

Big showdown in basketball

By Dennis Herbert

RICHMOND HILL — The unbeaten Thornlea Thors senior basketball team remained just that after Friday night's encounter with Bayview Secondary School which saw them winning 85-61.

It was Thornlea's night most of the way with its midget squad winning 55-50.

But it was the Bayview juniors who saved the day as they outgunned Thornlea 45-36.

That senior game featured much fast-breaking and little defence.

Thornlea seemed better prepared for this type of game and led 36-26 at half time.

31 points
The Thors really got inspired in the third quarter as they pumped in an unbelievable 31 points while the Bayview Bengals mustered only 18.

Both teams seemed a little tired in the final quarter with an 18-point effort from each side.

Top shooters
Top scorer for the Thors were John Willis with 29 points and 18 rebounds; and Don Lothrop with 22 points; Adrain Killean and Dave Mercer each popped impressive 19 point efforts for Bayview.

The Bengals have one remaining league game against Thornhill Tigers while the Thors still meet Woodbridge and Markham.

Still smarting
Bayview Bengals' coach Wayne

Mortson and his juniors were still smarting from their lost outing to the Thors in mid January.

They lost and had to settle for a second place tie.

This time they jumped into an early 8-0 lead before Thornlea could even find the hoop.

Thornlea chalked up 15 points in the second quarter behind Dennis Harrison and Dave Lothrop to make it 19-18 going into the third.

Trifle shaky
The Bengals seemed a trifle shaky at this point getting only 10 points the third quarter to Thornlea's 14.

It was a different story in the fourth quarter as Bayview threaded the hoop with 17 points. Thornlea, with starters Dennis Harrison and Sergio Migotto fouling out, could only hit for three points.

Leading the Bayview attack was Stoness with 11 points and six steals while Turner and Smith checked in with eight points apiece.

The Bengals have one league game remaining with Thornhill to wrap up second place in the York County league and a playoff berth.

Markham unbeaten
Thornlea must win against an undefeated Markham team if they want their playoff chances to remain alive.

Midget game
The midget competition saw Cliff Nuttall's Bengals losing 55-50 which came on the heels of a string of victories which had included a 46-37 win over Woodbridge.

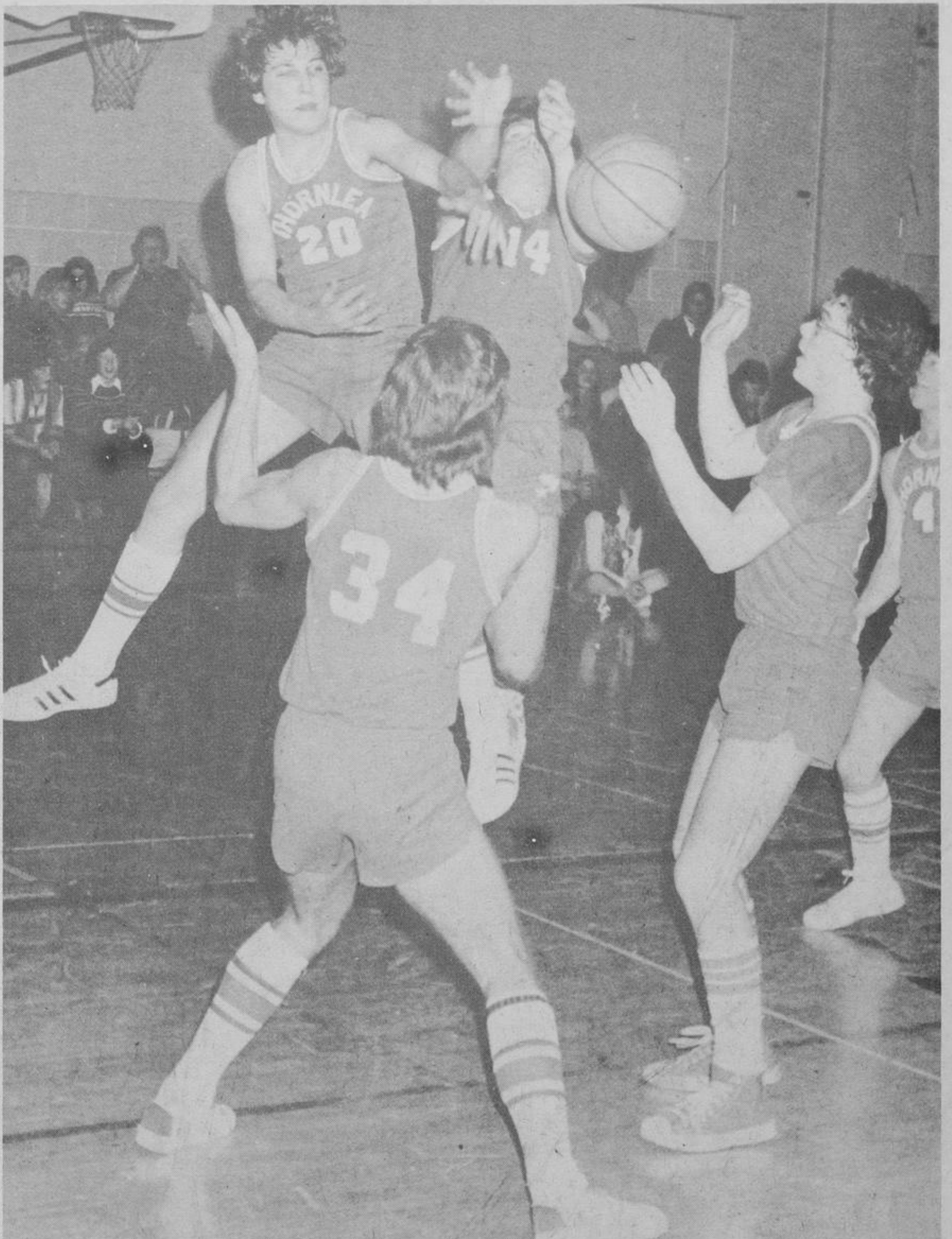
Bayview controlled play in the first half but faltered the rest of the way as Thornlea came on to finish strongly and win.

Thornlea's Scott Mann proved to be the thorn in the Bengal's side as he dropped in four overtime points and a free throw to send coach Jay Hooper home happy.

Mann dropped in a total of 24 points with Dumont following with 12. For Bayview it was Willock with 16; Steele 19.

Bayview remains in first place.

Playoffs
Playoffs are slated for the week of March 1 to 5 while the York County championship will be held at Bayview March 5 beginning at 6 p.m. for the midgets; junior at 7:30; and senior at 9 p.m.



(Photo by Hogg)

We hit an air pocket?

These high-flying basketballers look like they've hit an air-pocket. Making with the faces are Thornlea's Dennis Harrison (20) and Bayview's John Voiles (14) in this hectic bit of action

between these two York County junior squads. Bayview won this one by a 45-36 score. Thornlea got even.

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fred simpson

Take the cure

Every romantic should go on an ice-fishing trip. At least once in his life. That would cure him forever.

It cured me. Of course I'm not sure whether it was the ice-fishing that did it or the fellow I was with. Al Binnington.

He's a small-town lawyer who is also a member of the Richmond Hill "Fuddle Duddles". That just about tells it all.

I bumped into Al one day last week and he wondered if I wanted to go on a fishing trip. Naturally, I jumped at the offer. Simply because I've been writing sports for 12 years and have never gotten out of my arm-chair.

Get lost
The trouble started when Al gave me directions over the phone. Have you ever had directions over the phone? I'd rather get lost myself. It probably wouldn't take so long and, at least, I could blame myself. That's good for you sometime.

Al lives out at Holland Landing which is all right. I only got lost four times getting out there. Three times before I even got into the car.

Cook's Bay?
So we set out for Cook's Bay (I think which I think) is on Lake Simcoe. Al was driving. I just relaxed.

We were supposed to meet Bill Smith who would take us to his ice-hut on Simcoe. Bill was already gone when we reached his house so we continued on alone.

Lost lake
It was when Al said he "couldn't find the place" that I rounded out my reverie. I thought he was talking about the ice-hut.

"I can't find the lake," he exclaimed finally. I finally got him quieted down and we figured it all out. We found the lake.

Pretty fish
Unfortunately, we also found the ice-hut. Can you imagine three grown men sitting out in an ice-hut playing with quaint little fishing rods (more like ping-pong bats) in the middle of Lake Simcoe? By ourselves?

You'd lift these little "handles" up and then let them down. The line goes up and goes down. Nothing happens. We were there four hours and nothing happened except that Al fell in the hole a couple of times.

Rubber boots
The only thing that floated by was a pair of rubber boots. We threw them back when we found there was someone already in them.

Al made three catches with his hook. Two of them on Bill's hook and one of them on mine. The conversation was nice, though.

Al bragged about all the cases he had lost and Bill was bemoaning the fact that the fishing had been terrible the last two days. Bill is addicted to ice-fishing.

I'm okay
I kept looking out the small window in the hut. I was afraid my psychiatrist would wander by and see me sitting in front of this hole and think I'd had a relapse.

We finally staggered out of the hut (the oxygen was thin in such a small place), and found our way back to Al's car. Four miles later Al thought his car was running rough.

It turned out to be a flat tire. Honest. Who gets a flat tire on a lake? Al Binnington.

I wasn't upset about the flat tire. That can happen to anyone. Al didn't have any spare.

"I never carry a spare," he explained to me. "I don't believe in them."

Now, I ask you. Would you go ice-fishing with Al Binnington again? Would you go ice-fishing again? Where's my arm-chair.

Sorry
I don't try to make mistakes. It's just that I have a natural bent for it. We all have a flair for something.

That's the only explanation I have for putting St. Robert's Catholic High School on 16th Avenue. I did that in a recent feature on the school. It's actually on Leslie Street. I hope. I've never been down 16th Avenue to my knowledge. Sorry.

Finally
While I'm at it: Last week I congratulated John Lenneville of the Bradford Junior C Blues for breaking a league record by scoring 45 goals. He broke the record. Only he scored 55. Sorry.

More recently, John got the winning goal as his team in overtime eliminated Orangeville in the first round of the playoffs.

Finally, I'm tired of being sorry.

They're flying

Birds down Orillia 3-1

THORNHILL — The Thornhill Thunderbirds got off to an optimistic start Monday night as they downed Orillia Travelways 3-1 in the opening game of their best-of-seven Finals-Ontario Junior B hockey season.

"It was a good, tight typical playoff game," commented Thunderbird coach Ralph Beer. "We had a few more of our guys back in the line-up and it showed out there."

Tough series
"But it's going to be a tough series. Orillia has a good club. They keep coming at you."

One of those returning players was defenceman Dave Courtemanche who scored what turned out to be the winning goal in the second period. It gave Thornhill a 2-0 lead at the time.

All the scoring occurred in that third period with Thornhill's Bruce Clatworthy whacking in the first one off a scramble at 4:37 from Steve Cromb and Jamie Kennedy.

The winner
Then came Courtemanche's counter

at 11:35 from Glen Daurio and Kerry Pim; and Bud Shirley's at 14:26 from Ricky Pantalone and Rob Young.

Orillia's Cam Devine finally beat Dean Dorsey at 18:21 on a power play effort.

No luck
Coach Beer thought his team could have had a "few more goals with a little luck but that's the way things go some nights. As long as you get enough to win."

Close call
He cited one close call by Rocky Pantalone "which saw him just missing the net late in the period."

The Thunderbirds came up with their most defensive game in some while behind the good goaltending of Dorsey.

Down Oak Ridges
Thornhill closed out the regular schedule with a 6-5 loss to Orillia and 7-3 win over Oak Ridges Jewellers.

The Oak Ridges game saw the Thunderbirds come from behind a 3-2 deficit in the first period and tie the game going into the third.

Thornhill poured home four unan-

swered goals to clinch the issue.

3 for Johns

Mike Johns led the offensive with a three-goal effort with singles to Jamie Kennedy, Daurio, Al Cook and Scott Howson.

Steve Sherman got all three Oak Ridges goals.

Thornhill outshot Oak Ridges 44-31.

Playoffs
Thornhill's playoff schedule continues with a game slated for Orillia last night (Tuesday) with the third one next Friday night at Thornhill Community Centre at 8 p.m.; Saturday in Orillia. If necessary, next Monday night at Thornhill and the following Saturday at Orillia.

Dynes defeat Colts as playoffs begin

OAK RIDGES — You couldn't blame Oak Ridges Dynes Jewellers coach Pete Artemchuk for being apprehensive going into Monday night's first playoff game with Barrie Colts.

His number one goalie, Doug Brumwell, was out with an eye injury. Artemchuk was apprehensive.

But it all disappeared as his team

backed up by a solid goaltending of newcomer Doug Benson.

Outstanding
"He played an outstanding game for us," said Artemchuk. "The players concentrated on defense at the beginning but they broke out after Benson came up with a couple of fine (continued on B-2)

Rams falling!

RICHMOND HILL — The Richmond Hill Rams don't need a miracle to survive their current playoff round with the North York Rangers.

They need three of them. That's the situation (not counting Tuesday night's game which could spell finish) with the Provincial Junior A hockey Rams.

The Rams upset the league regular schedule champion North York Rangers in the opener but then went on to lose the next three by 4-2, 4-1 and 5-1.

Closing curtain
It was that 5-1 loss to the Rangers here Sunday night that just about rang the curtain down on any Rams' hopes for a miracle.

They were never really in the game as North York toyed with them most of the way allowing only 13 shots on their goalie while Brian Stankiewicz was being tested by 45.

End of story.
The Rams took only 58 seconds to score with Bill Colville triggering the shot from Mike Walker and Larry Kimble.

All North York
But it was all North York after that with goals by Mark Freeman, Joe Kovacs, two, Phil Evans, and Andy Edwards.

Perhaps the Rams gave their best shot Thursday night of last week at North York following their first game win.

Tight checking
This was a tight-checking game which saw the Rams carry a 2-1 lead until the 10 minute mark of the third period and then go on to lose in the 10-minute overtime.

Richmond Hill dominated the first half of the game but was unable to capitalize on numerous opportunities. The Rangers took over at the midway mark but also had trouble getting on the scoreboard.

It was Bill Colville and Danny Jones scoring in regulation time for the Rams with Phil Evans and Alf Beasley replying for North York.

Overtime
The Rangers' Graham Foley scored early in the overtime and hung on to a narrow victory. North York added a meaningless empty net goal with seven seconds remaining by Beasley. North York outshot the Rams 52-33.

Friday night's 4-1 loss saw the Rams again having an early edge and scoring the first goal by way of Danny Jones at 10:42.

Rangers powerful
Their glory was brief as the powerful Rangers came back with two in the second period by Kovacs and Tom McCarthy and that was it. Goals by Beasley and Joe Cecchini added the exclamation marks in the third.

North York outshot the Rams 37-31. Mitch Lovelock took over from Stankiewicz in this game and played very well and could not be faulted on any of the goals. Stankiewicz was ill.

Impressive win
The Rams only win Tuesday night of last week at home was an impressive one and hopes were high.

Goals by Larry Kimble and Bill Leaming, two, got them off to a comfortable early lead but the Rangers kept whittling away on goals by Garry



(Photo by Hogg)

Good start?

Richmond Hill Rams' Larry Kimble makes it look easy here as he fires an easy goal in the

first game of the playoffs against North York Tuesday night of last week. Alas, alas.

Looney vigil

Maintaining a lonely vigil in an ice-hut is the only way to go. Go crazy. Scene above is typical of the glamor involved with ice-fishing. S'wunderful.

