

Thunder Bay: Rosetown Champs

Dump Thornhill by 4-1 score in tourney final

By Fred Simpson
Darn. Almost had a winner. And "almost" was the story for the Thornhill Fisher Bros. Monday afternoon of last week at the fourth annual Richmond Hill Lions Rosetown Peewee hockey tournament.

They rambled through three straight wins to reach the "A" finals only to fall by 4-1 to a determined and talented Thunder Bay squad. Thunder Bay did it by winning four straight.

It was still one of the more impressive showings for an area club in tournament play in recent seasons as some 1,300 spectators took in the competitions at the local arena.

Winners in the consolation "B" division was Oshawa who a lot of people tabbed as the team to beat at the start of the tournament. They downed Owen Sound 4-2 in their finals.

Oooh! Oh yes, about the Richmond Hill Lion Peewees. Well, they didn't do so good. After winning their first outing rather handily by 6-1 over Vanier they went on to meet Thunder Bay and did everything wrong falling by a 9-2 score. Just not their day.

But they received a modicum of consolation by losing to Thunder Bay who proved to be the dominant club throughout the play as they opened with a narrow 2-1 win over Oshawa, then bombed Richmond Hill, defeated Peterboro 7-4 before meeting head-on with the "big Red" from Thornhill in the finals.

Enroute to the finals Thornhill had looked just as impressive downing Owen Sound 5-1 in the opener, then blanking Newmarket by 3-0 and Amherst by 8-0.

That last game saw Thornhill get the first shot on the net as they came out storming but the picture changed soon after that. Thunder Bay's Terry Goodman got a quick break and in a resultant scramble around Goalie John Morris the puck came to Mickey Bohonis and he popped it in.

Tough checking
That seemed to set the tenor of play from thereon in as Thornhill kept driving to the attack only to be checked tenaciously whenever they were around the Thunder Bay defensive area. Then, zing, Thunder Bay would break out and Thornhill was in trouble. Thornhill outshot Thunder Bay 39-23.

There was seven minutes left in the second period when Thunder Bay made it 2-0 as Ken Latta sailed in alone from centre ice and whizzed a riser past Goalie Morris.

Pearson scores
Thornhill's flagging hopes received a lift seconds after the third period opened as Kurt Pearson took a quick pass from Todd McKnight and fired it home from left wing.

This stirred Thornhill up all over again but they continued to run into a forest of sticks and legs whenever in scoring position in the Thunder Bay end.

The chiller came with 7:22 left in the game when John Milani swept down left wing and blistered a drive which

Goalie Morris caught but couldn't hold as it bounced into the net. Thunder Bay almost scored again minutes later when Bohonis hit the post on a shot.

Thornhill's Mark Wiltshire's hard drive was the only real threat by the losers after that but it was gloved easily by the Thunder Bay goalie.

A last second bid to get back in the game backfired as Thunder Bay's Mark Prezio put the puck in an empty Thornhill twine.

No dismay
Undismayed by it all was Thunderbird Coach John Morris who observed that "we were up against a pretty good club. After the game my players were telling me just how rough it was to get in good position around their net. They were on us all the time."

He added that "I felt we didn't get too many breaks in the last period but that's part of the game, too. Our guys gave all they had."

It was a different story in the romp against Amherst as the Thunderbirds led 3-0 going into the third and rapped home five to win running away in the chippy game.

The first two periods saw Paul Howson scoring from Richard Seeley and Jim Jones; and Duhee Lee unassisted; and Lee again from Kurt Pearson. In the third it was Todd McKnight backhanding one home from Paul Myers and Lee; and the same McKnight from Lee to make it 5-0.

Steve Sim made it 6-0 as he dribbled one over the line with Dante Anderson getting the assist. Sim scored again from Mark Wiltshire and Paul Myers completed the shambles from McKnight with only a few minutes left.

Morris, two shutouts
It was the second straight shutout for Goalie Morris who is the team's only regular netminder. He played solidly throughout the tournament.

The game saw the Amherst goalie Mark Freeland thrown out when he over-reacted on a goal and also saw a number of other Amherst players walking into penalties in displays of temperament and frustration.

Oshawa wins
The "B" championship game saw Oshawa lead 1-0 in the first and 2-0 in the second only to have a spunky Owen Sound crew tie it going into the third. Oshawa wrapped it up in the third with Jim Michaud's second goal and one by John Fanning.

Oshawa's other goal went to Mike Boivin. Owen Sound's two goals were scored by Robbie Curlew and Fred Hemstock.

The "A" champion Thunder Bay squad received the H. J. Mills Trophy and Oshawa the Dr. Cam Cowan Memorial Trophy. All four finalists receive Rosetown pins as presented by the tournament committee headed by George Byres.

Finally
Finally, the Richmond Hill-Thunder Bay contest was really no contest as the Lions couldn't get untracked all day.

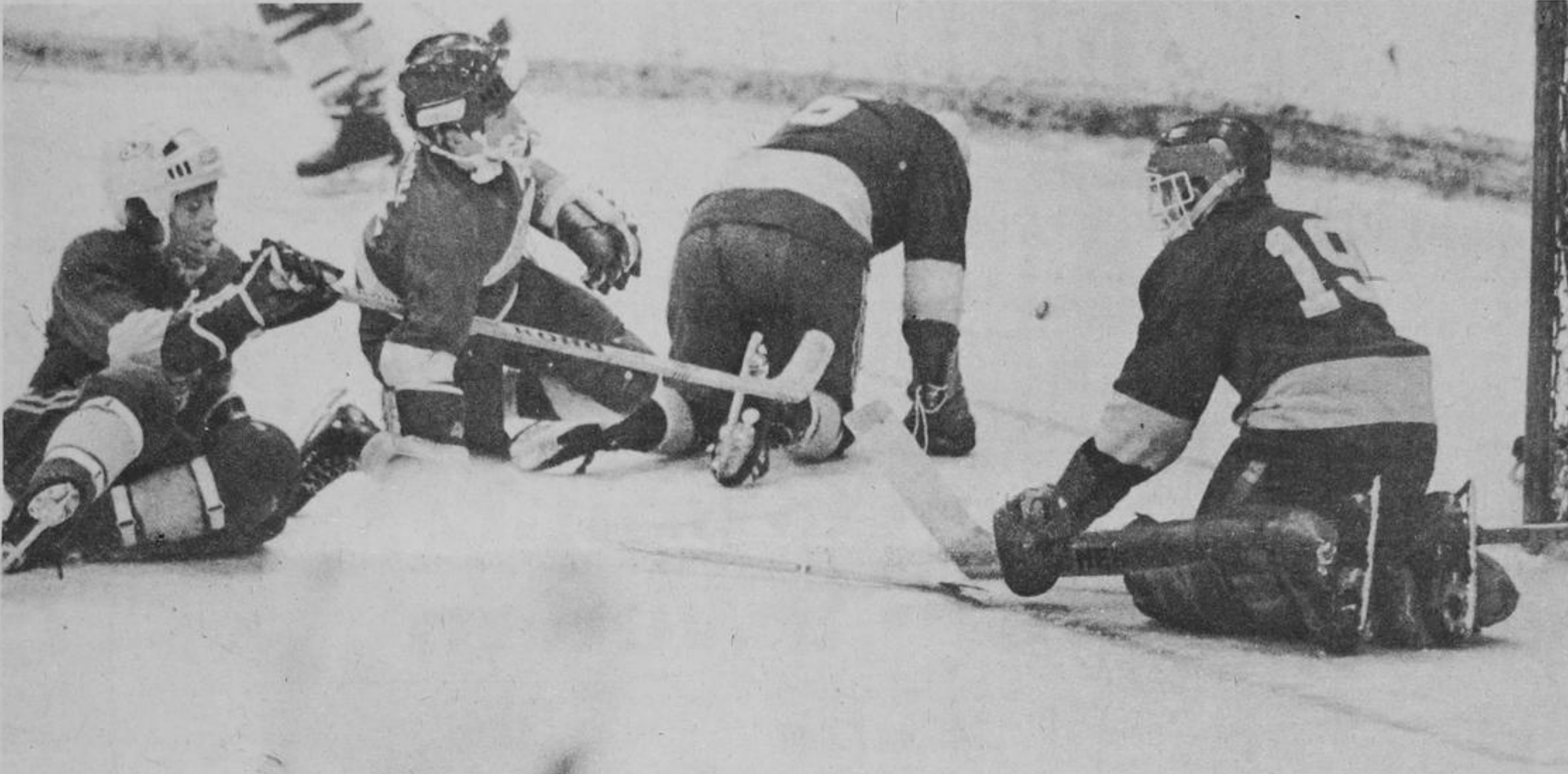
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Hectic action here as Thunder Bay Goalie Dale Romanchuk puts one of his big pads over the puck while Thornhill's Kurt Pearson (14) tries to dig it out. Making sure the puck stays where it

is are two other Thunder Bay players. Thunder Bay kept the puck out too many times for Thornhill Fisher Brothers as they went on to win the game 4-1 and the grand championship.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1975 *sports*



Just one of those frustrating days for Thornhill as another pile-up in front of Thunder Bay goalie Dale Romanchuk spells no goal for the Fisher Brothers Peewees. This turned out to be the story

most of the way with Thornhill doing most of the shooting and Thunder Bay most of the scoring.

Photos
by
Bruce Hogg
and
James Daw



Richmond Hill Lions' President Danny Boyle goes down the line to present "tournament pins" to the Thornhill Fisher Brothers Peewees who wound

up second in the big fourth annual three day Richmond Hill Lions' Rosetown Invitational Peewee hockey tournament.



A familiar game-over ritual is performed as members of the Oak Ridges and Amherst teams leave the ice. Oak Ridges, incidentally, lost a toughie

by a 5-4 score in one of the opening games of the tournament.

'Storm' Hill wallop Lions by big 9-2



That low down feeling is clearly exhibited on the face of Richmond Hill Peewee Lions' Eric "Rocky" Rockart. Things just didn't go too well. Richmond Hill got bombed 9-2 by the powerful Thunder Bay crew.

Complete Game Results

- Saturday**
Whitby 6, Aurora 2
Amherst 5, Oak Ridges 4
Thornhill 5, Owen Sound 1
Newmarket 5, Humberview 3
Finchurst 2, Markham 1
Peterboro 8, Don Valley 0
Richmond Hill 6, Vanier 1
Thunder Bay 2, Oshawa 1
- Sunday**
"A" Division
Amherst 7, Whitby 6
Thornhill 3, Newmarket 0
Peterboro 4, Finchurst 2
Thunder Bay 9, Richmond Hill 2
- "B" Division**
Aurora 4, Oak Ridges 2
Owen Sound 4, Humberview 1
Markham 3, Don Valley 2
Oshawa 15, Vanier 0
- Monday**
"A" Semi-finals
Thornhill 8, Amherst 0
Thunder Bay 7, Peterboro 4
- "B" Semi-finals**
Owen Sound 3, Aurora 1
Oshawa 5, Markham 1
- "A" Finals**
Thunder Bay 4, Thornhill 1
- "B" Finals**
Oshawa 4, Owen Sound 2



In one of his final acts as Richmond Hill mayor, William Lazenby offers his congratulations to the Grand Championship winning Thunder Bay boys as well as presents special tournament pins to the victors.



Taking Thornhill's defeat all in her stride is this young girl who figures the best way of getting rid of your frustrations is to take time out for a popcorn snack.