

Rams put skates away for year

RICHMOND HILL — The Richmond Hill Rams got done in by a songbird. The final humiliation.

At least that was the report emanating from North York Tuesday night of last week as the Provincial Junior A hockey Rams had the curtain rang down on their heads.

The North York Rangers decided the Rams 3-1 in the fifth and final game of the best-of-seven series with the help, it says here, of a male 'Kate Smith.'

A young singer, Joel Debra, was called in by the Rangers to sing a chorus of the national anthem.

Apparently the singer brings luck to the Rangers as la Kate Smith and the Philadelphia Flyers.

North York was kidding themselves.

Too many guns

The thing that beat the Rams was too man "guns" as the Rangers, after losing the first game, rolled to four straight victories.

The final encounter saw the Rams come up with a supreme effort to prolong the series.

"I thought we put up a pretty good

effort," said Rams' coach Carl Brimblecombe. "Most of the games were pretty close with the exception of a 5-1 loss. We were up against a very strong club. I'll be surprised if they don't go all the way."

Score first

That final game saw the Rams' Bill Leaman fanning a slight spark of hope for Richmond Hill as he connected on a power play effort early in the second period.

It took just seven minutes for North York's Kerry Williston to feed a pass to Graham Foley who went in all alone to

beat goalie Brian Stankiewicz.

Then it was Don Rehill getting the winner with a blast from the blueline midway into the final period.

Empty netter

Richmond Hill removed goalie Stankiewicz for a final assault but an empty-net goal by Tom McCarthy was the only reward.

"We had a good season," stated coach Brimblecombe. "When you consider we had four midgets in our line-up and one minor midget and a total of 12 new players, that says it all."

Brimblecombe added that it "was

very unlikely that any club such as Richmond Hill, Aurora or Newmarket can expect to dominate a league against Metro clubs and their much greater drawing base for players. You're kidding yourself if you think you can."

Disappointed

He added that "the only way is by affiliation and we didn't do well that way. We ended up with one player from our hook-up with Peterboro and we didn't get him till January. But affiliation is your only hope to be competitive."

As for next year?

"We have a lot of potential returnees," he said. "We could lose three or four to colleges and possibly our four midgets to the draft. You just have to wait and see."

As for Brimblecombe?

"I like it in Richmond Hill. If they want me, I'll be back."

In the meanwhile, he'll be trying his luck coaching a softball team in the Richmond Hill Men's Softball League this season.



It's a strike!

Hilltop Bowling proprietor Tom Young looks on approvingly as Richmond Hill parks and recreation committee members try their luck at the official opening Friday

of his new five-pin lanes at 70 Newkirk Road. It's open to leagues and just plain casual bowling. For further information call 884-6875 or 884-6922.

Stewart boys over Thornhill

RICHMOND HILL — A determined gang of Black and Stewart Minor Midgets won the first game of their York Simcoe playoffs by downing Thornhill 4-1.

All the goals were scored in the third period with Richmond Hill

having 28 shots on goal in the first two periods and a total of 39 in the game.

Rod Graham teamed up with Richard Hughes with a goal and an assist each and then Graham tapped in his second of the night.

Jack Vantol scored assisted by Gary

Bubeloff. Then it was Bubeloff scoring from Danny O'Sullivan. Other assists went to David Puxton and Bruce Buchan.

This started out to be a chippy game but the Richmond Hill boys kept their cool and stayed to play hockey.

An exhibition game at Port Perry saw the Black and Stewart boys

blanking Oshawa Stingers 3-0 in a well-played game.

Richmond Hill opened the scoring on a goal by Bubeloff from Vantol; then it was Gary Carvin scoring unassisted.

Rick Warren came up with a well-deserved shutout.

Peewee

Richvale W & P Motors tied Gormley Sand and Gravel but won due to having more shots on goal in the final period. Tommy Buccì scored one

Victoria Grey boys oust Barrie in 3

RICHMOND HILL — The Richmond Hill Victoria and Grey Minor Bantams ousted Barrie in three games in their OMHA playoffs last week.

The locals opened the series with a 6-6 overtime draw, then won the next two by 7-3 and 5-1.

Richmond Hill 6, Barrie 2. For Richmond Hill it was Doug MacLean from Scott Pipher; James Gwillam from Doug McLean; Carl D'Antimo from David Kenny; D'Antimo from Paul Thomas and David Kenny; MacLean from Troy Mitchell; and D'Antimo from MacLean and James Gwillam.

Richmond Hill 7, Barrie 3. Richmond Hill: Robbins from Mitchell and Harold Thornhill; Gwillam from MacLean; Thomas from Mitchell; Mitchell from Pipher and D'Antimo; D'Antimo from Robbins and Mitchell; Gwillam unassisted.

Richmond Hill 5, Barrie 1. Richmond Hill: D'Antimo from Pipher; Gwillam from Pipher and Robbins; D'Antimo from Mitchell and Kenny; Gwillam from Robbins; and Jim Barton unassisted.

Next stop is Thornhill.

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