

Fred Simpson

Hockey game a disaster

By Fred Simpson
Some 800 spectators witnessed probably the most ridiculous game in the

history of Richmond Hill hockey last night at the local arena. Certainly in the history of

the eight-year-old Richmond Hill international midget hockey tournament. It was only incidental that

the local Legion Midget team lost the game (?) by a 9-2 score and were eliminated from further tournament

play by the Oakville Rangers. The real losers had to be the spectators and anyone

near or remotely involved with the mess that went on out there. Some of the things that happened:

And then team captain Mike Gallagher gave the crowd a thrill when he was tripped going in on goal and was given a penalty shot.

Footloose at the Arena

Okay, okay, I know one swallow doesn't make a season. But we at least won that first one.

I'm talking about the Richmond Hill Legion Midgets' 4-0 win over Whitby Monday night in the eighth annual international midget hockey tournament.

Sure, sure, I know it's way too early to get excited. That a local team has never won the tournament in these eight, long years.

However, I do have my little dream each year at this time. Maybe this is the year?

Wandered into the somewhat early-morning emptiness of the local arena Tuesday and chatted with the be-hatted Midget Coach Sil Steffan. He was observing the first game of the day in a somewhat happy if guarded frame of mind.

He tossed out a few comments as I fought off the results of my first coffee of the day, which is always a convulsive experience.

We make our own coffee at the office and what's left over we use to patch up chinks in the walls, floors, etc.

So far, so good

"I was very happy with the way the team went," he said. "I thought we followed our game plan pretty well. We checked them, stuck to our wings, and, for the most part, stayed out of the penalty box."

"And," he added, "there wasn't a free-loader on the team. Everyone hustled. I just hope they keep it up."

Enter Robert

The chatter drifted to other subjects such as 14-year-old Robert McKenzie who has adopted the Legion midget team for the week. Robert is a Quebecer from Drummondville.

"He arrived out of the blue last year when we were at the Drummondville tournament," Sil stated. "He asked to be our water boy and we haven't been without him since. This past trip to Drummondville saw him showing up again."

"He stayed with us throughout the tournament and he was actually in tears when we lost in Drummondville," added Sil. "So we decided to bring him down to the Richmond Hill tournament for the week."

Happy to meet you

The "just about five foot tall" Robert arrived via train Monday and was picked up by the Legion trainer Bill Dennett. Bill has a heavy strain of Scotch running through his veins and young Robert is a little uncertain with his English. They got along, well, pretty well.

Big moment

Robert's big moment came Monday night when he skated out with the Legion players, took a few shots on goal, and was introduced to the large crowd in attendance. He also received a small trophy.

He'll be here for the rest of the week and, as Sil puts it, "I hope we'll be here, too."

Eddie Shack

Oh yes, I should mention that the one and only Edward "The Entertainer" Shack will be in attendance at the Friday night games courtesy of Wilson Niblett Motors.

Eddie, who is a sales representative with the local firm, will drop the official puck at 7 pm.

Let's see now, that's about it for now.

It's still too early to get too excited about the Legions' chances and-or that of the Thornhill Midgets.

Just have to stay around and see what happens in this final big week of hockey.

Maybe I'll try another cup of that coffee. See you later. Maybe.

Alliance Juves backs to wall clip Trenton 7-3

The Richmond Hill Alliance Sports Juveniles fought back from the brink of elimination Sunday night with a 7-3 win over Trenton after losing the first three games of their best-of-seven OMHA hockey semi-finals.

A fifth game will be played at the Richmond Hill Arena tomorrow night (Thursday) at 8:30 pm.

Sunday's game saw Richmond Hill start out strong and maintain the pace throughout the full game.

The first period saw John Oakley opening the scoring as he bounced one in off the post on a set-up by Jeff Miller. Trenton tied the score with just two minutes remaining in that opening period.

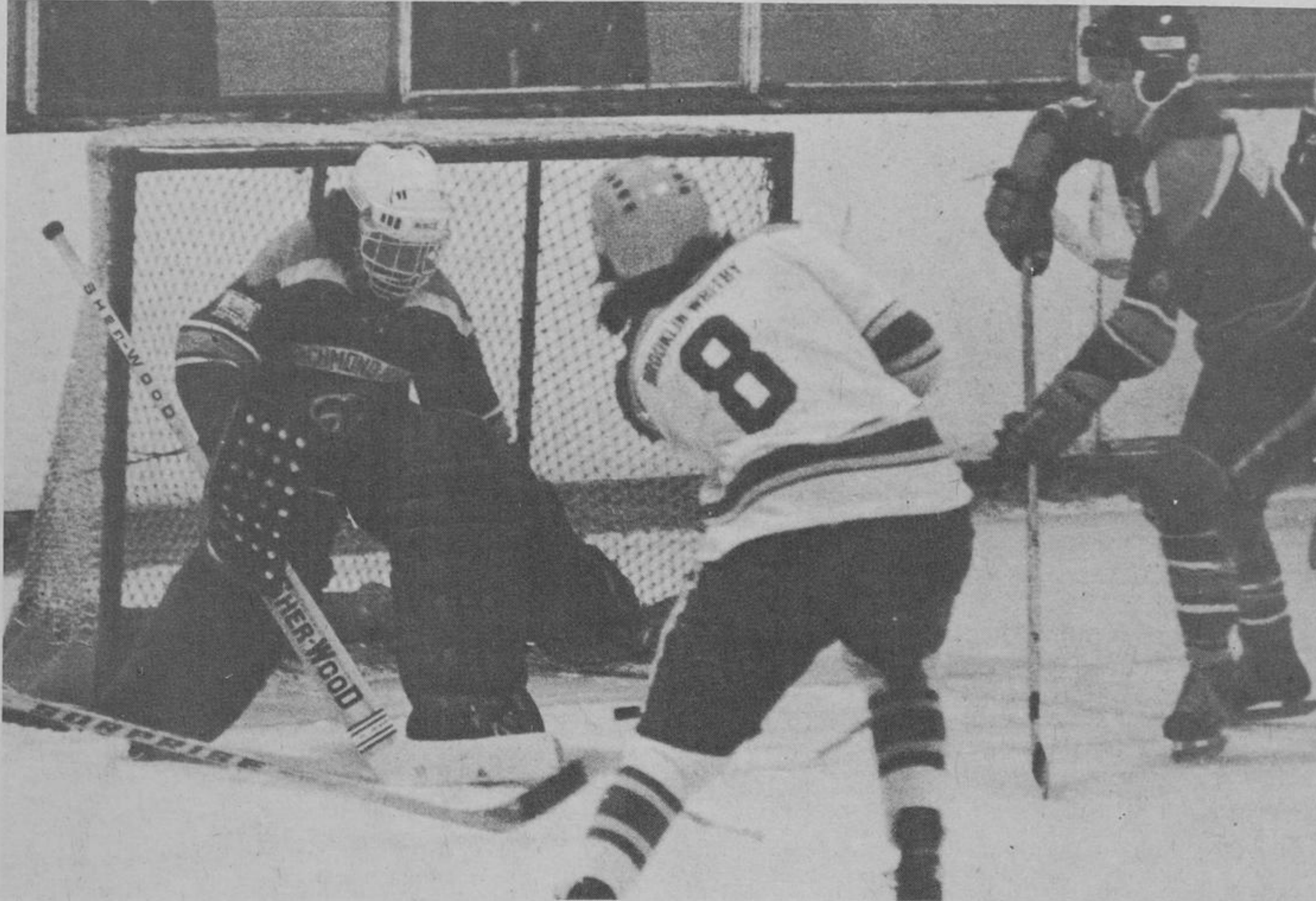
That same session saw some sharp passing by Alliance rewarded as they scored four goals in a row. Doing the honors were Tony Robinson, Scott Davey, Bob Russell, and Tom Lamb.

Assists went to John Oakley, two, Don MacPhee, Jeff Miller, Brad Campbell, Tony Robinson, and Bob Russell.

Trenton closed the second period with a goal. Richmond Hill outscored Trenton 2-1 in the third as Oakley scored his second from Robinson and Scott Davey.

Rick Sackfield, just back from an injury, converted a Jeff Switzer pass into a goal for the final tally of the game.

The second period saw goalie Jerry Tipold turn aside Trenton's strongest attack of the series.



Richmond Hill Legion goalie Ben Bourget readies to make a glove grab here as Whitby's Dan Gallogley fires for the corner in Monday night's international midget hockey tournament action at

the local arena. Goalie Bourget stopped them all as he came up with a 4-0 shutout.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1975 sports



Whitby's goalie Mike Wolff boots this shot out as Richmond Hill Legion's Danny Jones (14) looms on the scene for the rebound in this action Monday night at the eighth annual international midget

tournament at the local arena. Jones contributed the first goal and assisted on two others for a fine evening's work.

Legion blanks Whitby

A goal by Danny Jones just 12 seconds into the second period was all the Richmond Hill Legion Midgets needed to get their half of the eighth annual Richmond Hill international midget hockey tournament off on a winning note Monday night.

His teammates added three more enroute to a 4-0 blanking of the Brooklyn-Whitby McDonald's Midgets in the seventh of eight games played on the first day of the weeklong tournament which concludes Sunday afternoon.

It was a game which the Richmond Hill squad seemed to be in control of most of the way as they threw a forest of close checks at the struggling visitors who never really got untracked.

Their few dangerous shots were adeptly handled by Richmond Hill goalie Ben Bourget.

They hustled
"Everyone was hustling out there, they all did their job," was Legion Coach Sil Steffan's assessment of his team's initial effort in the tournament.

He was particularly happy with the play of Jones who opened the scoring.

"Someone mentioned to me after the game that Danny had a great night," said Steffan. "I disagreed. He didn't have a great night, he had his usual night. Danny is always hustling out there."

2 goals for Martin
Coach Steffan also praised the work of Randy Martin who scored two goals and that of Goalie Bourget who was there when he had to be.

That opening goal by Jones was a typical effort for him as his first shot right in front of the net was blocked by Whitby goalie Mike Wolff.

The resultant rebound came right back to Jones and he lifted it high into the net over Wolff's prone body. Assists on the goal went to Dave Earl and Mike Cox.

Whitby attempted to rally after this but kept walking into a series of penalties, somewhat foolish penalties, and could never get an attack organized.

Fournier tripped
Whitby's Richard Byford who managed to get his stick tangled up with Linesman Rene Fournier's skates causing him to tumble. Fournier interpreted this as a deliberate offence and bounced Byford right out of the game.

Whitby seemed to come on in the early part of the third but the bubble burst with five minutes left in the game as Rob Wallingford got a pass back from Jones off a faceoff and, bang, it was in the net.

Then with less than two minutes remaining when Martin scored the suddenly offensive-minded Legion team scored again with Martin doing the honors as he picked up a rebound and shoved it home. Assists went to Ross Middleton and Jones.

There was just 33 seconds remaining when Martin rounded out the scoring as he took a breakaway pass from Cox at the centre-line, boiled right in, and pulled the deke on goalie Wolff.

Steffan elated
Coach Steffan was elated that his team "stayed out of the penalty box for the most part. They kept their cool, Whitby didn't, and it made a big difference."

Tournament notes
The first day saw a paid total attendance of 1,264, down from last year's 1,514, but this was attributed in part by the inclement weather.

Only foul-up in the first day scheduling came when Newmarket showed up for its first game short of

players and was disqualified from further play. An exhibition game was played with Kentville, Nova Scotia, and the latter team won 5-2. It was Kentville's first win in local tournament play and there was much rejoicing despite the fact it was strictly an exhibition.

The Newmarket squad was replaced by Wexford.

Other highlights:
Game results

The opening game saw Guelph edging Grimby 4-3 with Dan McCafferty scoring two goals; Toronto Butter Beeps defeated London 4-2 led by the three goal effort of John Dobko.

Only overtime on the first day was the Hamilton Huskies-Etobicoke game which saw the Hamiltonians winning it 4-3 with Bob Mierkaius getting the big goal.

The final game of the night saw Oakville edging North York Rangers 3-2 on the strength of goals by Larry Dean, Jeff Rintoul and Brian Marvel.

A total of 700 spectators turned out for the Richmond Hill-Whitby game.

Opening ceremonies preceded the Richmond Hill game with Fred Locking of CFRB acting as master-

of-ceremonies. Those participating included Doug Hopson, President Legion Branch 375.

Marsh Amos, president of Tournament Incorporated; Bob Reeves, president Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association; representatives of the OMHA. Music was provided by the Legion Color Party and Pipe Band.

Unionville came to Richmond Hill Saturday and played a very strong game to edge Magna 4-2, with their last goal being scored into an open net. Scorers for Richmond Hill were Dave Brooke and Gord Sinfield with assists going to Steve Rowe, Ron Armstrong and Rob

Frater. This series is the best of five with game three being played in Richmond Hill Monday night, game four in Unionville Thursday and a fifth, if necessary, back in Richmond Hill Saturday.

Winner of the hockey ticket draw was Mrs. Ruth Norman.

The final standing in this division of the York Simcoe league was:

P W L T PTS
Barrie 28 18 8 2 38
Richmond Hill 28 10 16 2 22
Orillia 27 4 20 3 11
Unionville 26 1 23 2 4

After 11 losses in their first 11 games, the Magna Midgets came under the capable guidance of Ken Ham and rolled to a series of victories. Top scorers in regular league games were:

Magna Midgets end schedule in second spot

The regular schedule in the midget second team division of the York Simcoe League came to an end last week with the Richmond Hill Magna Midgets ending up in second place. The playoff draw pitched them against Unionville.

Magna visited Unionville Thursday night and came away with a 4-3 win. The locals built up a 3-0 lead on goals by Rob Frater, Brian Smith and Dave Stockall only to see Unionville come back and tie it up with about two minutes to go. Richmond Hill fought back strongly and were rewarded when Dave Brooke scored the winner. Assists in this game went to Zen Ferrone, Gerry Fortin, Steve Rowe (2) and Eric Thompson (2). The game was marred by an injury to Magna's star defenceman Dave Stockall. He suffered a broken arm and it is expected he will be lost to the team for the rest of the season.

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G A PTS
Ferrone 8 12 20
Thompson 11 8 19
Brooke 7 10 17
Rowe 7 8 15
Frater 9 4 13
Smith 4 8 12
Sinfield 6 6 12
Stockall 4 7 11
Green 6 4 10
Williams 4 5 9
Polhamus 4 3 7
Casselman 1 6 7
Fortin 0 5 5
Armstrong 0 1 1

Competition was keen in the third group but Steven Wolfer led the pack with 21 points. Tied for second were Karl Wolfer and Larry Smith with third place going to John Aird. Best technique went to Larry Smith and most Kiai to Allison Leclair. Promoted to green belt was Larry Smith, to blue belt, Steve Wolfer.

The fourth group saw Bruce O'Brien emerging the winner with 18 points. Second place went to Bruce

Buchan, Kim Wilson and Robert Wilkinson with 10 points apiece. Third place went to Alanna Jones, most Kiai to the same girl. Bruce Buchan was promoted to yellow belt.

A group of 14 to 17 year old youth competitors tangled in the fifth group with Roland Schmid coming out on top with 53 points. In second place was Tom Jellicoe with 37 with Errol Jones in third with 10 points.

Promoted to yellow belt were Rick McArthur, Rudy Pseika and Errol Jones; to blue, Ron Donoghue. Most Kiai went to Ian Lockwood and the best technique to Rick McArthur.

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