#### 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?



Sil Steffan . . . so far so good

Wandered into the somewhat early-morning emptiness of the local arena Tuesday and chatted with the behatted 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 14year-old Robert McKenzie who has adopted the Legion midget team for the week. Robert is a Quebecker 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."

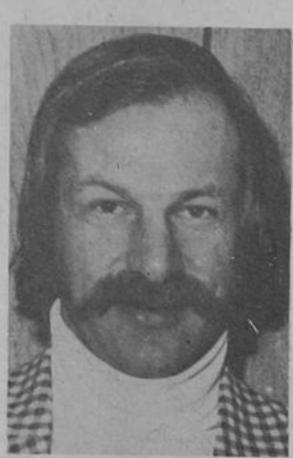
Happy to meet you

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 is 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 "The Entertainer" . . . here Friday

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.

Assits 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.

opened the scoring.

Some 800 spectators

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1975

By Fred Simpson

witnessed probably the most

ridiculous game in the

history of Richmond Hill hockey last night at the local

Certainly in the history of

the eight-year-old Richmond Hill international midget hockey tournament.

It was only incidental that

with a 4-0 shutout.

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

the local arena. Goalie Bourget stopped them all as he came up

SMOPIS

Hockey game a disaster

play by the Oakville near or remotely involved Rangers.

The real losers had to be

Some of the things that happened: Penalties, penalties A total of 126 minutes in penalties - it could be more

out there.

but certainly not less — were handed out by game referees Bruce Richardson and John Bork. These included four game

misconducts, three 10 minute misconducts, two fighting, and countless other misdemeanors that occurred in the three-ring circus. The toll also included a

game misconduct to Oakville's Coach Eric Smith who left midway in the final period.

It would take a criminal

court judge to figure out the share of guilt in the debacle that took place on the ice. But the one obvious fact was that the game officials were simply unable to cope with what was going on.

Whether they called the penalties correctly or incorrectly is besides the point.

Lots of blame But you could dish out the "blame" in endless doses right on down the line and still end up shaking your head.

Strictly a nightmare. Officials of the tournament should certainly assess the whole degrading exhibition that took place and take some kind of action to assure it never is allowed to happen

Black eyes like this hurt the innocent as well as the guilty.

The game? As for the game. What there was of it.

The Oakville club caught the disorganized Richmond Hill club off balance from the opening whistle and moved into a 3-0 lead on goals by Todd Ineuye, Brian Marvel and Scott Garvie.

The parade of penalties carried on unceasingly from there on, with neither team at full strength for practically the rest of the game.

Penalty shot Robbie Dynes got the Legion team onto the score-

sheet with 11:55 left.

And then team captain Mike Gallaugher gave the with the mess that went on crowd a thrill when he was tripped going in on goal and

was given a penalty shot. He scored on it easily as the Oakville goalie com-

mitted himself too soon. Gallaugher just had to skate around him and tuck

the puck home.

Richmond Hill's Danny Jones came right back seconds later on a breakaway, only to lose the puck as he attempted to pull the goalie.

From there on in it was downhill for the Legion boys.

Shane Payette made it 4-2 in the second as he picked the corner when left uncovered in front of Ben Bourget.

Bourget played a tremendous game after replacing starting goalie Mike Doyle with the score 2-

Other Oakville scorers were Phil Prevost, Rick Mueller, Larry Dean, and Prevost with the last one.

Goalie fights

Some other extracurricular activities in the game saw Oakville's starting goalie Gerry Liefrink tossed out of the game along with Richmond Hill's Randy Hughes-Guest for indulging in fisticuffs.

That same fracas saw Liefrink picking up two rough penalties five minutes for fighting, plus the game misconduct.

Hughes-Guest got two for roughing, five for fighting and the game.

There were other low-light moments in this ridiculous of ridiculous encounters.

But time and space and the sheer ability to absorb all of it, defies going into details.

Suffice to say: The players on both hockey teams should also share some of the

But you have to pin the greater blame on the adults. Youngsters don't do anything they can't get away

## 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. Unionville came to Rich-

mond 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

Richmond Hill Saturday. Winner of the hockey ticket draw was Mrs. Ruth Norman.

Unionville Thursday and a

fifth, if necessary, back in

The final standing in this division of the York Simcoe league was: P W L TPTS

Barrie 28 18 8 2 38 Richmond Hill 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: 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	

## Legion blanks Whitby of-ceremonies. Those

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 Brooklin-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 "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

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

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

Then with less than two minutes remaining 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

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 participating included Doug from further play. An Hopson, President Legion exhibition game was played with Kentville, Nova Scotia, Branch 375. 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.

tournament at the local arena. Jones contributed the first goal and

assisted on two others for a fine evening's work.

The Newmarket squad was replaced by Wexford. Other highlights: Game results

The opening game saw Guelph edging Grimsby 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 Hamitonians winning it 4-3 with Bob Mierkalius getting the big

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 preceeded the Richmond Hill game with Fred Locking of CFRB acting as master-

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

## Bill Burtch tops in monthly judo

Billy Burtch compiled a total of 12 points in the first group at the monthly tournament results of the Richmond Hill Judo Club followed closely behind by Kevin Smith with 10 points. Trailing with three points each in third spot was John Kirk and Rasheed

Saleuddin. Promoted to yellow belt were John Kirk; to orange, Billy Burtch and Teresa Wolfer. Best technique went to Burtch and most Kiai to Wayne Power. Desmond Clarke, a 53-pound blue belt, fought several judoka in this

group and defeated them.

Kane Burg was the victor in the second group with 11 points followed by Peter

McClelland with two. Most Kiai went to Nancy and best technique to Kane. Promoted to orange belts was Kane Burg, to green, Nancy McClelland. 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 Leclaire. Promoted to green belt was Larry Smith, to blue belt, Steve Wolfer.

Second place went to Bruce Rick McArthur.

Wood with three and Nancy 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 vellow 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 The fourth group saw blue, Ron Donoghue, Most Bruce O'Brien emerging Kiai went to Ian Lockwood the winner with 18 points. and the best technique to