



**By Fred Simpson**  
**Sport Spots**

**To The Losers**

Here's to the losers. Bless them all. Which beginning serves to remind me of the rather early demise of our beloved Richmond Hill Rams of the Provincial Junior "A" Hockey League. Not to mention the Vaughan Nats of the same league who also went down to defeat.

I could continue on to mention the Oak Ridges Kings who suffered from an overdose of trauma this past season in their first try at Junior "B" hockey in finishing 11th in a 12-team loop.

How can I go on? Here it is the end of February and I feel like a discarded old paint brush. Who snowed on my parade? What happened to those green years?

It's funny how talking about losing (especially in cold, grim February) sends my thoughts reeling back to that fateful day years ago when I lost 11 straight games. Playing marbles. There I was. One second I had a full bag of marbles, was young, happy. Then I was reduced to poverty. An empty bag.

Which is the way I feel now when I dwell on that just-completed series before the Rams and Wexford Raiders. Especially that third game which saw the Rams go down to defeat in the third overtime period.

**PENALTY-SHOT BLUES**  
If you're a fan you probably know by now that high-scoring Mike Hartman had the whole world in his hand (so to speak) when he was granted a penalty-shot in one of the overtimes with the game tied. If he scored the Rams would lead the series by three games to one.

History, of course, has recorded that Mr. Hartman ended up hitting the goalpost and that the Rams went on to lose that game and the next two.

The Rams died after that one and you can't really blame them. They might have gone on to lose the series in any case but after that marathon epic they just had nothing left.

Ditto the Nats who literally blew a 4-0 lead in a game at North Bay Friday night while leading their best-of-seven series by three games to two.

The North Bay squad came back to tie it at 4-4, win it, and then take the final one. Almost a foregone conclusion.

The moral of it all?

**NO MORAL**

No moral. The Rams ran out of gas, the Nats psyched themselves out of the series by blowing that four-goal lead.

So it goes.  
But, all in all, it was a very satisfying season and we all can't be winners. The Rams, under Coach Karl Brimblecombe, did remarkably well and there's always next season. Carry on. Which is what I'm trying to do.

**MIDGET TOURNNEY**

Which is what I'm trying to do.  
Don't forget, there's still one major blast left to winter and that's the seventh annual Richmond Hill Legion Midget Hockey Tournament which will be the biggest show in town from March 18 to 24. Thirty-two teams will be in town.

Here I go again. Dreaming.  
Anyway, Spring is coming and I know good things, winning things can't be far behind. Maybe I'll go out and buy me some marbles and start again.

**TAKE NOTE**

Anyone interested in participating and/or viewing the high-flying art of trampolining should turn out to watch the local club in action. Sez the note from Head Coach Frank Juhasz: "The Richmond Hill Trampoline Club practices every Tuesday and Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:45 pm at the Bayview High School Gymnasium."

"We cordially invite Mr. Fred Simpson to try out the trampoline and we will safely teach him to do a seat bounce."  
Seat bounce? Do it all the time in my Maverick.

Besides, who's Fred Simpson?

**SEE OUR WANT ADS.**

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**Think Make Believe**

**March 18**

**Gymnastic Course At Nobleton School**

Nobleton Senior Public School will be the scene of a gymnastics school March 18 to 22 featuring some of Canada's most notable instructors.

The school, under the direction of John Laughlin, is unique in that it will feature individualized attention with one instructor for every six students.

There will be excellent facilities with a double gymnasium and two additional large teaching areas plus an abundance of equipment.

The calibre and capability of the instructors' teaching at the school will be exceptional.

Instructing will be Marilyn Savage, who was Canada's Olympic Coach from 1968 to 1972. She will specialize in attendance instructing on the balance beam and will also assist the students in routine composition.

Tom Zivic, the head of York University Gymnastics and Men's Canadian National Coach, will be instructing in vaulting and tumbling.

Tamara Bompia, Canada's national coach for women in modern dance will be handling the dance aspect of floor exercise.

The Tramp Champs, featuring Jack Weber and Wayne King (Junior and Senior Canadian Trampoline Champs) will be instructing in basic and advanced trampolining.

As well as the above instructors, there will be eight additional teachers with top qualifications in vaulting, trampolining, horizontal bar,

parallel bars, uneven parallel bars, uneven parallels, balance beam, floor exercise and tumbling.

Each student registering will be exposed to five pieces of apparatus per day with the last 45 minutes devoted to giving the student a chance to specialize in the pieces of apparatus of his or her choice.

The school is located on Highway 27, one half mile north of the King Sideroad. A bus service will be run for those students having difficulty arranging transportation.

However, bus stops and pick up areas are subject to change with registration.

The school will run daily from Monday to Friday during the week of March 18-22 from 9 am to 12:30 pm.

There is no restriction on age.

The school is co-educational but students will be grouped according to sex and ability. Registration fee is \$45 for the week and may be paid in full or with a \$20 deposit with the balance due March 11.

In order that the ratio of six students to one instructor will be maintained registration will be limited to a maximum of 75 students so early registration is suggested to avoid disappointment.

Registration forms and brochures giving additional information may be obtained by writing Mr. Laughlin or phoning him at Aurora at 727-2043 (after 5:30 pm) or at work at 859-4590 from 9 am to 3 pm.

**Tournaments Defeat Thornhill Third Round OMHA Playdowns**

Tournaments Inc took the third series of the OMHA playdowns by defeating Thornhill three games to one in the best of five series. They now will play against a northern town in the next series but the exact opposition is not yet known.

In the series against Thornhill, Tournaments took the first game 5-2 and lost the second 4-3. They won the third game 4-1 and the fourth game 4-2.

**Tournaments 5, Thornhill 3**  
In the first game, played February 16, the greenmen went to Markham and came back with a victory. The red machine couldn't do right, the greenmen couldn't do wrong.

Tournaments scored three times while shorthanded in a passing and skating game which saw every boy work hard.

"Digger" Steve Bowers started the ball rolling with a pretty goal from Gary Gentry. Tommy Pedden from Phil Wood and a lot of hard work from Stan Norman resulted in tally number two. A boomer from Frank Nigro unassisted was number three. Another solo effort from Danny Girard was number four. Gentry from Nigro netted number five.

**Playoff Trail Ends For Outmanned Rams**

The Richmond Hill Provincial Junior "A" Rams suffered a fuel shortage in their final two games of the 1973-74 seasonal playoffs with Wexford Raiders.

In fact: They simply ran out of gas. End result was a 7-4 and 4-2 loss which spelled doom to the Rams in the first round of the playoffs for the second straight season despite their share of thrill providing.

The Wednesday and Friday night losses followed on the heels of a marathon three over-time period 4-3 loss to Wexford Tuesday night of last week and resulted in the Rams losing their best-of-seven playoff four games to two.

It was the same story last season as they were downed by Vaughan Nationals by the same four games to two result.

Wexford's Coach Steve Tobias probably pinpointed the results of the final three games when he commented after Friday's final game that:

**BIG DIFFERENCE**  
"I feel the big difference in those final three games was the fact that we had 18 players all receiving the same ice-time against Richmond Hill's five or six outstanding players who were trying to carry the burden."

He acknowledged that the longer the series went the weaker the Rams' chances were.

"We were fairly free of injuries," he said, "while the Richmond Hill team were having their problems this way. Then again we've been coming on very strong since Christmas and it seems to me we peaked at the proper time."

He used Richmond Hill's high-scoring star Mike Hartman as a prime example of his theory.

"Mike didn't score in the last three or four games because he was simply pooped out. Especially in the third period of each of those games. That's the story of the series."

That final game saw Wexford's Dan Tobias opening the scoring at 12:31 of the first period assisted by Andy Vince. Just 24 seconds later it was Vince beating the Rams' Douglas Brumwell assisted by Nick Fiore.

**CONTROL PLAY**  
There was no scoring in the second period as the Raiders were content to control the play.

In the third period Graham Hall put the visitors out in front 3-0 at 10:42 assisted by Tim Regan.

The Rams kept plugging and it paid off at 17:03 as Jim Roffey scored on a pass from Dave Dunkley.

Then came Coach Carl Brimblecombe's big "all or nothing at all" gamble as he removed Goalie Brumwell with about three minutes left for a sixth attacker with the score 4-1.

The move backfired 40 seconds later as Wexford's Steve Major sent Paul DeMarco away to slide the puck into the empty net.

Back came Brumwell. Then with but 37 seconds left "Digger" Dunkley put the puck behind Steve Napier to make it 4-2. Bob Bangay and Jack Guest assisted on the play.

**The Raiders open their best-of-seven series with North Bay Trappers tonight (Wednesday) at Hyland Arena at 8:15 pm.**

**Rams Lose 7-4 Wexford**  
Wednesday's 7-4 loss in Wexford saw the Rams starting strong in the first period but gradually running out of gas.

They were in the battle until the final minute of the second period when Wexford leading 3-2 the Raiders struck for two goals in 14 seconds and it was all over.

The Rams scored twice in the final 20 minutes but Wexford also rapped home two.

**Wexford outshot the Rams 32-21 on the game with the first period fairly even although Wexford had nine shots on Brian Stankiewicz while Steve Napier was handling five.**

The Rams got off to a promising start with Dave Stuart scoring on a power-play at 4:11 off a neat three-way passing performance with Rick Febbo and Mike Hartman.

Wexford got the goal back at 11:14 with Big Bill Hassard beating Stankiewicz on a pass from Rob Trimble.

The battling Rams moved into a 2-1 lead at 3:38 of the middle period when Ernie Takeuchi, back in the line-up after receiving a concussion earlier in the series, broke in alone to score unassisted.

That goal ignited Wexford instead of the Rams and they went on to score four straight unanswered goals before the period ended.

Bruce Carrigan scored at 12:53; Peter Sands at 17:41 with the Killers being goals by Andy Vince at 19:26 and Graham Hall at 19:40.

Dave "Digger" Dunkley got Rams' third goal of the game at the beginning of the third period at 2:28 with Neil Burns getting that one back at 6:14.

Sands got the seventh goal at 10:05 with Febbo scoring the final one at 14:08 unassisted.



(Photo by Susan Samilla)

**Bountiful Season!**

Richmond Hill Rams centreman hockey star Mike Hartman reaps the rewards of a bountiful season as he receives the Richmond Hill Town Auto Body Trophy for leading the team in scoring this season with a total of 54 goals in 44 games during the regular season. Making the pre-game presentation is Rams' President Harold Barnett. Hartman also was presented with another trophy sponsored by Alliance Sporting Goods for being adjudged the most valuable player on the team as selected by his teammates.

**Little Kings Win Four Of Five Tilts**

The Victoria Square Lions Club Little Kings won four out of five games downing Keswick 1-0, Schomberg 3-0, King 9-0, and Oro 3-1. Their one loss was 4-1 to Oro.

The Kings finished second in league action one point behind first place Keswick. They open their playoffs Wednesday of this week against Schomberg at Bond Lake Arena with the second game in Schomberg March 2 and the third one in Oak Ridges March 3.

**DON'T DELAY IN PAYING YOUR LIBERAL CARRIER.**

**CALLING ALL GIRLS!**

Richmond Hill Minor Ball Association announces tryouts for its girls' town rep. softball teams. All tryouts are at Crosby School at the following times.

**JUVENILE MIC MACS (17-18 YRS.)**  
Wednesday Evenings 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
**BANTAM BEETLES (13-14 YRS.)**  
Monday Evenings 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

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