Rams near basement, but spirits not damp

By Fred Simpson Living in the basement apartment area of the Provincial Junior 'A' Hockey League is definitely not Richmond Hill Rams' Coach Karl Brimblecombe's idea of the good life. But it's not dampening his

"There's not a doubt in my mind we're going to break out," Coach Brimblecombe was saying in the wake of last week's Tuesday night 6-6 tie with the Dixie

He was still inclined to ponder over Dixie's late defensively." goal which snatched away what seemed to be an exciting and much-needed win for the still struggling ninth place Rams.

It came seconds after Goalie Doug Brumwell made a cliffhanger grab of a sizzler from the stick of Dixie's Dave Large who had sailed onto his door-step unimpeded by any Richmond Hill defenders.

That looked like the stop

members expect from him.

themselves.

to have here.

I am."

tomorrow.

that would save the game. Then came a face-off and the same Large latched onto the puck and, believe it or not, pulled the same routine. The Rams co-operated by

not being there and this time Large easily lifted the puck past a helpless Brumwell at 17:35. Groan. It was Large's second goal of the night. Missed assignment

"It was simply a case of someone missing his assignment," said Brimblecombe. "That's been happening all too often with us. We've been far too loose

While the defence has suffered some mental lapses in its own end, Coach Brimblecombe doesn't hang the entire blame on them.

"Your defence can't do the job unless your forwards are coming back to help them and we've also been lax that way."

Tuesday night's Dixie encounter was typical of the Rams' play most of the season to date. They outshot the visitors 40 to 28 but were

Fred Simpson

Fate is a curler

Twenty-three-year-old Thornhiller Ron Clark is

You see, Ron has been a member himself for the

"I never thought too much of curling in those

days", he was saying the other afternoon from the

mellow confines of the spacious lounge at the

club quarters on Elgin Mills Road East. It was

only fitting for the occasion that a ladies game

of hack and house was underway on the six rinks

located beyond the glass. They were enjoying

and it was my father who finally dragged me down.

It was one of those father and son sessions they used

swinging a broom. I tried it, caught the bug, and here

FEVER

doesn't look like a fun game to watch but once you

you know what an addict I am. Just have to toss a

rock and sweep a broom one of these days. Maybe

at Humber College for three years," explained Ron.

"I took a job in Hamilton and worked there while still

living at home in Thornhill and curling here in my

spare time. Then the position came open here and it

been married for three months. Guess where he met

wife Jane? Right. She was busy throwing a rock at

together. This is a particular help because it's a new

job for me and I have to spend quite a bit of time

here. I have no average day. For example,

sometimes I get here at 9 am and leave at midnight.

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ladies had finished their game by this time, had

gathered in the lounging area. "Is the bar open?"

start mixing while I sat and mulled over curling.

Sometimes Ron is also an instant bartender. The

This was a signal for Ron to excuse himself and

I gather that the Richmond Hill club prides itself

As Ron explained it, everyone is welcome. There

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on being a fun thing. It has prestige but it doesn't

are special days for juniors, ladies' leagues, in-

vitationals, men's, and mixed curling. Always handy

Ron, who is a lifelong resident of Thornhill, has

"Jane's an avid curler and we're often here

play it you're on your way to becoming an addict.

brooms have shaped Ron's destiny to date.

was offered to me. I took it."

the Richmond Hill club.

It depends.

questioned one.

resolve around "prestige".

and watch the action on the ice.

Enter the destiny bit again.

"My mother and father were original members

"I couldn't see the point of throwing rocks and

The "bug" just about describes curling fever. It

Ron had to explain the way the game works so

It would be no exaggeration to say rocks and

"I took a business management training course

the new manager of the Richmond Hill Curling Club

and he should have no trouble knowing what the

past seven years. Sort of grew up to the job.

centre-men and can fly. The coach is also satisfied with the third line of Mike Rowley, Jim Graham and Steve Glover.

surprise.

him a lot.

Another

missing Jimmy Clement who fills a regular spot and that's been causing some confusion with line changes Glover missed Tuesday's game with the

tie in the final few minutes.

They trailed 2-0 at one

fired home three goals.

scoring punch from Febbo

who "has been a most

pleasant surprise this

Febbo scoring

hitter and now he's scoring

and playing fine hockey as

well. Of course, he's always

had a hard shot so you can't

really say the scoring is a

Brimblecombe figures

placing Febbo at centre

between Larry Kimble and

Mitch Edwards has helped

Brimblecombe's decision to

put Street between Dunkley

and Stuart. Both Dunkley

plus was

"Febbo has always been a

"Digger" with one.

That game saw Richmond Hill Minor Midget Ron



RICK FEBBO Three goals

The eighth Richmond Hill

still lucky to come out with a Abernathy filling in Glover's left wing spot and playing very creditably.

Brimblecombe feels his defensive corps is rounding Leading the Rams' offensive was Rick Febbo who into shape with the acquisition of Scott Mabley, Right behind was Kevin a Richmond Hill minor Street with two and Dave hockey product who tried out with the NHL Washington entry, and Coach Brimblecombe has been getting considerable

Randy Herrington. Herrington is a winger turned defenceman and last season played junior hockey in Philadelphia. Two years ago he was an all star entry with Ajax in the Provincial

Junior A loop. 'Randy's just returned from the States and he's got to help us on the blueline. He has good moves and he's not afraid to mix it up.'

Brimblecombe is expecting great things from hard-hitting Jim Roffey who has been ailing with a bad hand since the season

"I can only repeat myself," concluded Brimblecombe. "This club and Stuart are former will be heard from before too long.'

The Rams had most of last week off and are slated to play Seneca Friday night at Seneca at 7:30 and then go to "Don't forget, we're North Bay Sunday for a 7:30 pm game.

Pro	vinc	ial,	Juni	or	A			
	G	W	L	T	F	A	P	
North Bay	14	9	4	1	83	63	19	
Seneca	12	9	2	1	63	43	19	
Aurora	13	7	3	3	74	55	17	
North York	14	8	6	0	66	67	16	
Whitby	13	7	5	1	67	48	15	
Wexford	11	7	3	1	59	44	15	
Markham	10	3	1	6	37	39	12	
Dixie	12	3	6	3	50	73	9	
Tor, Nats	10	4	6	0	52	48	8	
Richmond						10		
Hill	11	3	7	1	40	60	7	
Royal York	12	2	10	0	53	74	4	
Weston	12	0	9	3	4	71	3	
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	G	W	L	T	F	A	P	
Bramalea	10	8	1	1	58	30	17	
Wexford	11	7	3	1	63	39	15	
Red Wings	10	5	3	2	39	43	12	
St. Michael's	11	5	6	0	52	56	10	
North York	12	4	7	1	55	66	9	
Etobicoke	9	4	5	0	49	53	8	
Nationals	12	1	10	1	35	64	3	
E		n n			0.3	10,000	133	

11 1 8 2 44 100 Monday's Result North York 5, Tor. Nationals 3

Big midget tournament here March 24 to 30

International Midget Hockey Tournament will commence on March 24, 1975, with 32 Canadian and US teams participating under a revised set of Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) rules. Date of the annual seven day North American midget shinny shindig was set at a meeting held last week

attended by Marsh Amos, president of Tournaments Inc.: Bob Reeves, president of the Richmond Hill Hockey Association; Doug Hopson, president of Branch 375 Royal Canadian Legion and 14 members of the tournament organizing committee.

Secretary Don Bromley reported at the meeting that from 96 dispatched invitations, 30 teams have so far requested entry and would be considered when final selections are made by the committee in January.

Tourney president Marsh Amos stated that increased arena ice rental costs, increased trophy costs and increased food costs have, in turn, forced up team registration fees to \$50. He said, however, that no increase in public admission to the tourny at the Richmond Hill arena is en-

visaged at this time. The 1975 tournament schedule will also be revised to cater to local residents who last year complained of missing much of the action because of games being played during the evening supper hour. Final games of the evening will be scheduled to commence at either 7 or 7:30 pm.

Some concern was expressed over the recently revised OMHA rules which provide an automatic following game suspension upon a midget team which accumulates a total of 36 minutes in penalty time in a preceding game.

This rule, which presumably is aimed at curbing typical Ali -Foreman midget ice follies, is sure to distress teams which frequently run up some 26 minutes in minor penalties. A major penalty would severely handicap such a team in that it would be disqualified from its next tournament game, and their scheduled opponent would presumably be awarded a Bye"

However, as one com mittee member said. "A team could win the tournament on byes. Any disgruntled team on their way out could easily provoke their opponents, who may be on the razors edge, into a disqualifying

The revised Ontario rules will be sent to all Canadian Provinces and United States teams which enter the 1975 tournament.

took the championship winning 36 and losing 7 and honors again.

His season record was still pretty impressive as he started 33 games and came up with 22 wins and seven losses for an earned run average of 1.45. He struck out 342 batters.

But it wasn't vintage

Vintage Domik

Vintage Domik was in 1972 strikeouts a game enroute to

moments with the Jewellers over the years. I'm looking forward to an even better season and maybe we'll be back in the Canadian again." Domik claims he's in as good a form as he was two years ago in the World's

something about it.

League.

a pitching mainstay with the

Jewellers for seven years

before changing into a

Newmarket Rays jerseys of

the Ontario Fastball

"I'm happy to be back," said Domik. "I've had a lot

of success and good

championship in Manila which was won by Richmond Hill via a 2-1 verdict over the favored United States. Domik was selected as the top pitcher in the tournament.

"I'm throwing as hard as I did then," he said. "My playing weight is around 225 pounds, down from 240 to 250. I intend to keep it that

Top Pitcher

The 30-year-old Domik will be joining the Jewellers fresh from an impressive season with the Rays which followed a somewhat shaky one with Richmond Hill because of illness.

Domik won the Most Valuable Pitcher award in the OFL loop which is considered the top fastball league in Canada comprising such potent teams as Burlington, Oshawa Tony's (1974 Canadian champions), Toronto Globals, London and St. Catharines.

He won 20 games, lost only three in league play, and led the league with an earnedrun average of 1:06, better than the Globals' fireballing Pete Landers who came up with a 1.08 average. He struck out 208 batters.

In his last season with the Jewellers Domik suffered from a prolonged bout with ulcers which finally felled him in the All Canadian at Hull which saw getting into just one game - and winning it - as Richmond Hill



RICHMOND HILL

THORNHILL . AURORA



Dynes Manager Russell "Casey" Cripps; Veteran Sta Outfielder Mickey Hancock; and Sponsor Vern Dynes. Domik was a member of the Jewellers for seven years before joining Newmarket in the their first "win" in signing Newmarket Rays' pitcher Bob Domik. Ontario Fastball League last season where he was selected the Domik (seated) is shown putting his name to a Dynes contract while he's ringed by enthusiasm in the persons of (left to right) league's most valuable pitcher.

Star hurler Bob Domik rejoins Dynes Jewellers

Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers got a taste of the also-ran life in the fastball wars last season and obviously didn't like it a bit. They decided to do

The first step came last week with the return of veteran Bob Domik who was

Domik.

when he averaged 15

striking out 593 batters. His earned run average was "I enjoyed my season with

the Rays," said Domik. "The competition was very stiff and that keeps you mentally up for every game." Domik also threw a no-hitter at Hamilton.

"I changed my pitching attitude slightly with the Rays," he said. "In other years I've tended to bear

down on the first four or five batters and ease up on the bottom of the order. "With the new designated

hitter ruling you couldn't do that as readily. I decided to challenge every hitter faced. No easing up and I think it helped me. I didn't give up a homerun in regular league play. believe it was because I challenged every batter.'

While Domik enjoyed his one year stint at

Newmarket, he didn't particularly like all the travelling. "Richmond Hill's a shorter drive." "Newmarket Manager

Ray Twinney is a great guy and I'm just sorry we couldn't win it all for him. It was a good ball club." Domik is hoping the

Jewellers "can put it all together this season and maybe get some of the fellows back who were with us before. I saw the (continued on Page 20)

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