

# Firemen play benefit hockey

An all-star team of firefighters will meet their Scarborough counterparts — featuring several ex-pros in their lineup — December 29 in Richmond Hill Arena.

The benefit game will see game proceeds going to the aid of Muscular Dystrophy. Gametime is noon hour.

Scarboro has been league champ in the hockey league which includes firemen teams from across the province including Richmond Hill.

The team has several ex-pro's in the lineup plus players who have played in Richmond Hill with the junior Rams.

Ex-Rams are Rick Stillaway and Bruce Vass, both excellent players. Vass went on from Richmond Hill to play for the Niagara Falls Flyers of the OHA junior league.

Bob Sale is the goalie for Scarborough. He starred for the Toronto Marlies a few years back before going onto Galt

to play Senior A hockey.

**EX-MARLIE**  
Another ex-Marlie is Moe Zubatiuk, a defenceman who has played in Scotland and then with Johnstown of the International League. Other defencemen are Vass, Roger Holmbrook, Dave Winkley and Bob Winton.

Perhaps the strongest part of the Scarborough team is its forward line led by Doug Keeler and Lee Park, the top two scorers in the league.

Keeler played junior in Niagara Falls and Ottawa before turning pro. He went on to play in Omaha (Central League), Providence (American League) and Kalamazoo (International League).

Parker played his junior hockey in Brampton and went on to Long Island of the Eastern League.

The other forwards are Doug Menard (Quebec Ramparts), John Whzinski, Jim Tanner, Rick Stillaway, Carl

Roncetti, Ron Milroy, Norm Sinclair (Seneca College), Gary Hunter, John Ellery, Eric Cotter and Ennis Bugden.

**CHEERLEADER**  
The forgotten man sometimes is Bob

Chapman who is the backup goalie and head cheerleader. Coaches are Al Jenkins, Ken Keeler and Don Hay.

The as yet un-finalized All Star lineup will include Moe Galand (ex Toronto Marlie); Bob Collins, ex-Oshawa

General; Steve Stone, ex-Vancouver Canucks; Mike Black, ex-London Knight; and Don Booth, who coached the Don Mills Flyers last year.

Terry Haviland will represent Richmond Hill and Bernie Baione will coach

the team.

**IT'S FREE**  
There will be no admission charge to the game. A 50-50 draw will be on sale inside the doors for \$1.

## Beat Hamilton

### Firemen win again in best season yet

The Richmond Hill Firefighters hockey team continued on the winning ways last week defeating Hamilton Firefighters 6-2 in Richmond Hill.

Hamilton jumped in front halfway through the first period and held that lead until the 18-minute mark of the second.

That's when Richmond Hill's Brian Burgess took a pass from Rod Chap-

man and Larry Shier and fired the puck past the Hamilton goalkeeper.

On the following faceoff Jim Lawson carried the puck in on net and his shot was kicked onto Blair Robson's stick who passed it to David Sephton who fired it into the net.

The third period saw Richmond Hill catching fire with Dennis Buck

scoring from Pat Goode and Chapman; David Sephton from Burgess and Chapman; Al "Boomer" McKenzie from Shier and Gary Vass; and Goode from Vass and Chapman.

Hamilton got a late goal to make the score 6-2.

Richmond Hill's next home game is December 22 at 10:30 a.m. in the Richmond Hill Arena.



### One of those things

It was just one of those things for Richmond Hill Rams' goalie Dan Gunning Tuesday night of last week as witness the above

North Bay goal. The goals kept going in as the visitors downed the Rams 11-2. They weren't exactly kind when the Rams

returned to North Bay on Sunday night. This time the Trappers chalked up a 9-4 triumph. (Photo by Bruce Hogg).

## The Liberal Section B Sports

Classified

Wednesday, December 14, 1977

R



fred simpson

### Rams in trouble

I think I've written this column before. About the financial plight of the Richmond Hill Provincial Junior A hockey Rams. Or almost any other junior club these days what with generally poor (not to say awful as far as the Rams are concerned) spectator attendance.

**PREJUDICED FOR**  
I'll have to confess at the outset that I'm prejudiced in favor of the Rams' general well-being having observed them since their inception in 1967 (before that as a Junior C entry).

I like the idea of having a junior hockey club in the community and agree it does provide a potential outlet for graduates of the Richmond Hill minor hockey system to apply their talents which might otherwise be denied them.

**BEST WISHES**  
So I'm not going to dwell on the validity of their request for the \$9,000 grant. There's no arguing they need it. I wish them well.

But I will toss out some random thoughts about the general hockey situation here regarding the Rams. They may or may not be valid.

The Rams, even when they were among the top four clubs in the league, never (or very rarely) broke down the doors with spectators.

They did have their faithful following, of course, but there were almost always a lot of gaps in the crowd. I could be wrong but the attendance this season seems to be at an all-time low ebb. And getting lower.

It seems simple to me. No one, but no one, supports a losing team these days. Certainly not in Richmond Hill. And I doubt anywhere else with the exception of the Toronto football Argos.

What to say about it? The Rams are in the entertainment business and, obviously, what they are providing hasn't been impressive enough to rouse any semblance of wide-spread fan support.

**GOOD HOCKEY**  
This I'm sorry about because the hockey provided is as good or bad as you get anywhere these days and that includes some of those alleged NHL and WHA games between the lower-rung clubs. Some not so lower-rung ones, too.

My question is: How can you blackjack people into coming out to a hockey game if they don't want to? You can't, you don't have any right to do it.

If you're in business you can't

force people to buy from you, or shame them into it, or anything else. If they don't want your product you're out of business.

**WANT THEM HERE**  
I'm not trying to be negative about the Rams. I want them in business here. I just don't think enough potential spectators out there give a damn if they are here or not.

And a goodly number of these same people have youngsters in the local minor hockey chain who just might miss an opportunity of some day playing with the Rams if the present situation keeps deteriorating.

**COMMUNITY OWNED**

In their presentation to parks and recreation, the Rams made a point of saying they are "the only team of the existing 11 franchises which is community owned and operated."

"Ownership of all other teams in our league is private, with all their personnel either hired or part of the owner's group."

"We wish to keep the Richmond Hill Rams Junior Hockey Club as it is. We do not relish the thought that private ownership might occur and the club move out of town to another location."

They go on to cite such reasons as the desire to "foster and encourage the spirit of amateur hockey in Richmond Hill."

No one can argue about the sincerity of such an intent or its worthiness.

**IS IT PRACTICAL?**  
I just wonder if it's practical or possible these days? It seems to me "money" is the game being played in the Provincial A and that it's the private owners who seem to have it. Pay the bucks and you get the players. Like it or not. And I don't like it.

And don't tell me that you could stock the Rams with all local players and make it go. I just don't believe it. Sad to say, they'd be horrible losers and only the sweepers would be around to watch the agony.

Now we come full circle. I don't have any answers and, quite frankly, I'm very pessimistic about the Rams.

As I said, I don't think that many people give a damn. If that's the case, why should the Rams?

Note from Ed Sackfield re the Richmond Hill Cadillac Baif Peewees.

Hey, they're going to be performing at Maple Leaf Gardens January 15 (a Sunday) in between periods of the Marlie-Kitchener game. Sounds great. They'll be playing Guelph.

Tickets are available at \$2 each (the reds) from any of the parents or players of the Baif team.

## Rams run into double loss

What's worse than running up against the North Bay Trappers on a Tuesday night and losing 11-2?

Simple. Meeting them the following Sunday and losing 9-4.

That was the rather sad experience of the Richmond Hill Provincial Junior A hockey Rams last week.

Among others. If winning hasn't been a problem enough in itself, Rams' coach Ken "Satch" Brookes has others to plague him.

**2 QUIT**  
He's been beset by injuries, suspensions, and now he's lost two more players who decided to quit the team.

Turning in their gear last week were Ken Ham and Randy Hughes-Guest.

"I guess they weren't satisfied with the ice time they were getting," was coach Brookes' comment. "You always run into situations like this when the team's not going too good. Morale gets low."

The injury saw John Dewar having to leave Sunday's game in North Bay.

**ONLY 14 PLAYERS**  
That became a major problem when you consider the Rams could only

muster 14 players, including the two goalies, for the trip to North Bay to begin with.

"It was the emptiest bus we've ever taken there," added Brookes.

The Rams started the game with just two sets of defencemen and three lines and were down to two defencemen after the game.

**NEW BLOOD?**  
"We're always on the phone looking for some new blood," said Brookes, "but everyone else is looking for the same thing we are."

"We especially need some big defencemen to move the opposition out of the way. That's been our downfall."

Despite the gloom, Brookes thought his crippled warriors came up with a "pretty satisfactory performance" in North Bay in the early stages.

The Rams trailed 3-2 at the end of the first period and managed to tie the game early in the second before the roof sagged.

"We just refused to be physical in the latter stages of the game, we just refused to hit them. That was the story."

North Bay rapped in five goals in the second and added two more in the third. Leading their offensive with two

goals each were Doni Levac and Dino Macaluso with singles to Marty Deschamps, Dave Hilborn, Joey Omiccioli, Gilles Crepeau and Neil Belland.

**JONES GETS 3**

Rams' leading scorer Danny Jones did more than his share getting three of the goals with Mike Walker getting the other one.

Jones leads the Rams with 21 goals and 29 assists in 27 games for 50 points. His closest opponent is Phil Wood with 37 points on 23 goals in 25 games.

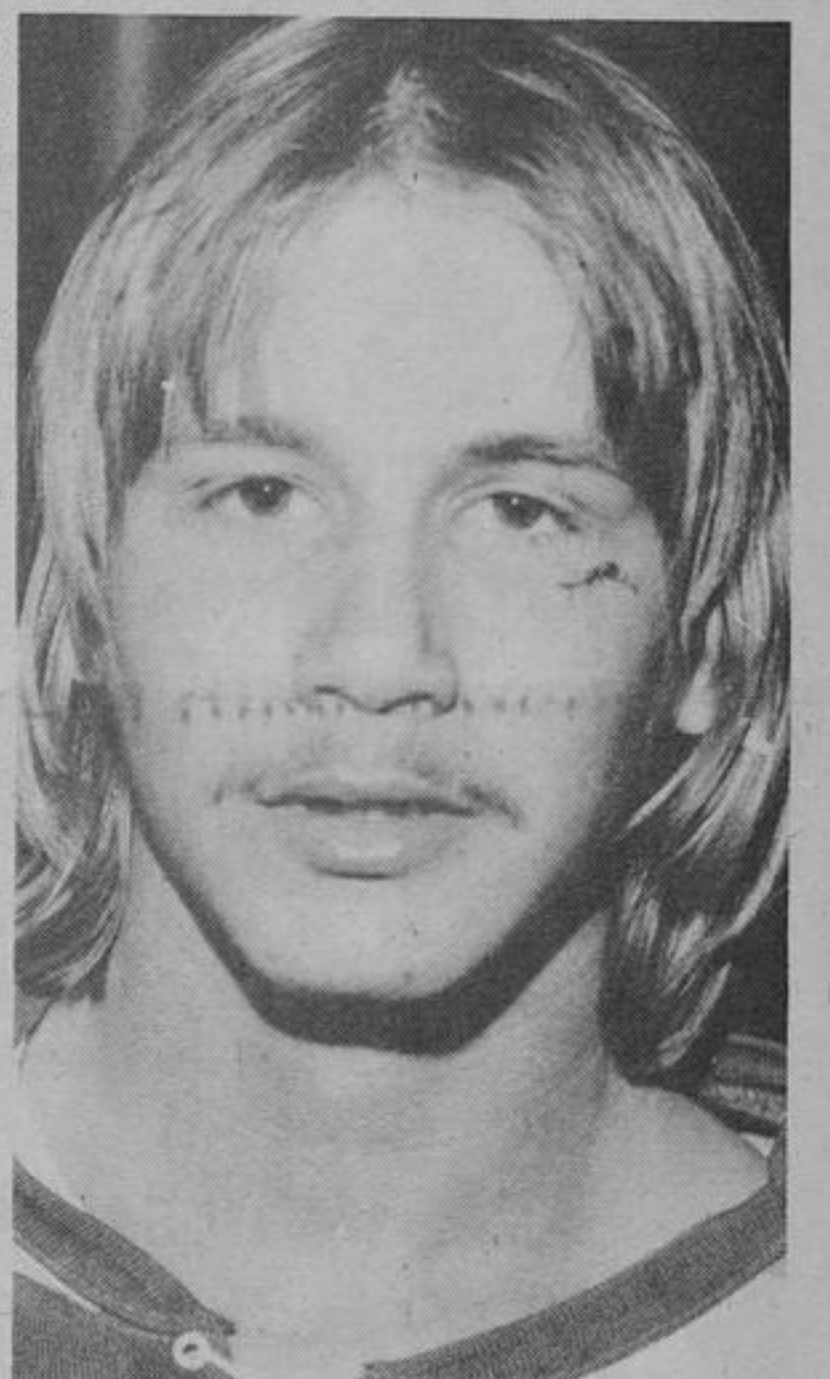
Assists went to Bill Coville, Paul Gallagher, two, Dave Forester, a recruit from the minor system, John Olds, Phil Wood and Walker.

**OOOPS**

The score tells the story Tuesday night of last week as North Bay led 6-1 at the end of the first period and 9-2 going into the final 20 minutes. Big scorers with three goals each were Bruce Guthrie and Rod Stamler. Scott McGregor got two goals.

Coville scored for Richmond Hill from Bill Stephenson and Gallagher; and Wood from Stephenson and Walker.

The Rams are in North York Friday and are back at home the following Tuesday to Dixie Beehives.



Danny Jones Three goals

### Cut 2 players

## Dynes looking to improve

Oak Ridges Dynes Jewellers' coach Pete Artemchuk is anything but a stand-pat type even though his Mid-

Ontario Junior B hockey team leads the pack in first place.

The Jewellers, who beat Orillia 5-3

Monday night after losing 5-4 to Owen Sound, cut two players and added another one.

Gone are Paul Westcott and Shane Harvey.

Added is a Richmond Hill midget product of last season, Blair Lewis.

"It wasn't so much that Westcott and Harvey didn't have the ability to make this team," said Artemchuk. "They are good hockey players."

"But we're looking ahead to the playoffs and we just feel we have to get the best at this juncture. We don't want to come up short again this season."

**TOP QUALITY**

Artemchuk says he's still on the lookout for some players "but we only want top-quality, people who will fit into our system. This is the time of the year when players are becoming available."

Artemchuk is very happy with the acquisition of Lewis who he terms "a very fine player."

Monday night's game saw the Dynes have it fairly easy most of the way leading 3-1 at the end of the opening period and 4-2 going into the third.

**CARNEVALE GETS 3**

Mike Carnevale was the triggerman for Dynes with three goals.

He started it all off in the first period with the first of two shorthanded goals he managed in the game. Assists on this

one went to Brent Dobson and Ian Myles.

Orillia's Bruce McDonough got that one back but then it was Steve Sherman scoring from Dale Roffey and Dobson; and Carnevale from Dennis Limoges and Blair Sutherland.

Carnevale got his second shorthanded goal of the game early in the second period from Dobson and Neal Crockford.

Then it was Orillia's Rocky Clarke scoring on a power play effort.

Orillia made it close on McDonough's second goal of the game with 14:44 remaining.

That 4-3 total lasted until 30 seconds before game's end when Roffey put Sherman in the clear for the clincher.

The loss to Owen Sound saw Dobson and Sherman scoring two goals each.

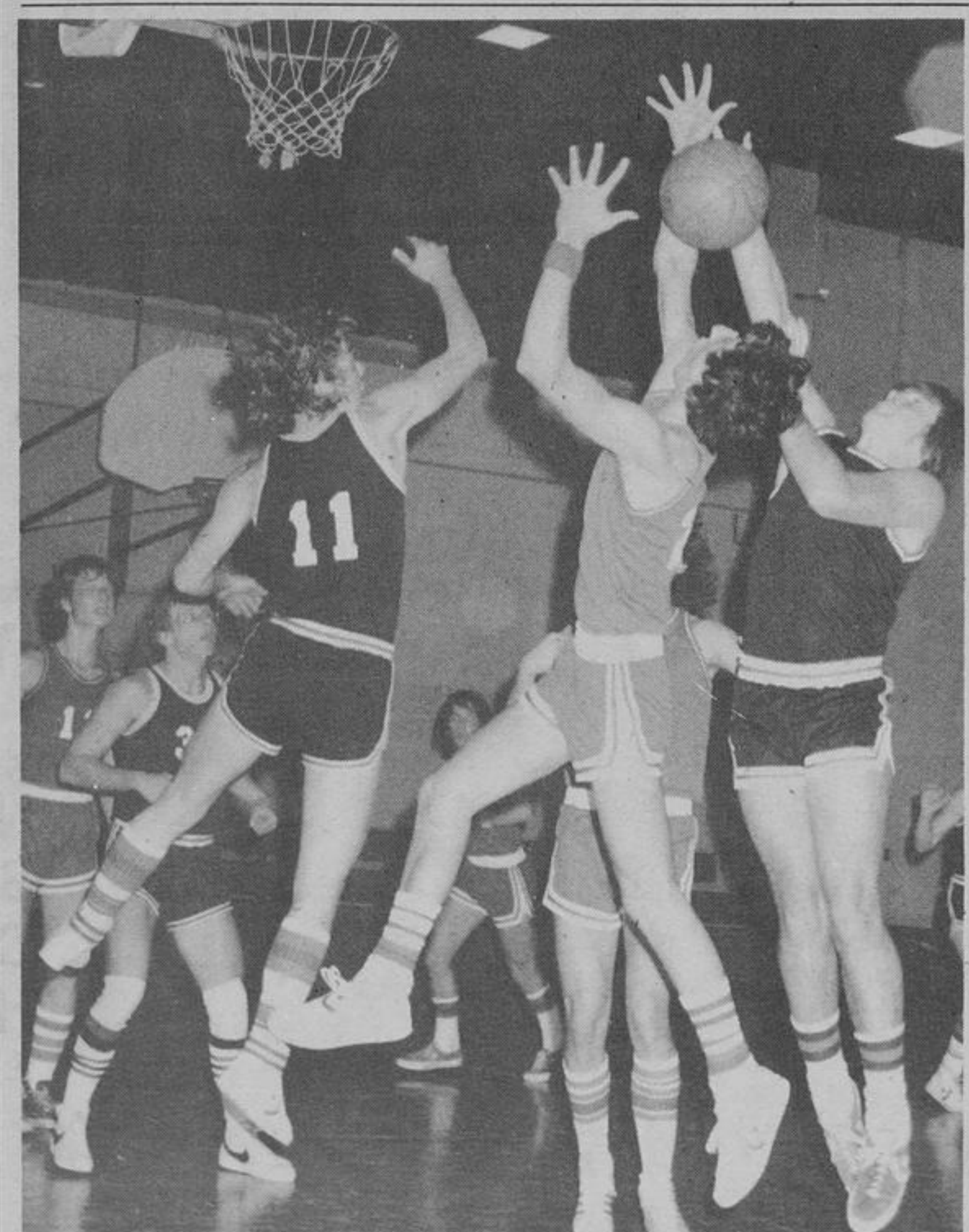
**NOTES**

Assistant coach Hal Murphy was behind the bench for the Orillia game in the absence of regular coach Artemchuk who was off nursing a cold.

... the only bright spot of the Jewellers' trip to Owen Sound last week was the bus ride home.

The bus celebrated Randy Irwin's 18th birthday by presenting him with a cake and the appropriate candles.

Oak Ridges plays in Orillia Sunday. They don't have a home game scheduled for next Monday night.



### Nice defense

Bayview Secondary's Dave Walker (11) knocks the ball away from Woodbridge opponent as basketball season gets

underway. The Bayview Seniors won this game 64-45, the midgets theirs 33-32. (Photo by Bruce Hogg).

Richmond Hill came up with a crushing 16-0 win over the Burmanthorpe club this week in the first badminton game of the season at Langstaff.

Individual results saw: Ladies Doubles — Donnie Westcott and Joan Freeman winning 15-7 and 15-5; Jill Dalton and Tanya Savoye winning 15-

0 and 15-7. Men's Doubles — Jim and Peter Ho winning 15-10 and 15-10; Fred Fletcher and Orville Wong winning 15-5 and 15-4.

Mixed Doubles — Jill Dalton and Jim Ho winning 15-5 and 15-3; Tanya Savoye and Peter Ho winning 15-11 and 15-3;

Donnie Westcott and Fred Fletcher winning 15-5 and 15-9; Joan Freeman and Orville Wong winning 15-7 and 15-5. Richmond Hill travels to the Trinity Club for its next match. Trinity was the only club last year to take a point from the Hill on its league winning championship march.