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Wednesday March 21, 1979

Legion Midgets blitz Fraser 10-1

The bubble might burst but it was a delightful beginning for the Richmond Hill Legion Midgets Monday night as they celebrated the start of the 12th annual International Midget Tournament in Richmond Hill.

It was strictly landslides-ville as far as the visitors from Fraser, Michigan, were concerned as they were buried 10-1 by the Legion before over 1,000 quite happy spectators.

Come to think of it, it was a good start all around as the Thornhill Tudor Glen Homes squad kicked off the weeklong marathon with a 3-2 triumph over Don Mills.

SPREE

But it was the Richmond Hill triumph that put the final shine to the first day of the tournament as they rambled to a victory behind the three-goal performances of Ross Cramer (plus one assist) and Danny Henderson (plus one assist) with Shawn McDowell coming up with two goals and singles to Dave Allen and Doug Jones.

It would be unkind to say the

visitors were inept but they certainly didn't have one of their finer games as they give up at least three shorthanded goals in a game which was no contest right from the start.

LED EARLY

The Hill team led 2-0 at the end of the first period and 8-0 going into the final period and could easily have had four or five more. Fraser finally got a puck by Richmond Hill's Jim Roberts in the final period but it was much, much too late.

CLOSE GAMES

It was the only lop-sided game of the day as Thornhill started it off with its narrow win over Don Mills courtesy of two last period goals by Gary Curley and Jim Jones. Dave Thompson assisted on the first one and Paul Howson on the second one.

This offset two second period scores by Don Mills' Rob Dye and Tony Digiovani with Thornhill's Steve Mallett getting one of those back from Thompson.

Other results:

Brampton Legionnaires 3,

Niagara Falls 3. This one was won in overtime by Dwayne Doettger at the five minute mark. Al Kerr and Ralph Kelly got the other Niagara goals. Wayne Meger and Paul Nagay scored for Brampton.

Kitchener 3, Peterboro 1. Dave Ostrander led the winners with two goals with Carl Schlegel getting the other one.

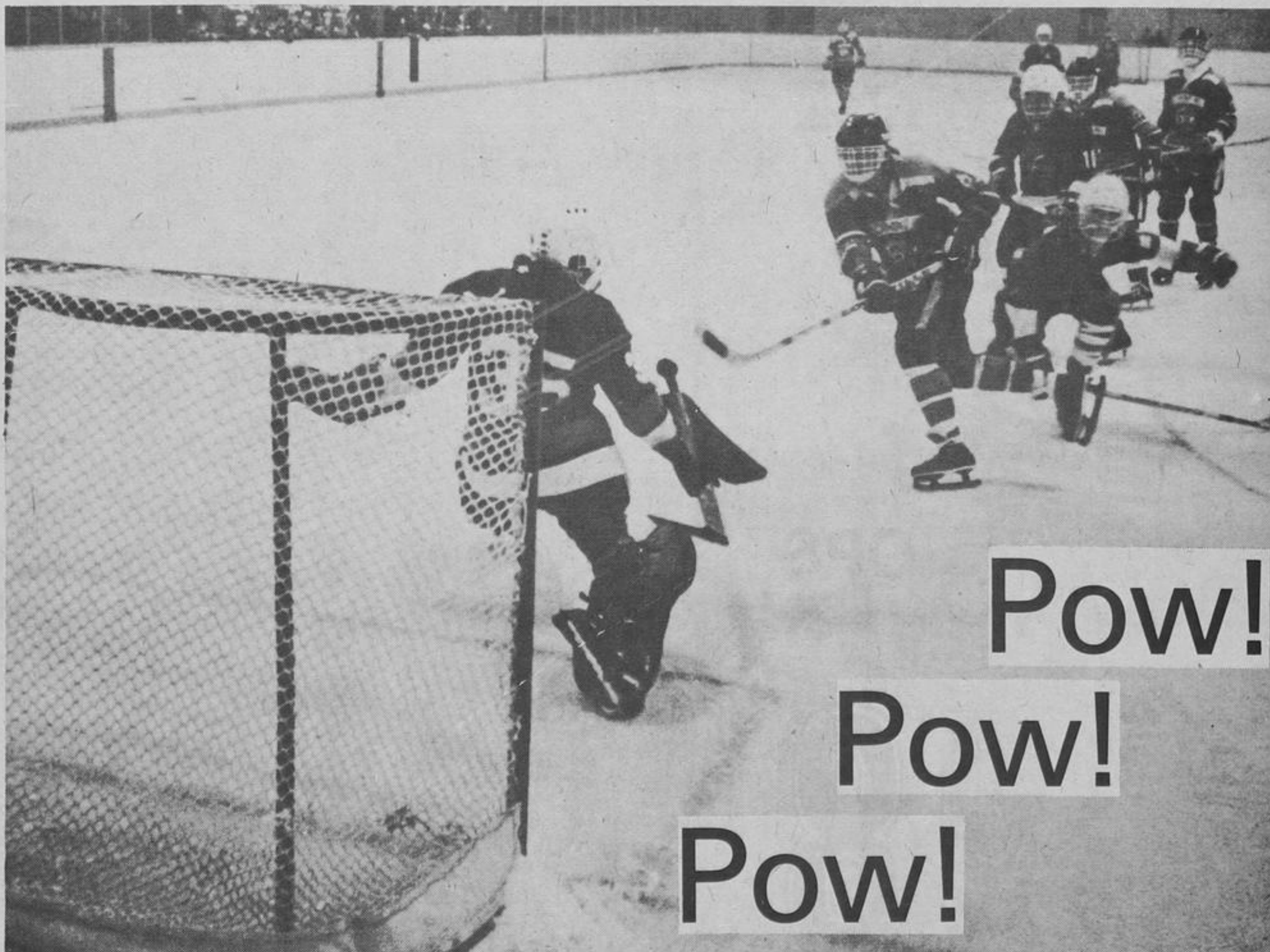
Oakville Rangers 6, Detroit Northwest 1. For Oakville it was Joel Bowen, Steve Meldrum, John Hicks, Sean Doyle, Bob Bernier and Dave Taylor scoring.

North York Flames 4, Brantford 1. Derm Gushue got two goals for the winners with singles to George Finn and Chris Kontos.

St. Clair Shores 3, Barrie Colts 2. Another close one with Bob Gray, Tony Curtale and Larry Lulich scoring for the winners. The final game saw Burlington blanking Welland 1-0.

Opening ceremonies were highlighted by the presence of the Legion Color Guard as well as other tournament dignitaries such as Harry Copps, president of Branch 375, Richmond Hill Legion; Richmond Hill Councillor Al Duffy; Tournaments Incorporated President Marsh Amos; Bob Reeves, president of the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association and others.

Finally, providing Richmond Hill won Tuesday night's game against Burlington, the next game is Friday night at 8:30 p.m.



**Pow!
Pow!
Pow!**

Richmond Hill Legion's Doug Jones pulls the trigger here and he's dead on in Monday night's 10-1 cakewalk over Fraser, Michigan, in the 12th annual International

Midget Hockey Tournament. The Hill team had numerous breakaways and scored three shorthanded goals. (Photo by Hogg).



fred simpson

Ooops

How do I get myself into these situations? Let me explain. I'm referring to an article in last week's 'Liberal' which was headlined 'This girl's no lady on the ice.'

I confess at the outset that I wrote the article. From this moment on I'm not too sure of what I did.

The first two paragraphs, in case you missed them, read like this:

"You can always tell when seven-year-old Laura Crowe is on the ice with the Richmond Hill Dairy Queen House League Mites hockey team.

"There are boys topling like 10-pins. 'She's a terror,' says Laura's father, Bob Crowe. 'I sometimes have to turn my head.'"

BLEW IT

Well, I blew it. My sole intention was to write (hopefully) a light-hearted article on a little girl's turning the tables on little boys by bouncing them around.

I even humored myself by recalling the time back in Grade 2 when I got in a fight with a girl and lost. I still think some psychiatrist could trace that incident down and come up with something. Especially since I still lose fights with them.

My mistake was to forget that little boys also have mothers and fathers.

LETTER

Hence a letter from G. Olmstead who has two boys, ages 4 and 5, playing in the Richmond Hill Mite division. You can read the entire letter in the front section (Page 5) of this week's Liberal.

Mr. Olmstead takes the writer (me) to task for the violent nature of the article and I'm probably guilty.

He says at one point that "it is obvious from the article that the father is proud of his child's devastation. It is also clear that the writer of the article has never seen the child on the ice or else he or she condones violence in hockey."

I was guilty of not even dwelling on the possibility of encouraging violence or condoning it with the article. I simply thought it was rather interesting that a seven-year-old girl was making the boys wary.

We all take some lumps as youngsters and, in fairness to Laura and her father, I hardly think they should be linked with the violence that seems to be dominating hockey these days.

Having said that, I generally agree with Mr. Olmstead's viewpoints on violence in hockey.

What I'm really trying to say, I guess, is don't be too hard on Laura or Mr. Crowe. They're really nice people. A..d so am I, honest.

NOTES

Just notes:

It's busy, busy right now with that big Legion Midget tournament at the halfway point with the grand wind-up next Sunday at 2 p.m. with the final championship game.

A lot of sweat, worry and fretting goes into the tournament every year but its success speaks for itself. Hang in there fellows and keep the end-of-the-week aspirin bottle replenished.

MARY

Softball items here: Mary Williamson and her merry band of junior girls ballplayers will be going again this season and they're still having the same problem. No sponsor. C'mon fellas, surely one of you out there can get behind the girls. They play good ball and they certainly need some encouragement. You can reach Mary at 884-7620.

Another missive on my desk informs me that Video Real Estate, last year's Richmond Hill Major Fastball League champions, have a new sponsor. This year they will be known as Kinnear Leasing Ltd. Welcome aboard.

CASEY

Finally, old maestro Russell "Casey" Cripps of the Wilson Niblett OFL fastball entry reports a good turnout of 17 players at his last practice. He's also signed Ron Schnobb, of last year's team, and newcomer Gary Preszator, an outfielder.

G'bye I'm off to the tournament.



Zap

David Allen makes it look easy here as the Richmond Hill Legion Midgets score again in 10-1 romp over Fraser, Michigan. (Photo by Hogg).

It wasn't Jane's day at Detroit track meet

By BOB THOMPSON

Local athletes did exceptionally well at the 9th annual AFL-CIO indoor track and field meet in Detroit last week-end, returning home with four second, one third, one fourth, one fifth and a seventh place award.

Jumper-thrower Jane Toporowski, now competing for the North York Track and Field club, loaded four second place trophies into her bag after the three-day competition, while runner Mike Smith was pleased with his third place award for the 600 yard sprint.

Toporowski had a horrendous week-end of competition which carried right through until the final event, the open womens high jump, which Jane lost to Branda Rigus of Chicago, because of a previous knock down at a lower height.

Trouble started during her high jump event on Saturday, for girls under twenty years of age, when the start of shot-put was called midway through the jumping affair.

UGH

The constant changing of shoes, the sprints from one area to the other, effectively broke her concentration and Jane had to

settle for second place in both events.

The next day in the senior womens events, errors by the shot-put officials turned the throwing competition into a sad affair.

"My coach tells me not to criticize officials" said Jane, "after all they are volunteers, but when the Sunday officials didn't have a clue where to measure from, missed faults, and just performed in a general slipshod fashion, all the competitors in the womens' shot put lost their incentive."

Jane lost both throwing events by a mere two inches in each case.

While Toporowski was having her troubles, the young bantam-midget competitors of Tri Town Track Club were competing and just missing the major trophy and ribbon awards.

Bantam dryw Thompson recorded a seventh place ranking in the boys shot put where three inches separated the fifth place award from his seventh place distance.

Team-mate Mark Dimpfel tried his hand at the 300 and 600 yard sprints and presented the 1000-plus crowd with some ex-

citement with a gutsy performance in the 300 sprint to win his heat in the last few strides.

Unfortunately, for 13 year old Mark, the only people who didn't see it the way the crowd did were the officials who ultimately placed him in second place, effectively eliminating him from further competition.

HIGH JUMP

Midget girls Lori Bordignon and Patty Murray performed effectively in the high jump with fourth and fifth place efforts while Dianne Bordignon contested the 60 yard and 300 yard sprints.

A bright light for The Hill was Mike Smith gaining third place in the 600 yard competition for boys under 20 years, and then, the following day, a repeat effort in the same event against the senior men and a 1.17.2 timing.

HAPPY

Mike was happy with his time, but claimed it came a day late. "My Sunday time of 1.17 would have won the Saturday race, but it took me almost the entire race to adjust to the tight corners on the 160 yard track."

Dynes Spring comes early

"We were whopped," was the succinct way Oak Ridges Dynes Jewellers' coach Pete Artemchuk put it.

The statement came in the wake of an 11-3 drubbing at the hands of the Oakville Blades Tuesday night of last week in the seventh and final game of their best-of-seven Central Ontario Junior B hockey playoff series.

He added that, despite the decisive score, the Jewellers gave it a determined shot under adverse circumstances.

Namely: Injuries and various other ailments.

"It's not an excuse," he said.

"Oakville would be tough to beat under any circumstances but we simply ran out of bodies. It could have just as easily been Oakville."

Artemchuk was missing manpower after a good first period which saw the Jewellers take a 1-0 lead against the hometown Blades.

"We lost Brent Dobson in that period when someone whacked him across the arm with a stick. He couldn't lift it above his belt after that and he was finished."

"And Craig Halliday couldn't get rid of his charleyhorse and, along with his bad ankle, he had

to call it a day. From there on we were down to about nine reasonably healthy people and we just ran out of steam."

WHAP

The result was inevitable and didn't take long.

Oakville came up with three straight goals in the first five minutes of the second period, the first two within 53 seconds of one another.

Earl Deamond managed to get that one back at 5:04 from Darren Ross and Andrew Damonze but the floodgates had been opened.

The Blades pumped in two more to make it 5-2 before Dynes'

Earl Hachborn scored from Kevin Johnstone and Damonze.

Before the period ended the Blades scored another two to make it 7-3. It was just a case of how many more in the final 20 minutes and that turned out to be five.

Damonze opened the scoring for Dynes in the first period at 4:24.

FLAT

"Strangely enough," said Artemchuk, "Oakville could have been had in that game. They came out flat in the first period but we just couldn't finish them."

Artemchuk said that "despite

the loss I was proud of the guys. They gave it all they had under very trying circumstances.

"Quite frankly," he added, "I was surprised we got as far as we did this season. We had the youngest team in the league, a lot of rookies, and not too many veterans left at the end."

He said it was "also our first year in the Central league and it's a pretty tough place to play."

Artemchuk acknowledged there was "some question about our goaltending before the playoffs but I'd like to say at this point that Steve Latimer came on like gangbusters in this past series.

"He was eating a lot of rubber in that last game but he came up really big. It certainly wasn't his fault."

Big scorers for Oakville in that final game were Lou Carnevale and Shane Payette with three goals apiece.

As for next season? "We've got a lot of good rookies," said Artemchuk. "The team should do very well."

As for himself? "I haven't thought one way or another about my position next year," he said. "I'll have to give it some thought over the next few weeks. I just haven't decided."

Mayor Schiller all wet

Schiller will be all wet come April 8.

For a good reason.

He'll be again participating in the annual Richmond Hill Aquatic Club's Swim-a-thon at the local Centennial Pool on Newkirk Road at Crosby Avenue.

The swimmers, who have been canvassing the town for sponsors, will swim distances of 50 to 200

lengths, depending on their age and proficiency.

They have been asking for pledges for each length or the total distance covered. The money collected in this way is used to help support amateur swimming in Richmond Hill.

The Swim-a-thon, sanctioned by the Canadian Amateur Swimming Association, is held all across Canada and the proceeds

are important in supporting Canada's most successful gold medal sport.

Besides it will be fun seeing Mayor Schiller get soaked and in doing so help foster competitive swimming in Richmond Hill.

Persons wishing to pledge may do so by calling Shirley Clarke at 884-8003, Pete Evans at 884-4594, and Audrey Crockford at 669-1840.

Mayor Schiller will be doing his dive between 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 8.

If you have any youngsters who might like to take part in competitive swimming, bring them along and have a chat with the coach and have a coffee on the Aquatic Club.

Besides it will be fun seeing Mayor Schiller get soaked and in