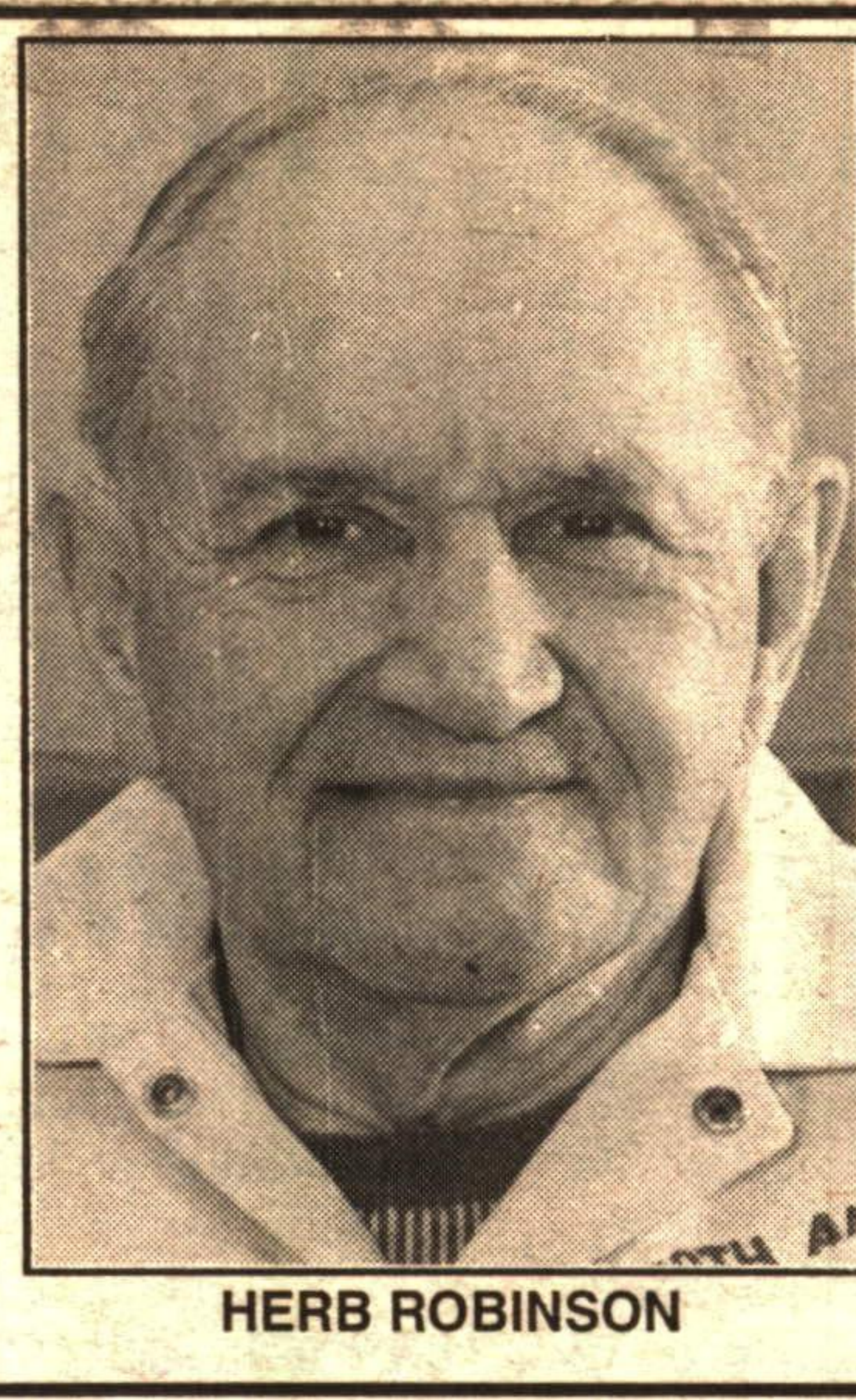
a goal and two assists while Jason Pembleton scored one and assisted on another. Matt Williams, Matt Boycott and Nick Vancek netted the others while Shawn Monaghan, Adam Duponte and Louis Mastro earned assists.

The second game belonged to the Firefighters as they rolled to a 6-2 win. Aaron Forrest led the Acton attack with a three goal performance while Pembleton notched a goal and three assists. Boycott and Scott MacDonald scored the other Acton goals while Matt Williams added a couple of assists.

The return engagement in Kincardine was a much closer contest with Acton claiming the series lead with a 4-2 win.

Matt Williams was a big playmaker for the Firefighters assisting on three, two of them coming off Pembleton's stick. Malloy and Forrest netted the others.

Game four was in Acton on Saturday.



HERB ROBINSON

Robinson to receive 15th award

Herb Robinson will join a select group of individuals Monday evening when he becomes the 15th recipient of the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Award.

Robinson will be honored by the hockey community of Georgetown along with special guests Mel Bridgman, Mike Foligno, Ron MacLean and Gerry Dobson.

HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

SPORTS

Sports

SHORTS

March Break

Looking for something to do on the March break? The local YMCA has some activities planned.

An Adventure Trip program with the YMCA will include different programs every day. Open to children ages 6 to 12 the program costs \$30 per day, busing included. For more information call 897-9622 or 1-800-661-0242.

The YMCA is also offering a ski program with lessons. Participants, age 7 to 17, can enjoy fun on the slopes at Glen Eden. The cost is \$160 without rentals or \$215 with.

Creative Capers will keep the 4 and 5 year-olds busy over the holiday. A different program will be offered each day for \$25. Call the above phone numbers for details.

Atoms edged

Georgetown Minor Atoms opened their Tri County Round Robin Playoffs with a hard fought 2-1 loss to Burlington.

The first period saw some fine defensive plays and great goaltending by Georgetown's Ryan Carter to keep the score at zero until late in the second period when Georgetown-born Chris Day, who plays for Burlington, put it in high gear and scored two goals.

Those markers went unanswered until the last minute of the game when Dan Smith took a pass from Matt Hotham to put Georgetown on the score.

Hoop hoopla

The Georgetown Ladies Basketball League, or the McCauley Ladies Basketball League as it is now known, will hold a 20th anniversary party at the Centennial Middle School gym on Wednesday, March 20, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The league is inviting all former players to attend the event and to participate in some fun, games, prizes, punch and pictures.

For more information contact Alice Ogden at 877-6976 or Wendy Wilcox at 877-6062.

Basketball battles

The A-Team has taken over top spot in the McCauley Ladies Basketball League and they showed no signs of giving it up this week as they rolled to a 77-49 win over the Slammers. The Killer C's are one point back after a 60-42 win over Time Outs while the Hoosiers kept pace with a 68-38 win over Time In.



The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders are hanging by a thread in Central Ontario Junior B playoff action, but they aren't going down without a fight. They staved off elimination on Thursday by stopping the Milton Merchants 5-2, but they still trail the series three games to one. The

heartbreaker was Tuesday night in Milton as the Raiders gave up two shorthanded goals, and a 5-3 lead in the final five minutes, suffering a 6-5 defeat. Here, Trevor Brandt (11) got a little too close to the Milton net. Brandt, a Milton native, picked up three points in the Raider win.

Raiders keep playoff hopes alive

The Milton Merchants were prepared to put the final nails in the Georgetown Chrysler Raider coffin on Thursday night at the Gordon Alcott Arena, but the local Junior B squad had different ideas.

Following a heartbreaking 6-5 defeat in Milton on Tuesday, no one would have blamed the Raiders if they had gone through the motions in game four, bowing out gracefully.

But, the Raiders have shown character all season long and they showed it again, rallying for a 5-2 and send the series back to Milton for a fifth game.

The Tuesday evening match may go a long way in determining this series. If the Raiders lose out to the first place Merchants, that one game will stick in the minds of players, coaches and executive for some time.

It looked as if the Raiders had game three clinched. They carried a 5-3 lead into the final four minutes and had the man advantage with Mike Murray sitting in the sinbin for Milton.

Just when it looked as if the Raiders would return home trailing

2-1 in the best-of-seven series, the roof caved in.

Jeff Daw scored a shorthanded marker with 3:30 to play and then Shawn Healey matched the feat and it looked as if the contest was headed to overtime.

But the Merchants weren't finished yet. Just 10 seconds after Milton got back to equal strength they struck for the winner. Clancy Seymour lit the lamp sending Milton fans home smiling.

"I thought we had it under control," admitted a disappointed Raider coach Charlie Hanman. "Everybody started trying to do someone else's job. We panicked. I think that was the most disappointed I'd ever been in a game. It was ours."

The Raiders had built their 5-3 lead with a two goal effort from Ian Ellis and singles from Jim English,

Scott Humber and Duane Lewis.

On the other side of the rink, Merchant coach Rick Bince had reason to smile. "It was a lightning strike," claimed Bince. "Georgetown had been rubbing it in when we were down by two but by the end they were devastated. It was a very emotional, draining game for me."

As devastated as the Raiders were, they weren't about to go out four straight.

They turned in a solid effort on Thursday evening, building a 5-0 third period lead before surrendering a pair of late powerplay goals, earning the right to battle again on Friday in Milton.

"We showed heart," said a smiling Hanman after game four. "We played like we are capable of playing. I can't express how I feel about our guys tonight. We knew

what to expect and we wouldn't back down."

The Raiders scored the lone goal of the opening frame with Rob Doucette finding the range from Todd McKee and Trevor Brandt.

Brandt did much of the work to put the Raiders up by two in the second and then picked up his third point of the game as Kevin Rutledge found the range.

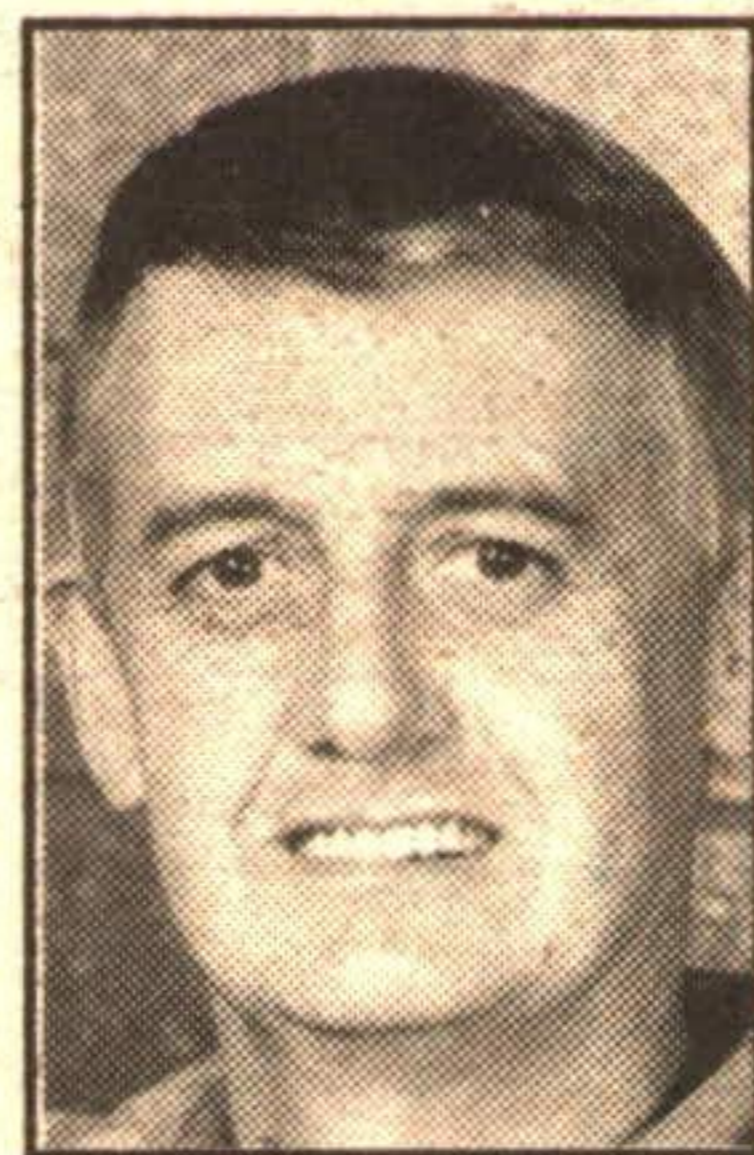
John Ventresca gave the Raiders complete control before the second period ended as McKee sent him in alone before the second period ended.

Ian Ellis notched the final Raider tally in the third before Daw broke Carmelo Giurleo's shutout bid with 9:10 remaining.

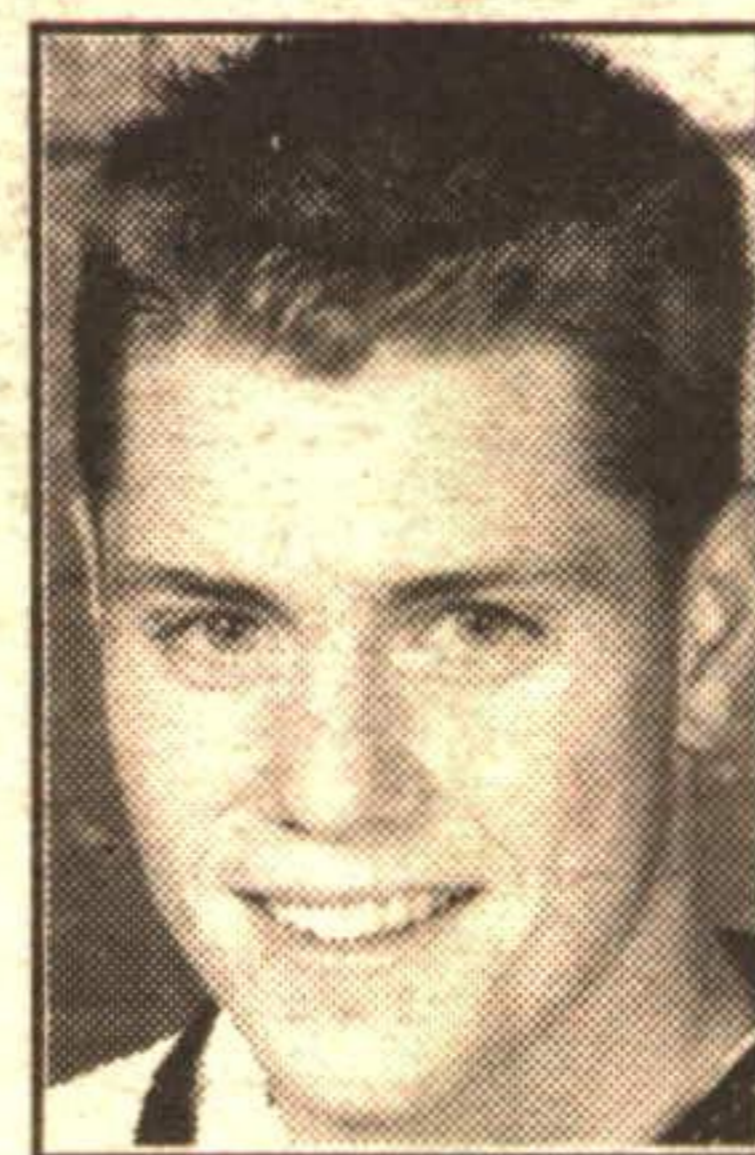
"Realistically we should be 2-2," stated Hanman as he prepared for game five on Friday night (after press deadline). "We'll have to do the same thing, exactly the same."

If the Raiders do emerge with a win they'll be back at Alcott tonight (Sunday) for a 7:30 p.m. start.

The Raiders are still looking at game seven. They hope to be back in Milton on Tuesday evening to settle the series, once and for all.



CHARLIE HANMAN



TREVOR BRANDT