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Wednesday, April 11, 1979

# Brockton Midgets win Ontario

What's better than winning the Stanley Cup?  
 Easy.  
 Winning the All Ontario Double C Midget championship if you're coach Tony Van Loon and his Oak Ridges Alex Brockton Midgets.  
 "You can have your Stanley Cup," said Van Loon in the wake of last Sunday's series-ending 6-5 victory over Mitchell.  
 "I'll take this any time and I think the kids agree with me. We still haven't come down to earth."

Coach Van Loon has additional reasons for his lack of gravity. He was in his first year as head coach in OMHA play and with the Brockton team after serving several years in the house league.  
 "At the beginning of the season," he said, "I'd have been quite happy just to win our zone championship. But it came together in the playoffs."  
 No doubt about it.

**FOUR STRAIGHT**  
 The suddenly explosive Brockton team swept through Mitchell in four straight games winning the final two Saturday and Sunday by 2-1 and 6-5.

"Those last two games were tight," said Van Loon. "Mitchell never gave up but my team played some good hockey also."  
 Saturday's game saw all the goals coming in the first period with Michael O'Grady the triggerman for Oak Ridges on two occasions. He was assisted on both goals by Ihor Chornobaj and on the first one by Dave Mashinter.

**GOOD SAVES**  
 While the remaining two periods were scoreless both goaltenders came up with some fine saves with Brockton's Dave McQuarrie in particularly fine form to hold off a determined Mitchell club.  
 Sunday's contest in Mitchell saw Brockton's having to come from behind twice in the first period to take the lead for good. It was a see-sawing score all the way with things tied 2-2 going into the second and 4-4 going into the third.

Steve Nolan got the go-ahead going in the final period, his second of the night, and then Charles Trask got his second to make it 6-4. Rick Greenslade got

the other two goals.  
 Mitchell managed to get one of the goals back but Oak Ridges goalie Mark Spensley shut the door after that. It was Spensley's turn to come up big on this one.

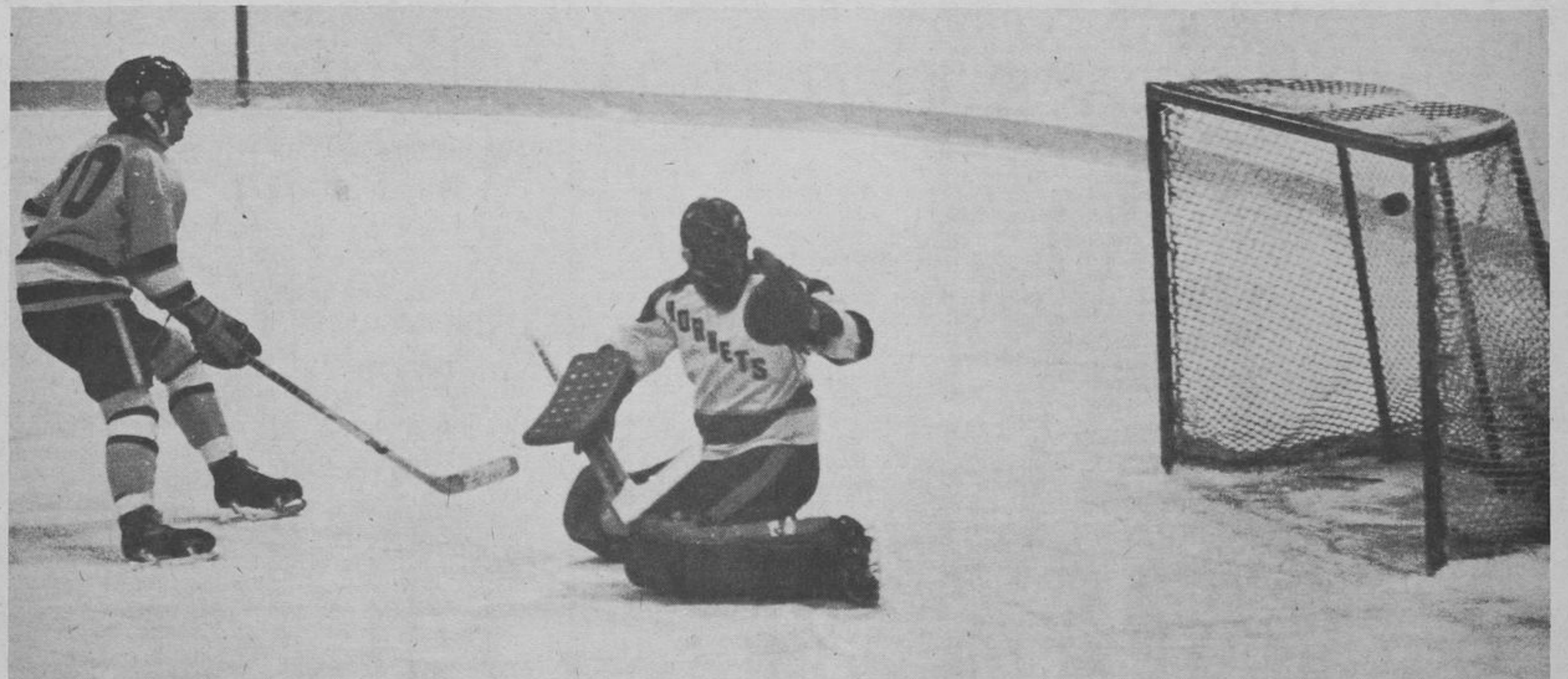
It was the second time in the past four years that the Oak Ridges Brockton midgets have won the All Ontario.

"I first started thinking about

championship possibilities after we got by Uxbridge," said Van Loon. "We beat Uxbridge three games to one but they were a very tough team. After that you could feel it."

Van Loon, still off the ground, doesn't know about next year.  
 "I suppose some will go into either junior or juvenile hockey. As for myself? If most of the guys decide to come back so will I. If

they stick with me, I'll stick with them."  
 In the meanwhile the team is entering a tournament next week. They intend to win it.



**He scores**

Robbie Dynes of Barrel Pizza fires the puck home here enroute to his team's easy 8-1 triumph over Alliston in first annual Richmond Hill Town Hockey League tournament. Barrel went on to meet its Waterloo against L & M All Stars of Richmond Hill who downed them 3-1 to win the 'A' championship. (Liberal Photo by Bruce Hogg).

## Town team wins tourney

It was supposed to be the first annual Richmond Hill Town Hockey League hockey tournament on the weekend but it looked like something else.

Like old home week for ex-Richmond Hill Provincial A Rams.

When the Barrel Pizza team met the L & M Auto Wrecking Town All Stars in the A championship game it was hard to shoot a puck without hitting an ex-Ram on either team.

But that didn't mean the action wasn't intense as the all-stars surprised the pre-game favorite Barrel team by a 3-1 score to win the first-ever A championship at Richmond Hill Arena Sunday night.

The Barrel boys, their line-up boasting such familiar names Bill Stephenson and Tony Bellavance, ex-Rams, never really got out of the starter's gate against the winners.

Another ex-Ram, Jim Roffey, set the pace of the game for L & M when he hit the post seconds into the game and from there on spent a lot of time hitting Barrel Pizza bodies.

On one occasion thumper Roffey knocked two opponents down with one check.

Another dominant figure was Rob Hurlburt who drew a lot of respect from everyone on the ice and also took time out to score a goal.

Wayne Roffey put L & M in the lead as he tucked a pass in from Hurlburt when left standing all by himself in front of goalie Phil Belavance.

Barrel got back in the game briefly in the second period when John Harrington's blaster was partially blocked by Dave Carnell but sneaked past his shoulder.

Then it was Errol Hook getting the winning goal from Clayton Chapman off a face-off. Hurlburt finished the scoring in the third

period from Wayne Roffey.  
 Both teams enjoyed a fine tournament in getting into the A championship.

The L & M team disposed of Bolton 5-2 with Chapman scoring two goals, Hogg's Hollow 5-3 with Chapman again a two-goal man, and The Star 5-0 behind the shutout goaltending of Benny Bourget.

The Barrel boys looked unbeatible as they eased their way past Bradford 7-1 and Alliston 8-1.

Game's end Sunday night saw Dave Carnell of the winning L & M team picked as the game's most valuable player for his team; and Hal Murphy for his Barrel team.

The tournament's best goalie was Bennie Bourget of L & M; Roger Poole of Barrel was the most valuable tournament player.

'B' champions were Bolton in a breeze as they demolished Summit 9-0. Enough said.  
 Happiest man in the rink was

Richmond Hill Town Hockey League President Jack Major.  
 "I think it was a great first effort," he said. "We had 300 spectators there on each of the two days and there might have been more except for the bad weather Sunday night."

He paid special tribute to the tournament organizer, John Mills, "who did a simply fantastic job. Don't forget to mention that," he said.

A total of 12 teams competed in the two-day tournament.

## House tourney starts

Six hundred and fifty youngsters from the Richmond Hill and Oak Ridges Hockey Associations will be giving out with their last hurrah of the 1978-79 season this weekend.

That's when the first annual Richmond Hill House League hockey tournament gets underway.

Friday will be the kick-off day with a slew of hockey games going until Sunday at the Richmond Hill and Bond Lake Arenas.

The line-up Friday is as follows:  
 Richmond Hill Arena:  
 Peewees, 11 a.m. and 12 noon;  
 Mites, 1 to 2 p.m.; Novice, 3 p.m.;

Midgets, 4 p.m.; Peewees, 6 p.m.; Novices, 7 p.m.; Bantams, 8 and 9 p.m.

Bond Lake Arena: Atoms, 9 and 10 a.m.; Novices, 11 a.m.; Mites, 12 noon; Peewees, 1 p.m.; Bantams, 2 and 3 p.m.; Midgets 4 p.m.

The tournament will feature, for the most part, A and B champions with Sunday seeing all the championship games played at Richmond Hill Arena.

An exception will be the four-team Midget division which will be holding a grand championship game.

Sunday's line-up is as follows with all the games championship

encounters unless otherwise noted: Mites, 1 p.m.; Novices, 2 p.m.; Consolation Atoms, 3 p.m. with championships at 4 p.m.;

Peeewe Consolation, 5 p.m. with championship to follow; Bantams, 7 p.m.; Midgets, 8 p.m.

An extra highlight of the tournament will be an All Ontario playoff game at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Richmond Hill new Arena between the local minor peeewe's and South London.

Admission to the tournament is \$1.

Co-chairmen of the tournament are Tom Simpson and Ron Russell. Treasurer is Tom Veitch.

The tournament is being partially sponsored by Scotia Bank of Richmond Hill which donated \$1,000 to help with costs.  
 States Russell:  
 "We've tried this before with varying success but I think it should go over very well this time. Maybe next year we can get Maple involved since some of their teams play with our Midgets."

## Richmond Hill M. Peeewe's in trouble

That great beginning for the Richmond Hill Minor Peeewe's ran into a temporary roadblock on the weekend in London Town.

The Hill youngsters, who had opened their All Ontario championship finals with a 3-2 win over South London, lost 5-1 and 2-1 games Saturday and Sunday respectively.

"It would have been nice to win," said coach John Pyatt but "the youngsters gave it their best. London has a very good team."

Coach Pyatt didn't have much to say about the Saturday 5-1 loss. The score said it for him.

"We were never in that game," he said. Dave McKee got Richmond Hill's lone goal.

"We changed our system in the second game," he said. "And I thought it worked out pretty well. They just won the game with a goal in the final minutes."

Pyatt went back to his former defensive system of having two wingers on the points in our end instead of the centreman. We were doing that earlier in the year.

"London seemed to be figuring out what we were doing in the previous game."

Pyatt is confident his team "can win at home Saturday and after that we'll see."

Sunday's game in London saw London open the scoring with Tim Lawlor tying the game which set the scene for the third period downfall.

Richmond Hill is faced with a "must" game next Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Richmond Hill Arena.



**fred simpson**

### April Showers

I couldn't resist humming a few bars of "April Showers" as I munched my way through the snow banks last Sunday night on my way to the Richmond Hill Arena.

It all seemed so logical. Earlier in the day some acquaintances had arrived from Calgary bearing Christmas presents they'd never gotten around to mailing.

There must be some sanity still around, I mumbled to myself as I rushed in the arena door. I mean what else is there to do on a snowy April Sunday night except go to a hockey game? I thought of something else but I couldn't find anyone around who wanted to co-operate.

#### NOSTALGIA

In any case it turned out to be quite an enjoyable wind-up to the two-day Richmond Hill Town League's first annual hockey tournament.

For awhile I thought I was in the presence of a Richmond Hill Rams' reunion what with familiar names like Tony Bellavance, Billy Stephenson and Jim Roffey gracing the various line-ups not to mention oodles of other familiar names of by-gone days.

Have always been something of a nostalgic type so I was right in my element watching all those ex-Junior players doing their stuff.

Nostalgia, of course, can be a two-edged sword. It also serves to remind you of how quickly time passes. Has it been that long since Billy Stephenson was making waves as a young Bantam-aged player making his debut in junior hockey? That's a lot of April snowstorms ago.

#### TOURNEY

But time is going on right now and I've got to mention something about that Richmond Hill House League tournament coming up next Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Yeh, it's back to the arena again. But it should be fun. It's nice to see the house league youngsters getting some of the spotlight and it's a fitting way to end their season. Be sure to drop around.

Another highlight will be a playoff game in the new Richmond Hill Arena between the Richmond Hill Minor Peeewe's and South London.

#### SATURDAY AT 2 P.M.

This will be a do-or-die effort for the local gang who trail two games to one in their best-of-five All Ontario series.

I'd like to see the Hill team win this one but, better still, it would be nice to see a good turnout at the new arena. It's fun watching these youngsters and even more fun for them to have you watching them.

#### CONGRATS

While I'm at it, I should congratulate the Oak Ridges Alex Brockton Midgets who won their All Ontario championship on the weekend. Congratulations. And the same to all you other winners of this and that. Keep it up.

#### Some other notes here:

#### NOTES

The Wilson Niblett fastball team of the Ontario Fastball League are working out at Sheridan College at Brampton these wintry days with some 19 turning out lately.

Manager Russell "Casey" Cripps reports several signings bearing names like Ron Schnobb, Gary Preszator. He's also lining up pitchers like lefty Steve Crumpp and Dave Jackson and Mike McLeod, the latter two having pitched here last season.

Casey is optimistic as usual and that's not easy to be in snowy April.

The team, by the way, will be sporting new jerseys this season with the main colors being a combination of blue and white. More on this later.

Finally, the season gets underway May 13 with the Wilson Niblett team in St. Catharines. They open at the town park May 22.

All I can say is I hope it gets here soon. April's too finicky.

Really, finally, the Richmond Hill Tennis Club will be holding workouts for its Ladies' Major Inter County Central division league team starting April 18 and continuing for the following three weeks.

And just in case it snows, bring your skis.



### Yippee!

They're celebrating a great wind-up season, these members of the Richmond Hill Evergreen Lawn Sprinkler Minor Atom A's. They won the York Simcoe championship against Newmarket. In the photo are David Sharon, Maurice Poirier, Danny Jensen, Vince Capotosto, Andy Minuti,

Darin Chapman, Bobby Cook, Aldo Teofilo, Warren Payne, Brett Frederiks, Brian Hunt, L. Boff, Howard Burns, Craig Snider, goalie coach; Jim Fitzgerald, coach; Peter Lacey, assistant; Bob Cook, manager. Brian Coulson is not in photo. See B-2. (Photo by Hogg)