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Wednesday, December 12, 1979

Legion boys win Silver Stick



MIKE HEGENUER
Wounded hero

Richmond Hill Legion Midget coach Bruce Richter still hadn't got his feet back on the ground hours after his team had downed Owen Sound 6-3 to win the Silver Stick championship at Owen Sound.

"It's the first time a Richmond Hill Legion Midget team has won the Silver Stick," said a jubilant Richter. "The boys really came through."

That they did. The team played four games in the tournament tying Owen Sound in their first match 3-3 and then going on to drub Milton 7-0 and Oshawa 9-0 before hooking up

with Owen Sound in the grand finale.

This contest was highlighted by the heroics of Mike Hegenuer who wasn't even supposed to be playing in the game due to torn knee ligaments.

"We just dressed Mike so that he could sit in the penalty box in case we drew a bench penalty," said Richter. "Then came the third period and Dave Carmichael picked up a game misconduct and I had no one to throw out on the point. I decided to give Hegenuer a shot at it for one shift."

The score at the time was tied

at 3-3 and on the next play J.P. Farrell won the faceoff, got the puck back to Hegenuer on the point, and he whistled a low shot to the corner to give the Hill the lead.

ALL OVER

"It was all over then," said Richter. "That goal really gave us a lift and we went on to score two more." Hegenuer was out for one more shift and then retired to the bench to nurse his injury as well as his triumph.

The Legion had jumped into the lead by 2-0 in the first period on two goals by Farrell with assists to Ken Jensen and Jamie

Gwillam.

Owen Sound got one of those back before the period ended and then popped home two more in the second to lead 3-2 to set the scene for the Hegenuer dramatics.

It was Farrell tying the game up in the third period with his hat-trick followed by Hegenuer's go-ahead goal. Goals by Dave Banton and Andrew Don finished out the scoring.

Doug Macklin started the game in goal for Richmond Hill and was later replaced by Steve Harris. Both goalies played well in the tourney.

TIE 3-3

Richmond Hill opened the tournament against the same team and were unfortunate not to win that one. They walked into a late-game penalty and Owen Sound tied the game with only 11 seconds remaining.

This contest with Dave Banton getting the other one. Assists went to Gwillam, Dave Carmichael, Jensen, Banton, Pat Lawlor and Dave Leuschner.

Legion 7, Milton 0. J.P. Farrell was a three-goal man in this game with singles to Don, Banton, Gwillam, and Cashin.

Assists to Banton, Carmichael, Lawlor, Don, Jensen, Gwillam, and Paul Beckwith.

Legion 9, Oshawa 0. Ken Jensen and Pat Lawlor scored two goals apiece for the winners with singles to Carmichael, Farrell, Lorne Baxter, Andrew Don, and Leuschner. Assists to Jensen, Carmichael, two, Baxter, Don, three, Cashin, and Banton, two.

The Legion will now advance to the North American Silver Stick championships.

Richmond Hill now has a record of 17 wins, one loss, and one tie to date this season.

Beat Barrie Hill Bantams end famine

It took four years but the Richmond Hill Minor Bantams finally did it.

They went right into Barrie and blanked the home team 3-0 behind the airtight goaltending of Billy Keates who recorded his first shutout of the year.

James Barry opened the scoring for the Hill in the first period assisted by Kevin Ryan and Scott Boyle. The second period saw Gino Digioacchino making it 2-0 with assists to Pat Engel and John Zadona.

Richmond Hill parents, who had braved all types of winter weather the past four years, were understandably jubilant in the third period when Paul Joslin made it 3-0 over Barrie on a perfect pass from Shawn Gallagher.

It was a good week all round for the Minor Bantams who started

out very sluggishly this year. They also tied Thornhill 3-3 after being down 2-0 after the first period.

Kevin Ryan started the comeback in the second period on a spectacular short-handed goal from Dave Abernethy. Then it was Joslin scoring from Abernethy.

Trailing 3-2 in the final period the tiny line of Barry, Boyle and Ryan combined on a beautiful play to tie the game 3-3 as Boyle scored with only minutes remaining in the game.

In an exhibition game on Sunday the Minor Bantams lost a 4-3 game to the Triple A Markham squad. Paul Joslin scored two goals assisted on both by Shawn Gallagher. Gallagher scored the other goal with assists to Abernethy and Joslin.



These members of the Richmond Hill Legion Midget hockey team are holding high the Silver Stick championship trophy they won at Owen Sound on the weekend. Front row in the photo are Steve Harris, Paul Beckwith, Warren Nye, Doug Macklin, and J.P. Farrell. (Photo by Bruce Hogg)

Great feeling

Junior B's make move

Dynes Jewellers' Junior B's picked up more than just three points out of a possible four when

they met top-running Streetsville and Dixie this week. They not only tied Streetsville

Cellar-dwelling Rams lose 3 more

The Richmond Hill Rams added three more bricks to the wall they're building around themselves in the Provincial Junior A Hockey League basement.

They brought their dismal season's record to 3 wins, 21 losses and 1 tie last Sunday as they dropped a 7-5 game to Hamilton. This followed on the heels of a 9-2 loss to Dixie Bees Tuesday night of last week in The Hill and an 8-4 loss to Wexford Saturday night in Wexford.

The one positive note in the Hamilton loss was the fact that the team arrived in Hamilton with only 12 players, two of them goaltenders, and put up a tough battle.

"A few of the players missed travel connections," said Rams' general manager Sil Steffan, "and we went on the ice short-handed. Considering that we played very well and, with a little luck, could have won the game."

But luck isn't the Rams' ally to date this season.

Sunday's game saw them go into the second period leading the home team thanks to two goals by Mike Donnelly. That fatal second period saw the Hamilton team pour in four goals to the Rams' two by Steve McAleese and Paul Harrietha and it was all over.

Another bright spot was Donnelly scoring his third goal in the final 20 minutes for his hat-trick.

The loss to Wexford followed the same somewhat dreary route as in other games this season. Wexford led all the way.

Richmond Hill's marksmen were Donnelly with another two goals, Glen Oliver and Ken Main.

Goalgetters in the Dixie game were Oliver and McAleese.

The Rams added a new face to the line-up Sunday in the person of defenceman Phil McCrea who formerly played with the Belleville Junior B's.

"He's a rugged individual," said Steffan "and he should beef up our line-up. McCrea joins other new additions in the persons of Ian Myles and Mike North, and Richard Garneau.

"Despite our present record I haven't given up on making the playoffs this season. I think we have a pretty solid line-up now if we can just get them working together."

The Rams are in Dixie Sunday and are at home to Markham the following Tuesday night for a 7:45 p.m. game.

5-5 and beat Dixie 5-3 they also gained quite a bit of ground in the psychological department.

"I would say the psychological boost in doing so well against teams like Streetsville and Dixie is worth as much or more than the points," said coach Pete Artemchuck.

He was especially pleased with the performance against Dixie Monday night at Bond Lake Arena in Oak Ridges as his squad came from behind a 3-2 deficit in the third period to win it all.

The Dynes-men had gone into that period leading 2-1 and were set back on their heels when Dixie's Wayne Glendenning scored to tie the game and then Mark Palmer put them in front on a power play goal.

Then it was Karl Taylor getting the tying goal at 9:03 from Robin Searle.

The biggie came at 14:02 when Dixie's goalie raced out of his net to clear the puck and Mike Mattine got there before him, wheeled around the prone goalie, and popped the winner into the empty net.

Then it was Brian Risk putting the finishing touches to the game when he scored a shorthanded goal after taking a pass from Mr. Mattine.

"The boys played well," said Artemchuck. "I was worried for

awhile because it was one of those games where the puck just wasn't bouncing for us. But they kept plugging away and that was the story."

The other local goals were by Dan Henderson from Ed Gundert, a shorthanded one in the first period; and by John Murphy from Tom Graham and Henderson.

And for Artemchuck's money his team should have won Tuesday night of last week in Streetsville.

"We led Streetsville at various times by 2-0, 4-2, and then 5-4 with three minutes to go and they managed to tie it.

Mattine and Mark Roberts led the scoring with two goals apiece with Glen Wright getting the other one.

Roberts, in particular, was outstanding filling in at various positions. The locals were forced to go with only two defencemen, John Murphy and Andre Damonze, who each played for something like 55 minutes. Shawn McDowell was out with an injury and Ed Gundert couldn't make the game due to school pressures.

"We go against Burlington Friday night in Burlington and are at home to them Monday night. If we can take both those games we'll be in a position to challenge for first place," said Artemchuck optimistically.

It was only the second loss of the season for the Richmond Hill Bond Steel Atoms when they fell 1-0 to Markham but it was a big one.

The loss came in the Owen Sound Silver Stick Tournament and cost them the championship. They had won their first three games by 2-0 over the same Markham team, 6-2 over Orillia, and 4-2 over Newmarket.

That final game against Markham saw Richmond Hill's Jason Maxey playing an excellent game in goal but his teammates just couldn't break through.

The first and second periods were scoreless with Markham scoring the winning goal at 6:50 of the third period.

Richmond Hill 2, Markham 0. Maurice Poirier got his team off to a flying start scoring in the first 18 seconds of the game. Brian Hunt scored the second goal assisted by Fred Fredeiks. Jason Maxey earned a well-deserved shutout. All of the Steelers played an excellent game.

Richmond Hill 6, Orillia 2. Another fast start for Richmond Hill with Anthony Suchy scoring just 17 seconds into the game from Brian Hunt.

They were off and running then with goals by Aldo Teofilo from Andy Minuti and Brian Coulson; Vince Capotosto from Pat Fleming and Brett Frederiks; Hunt from Poirier and Jensen; Hunt from Frederiks and Warren Payne; and yet another by Hunt for his hat-trick from Poirier and Suchy.

David Sharone held the Orillia team to two goals.

Richmond Hill 4, Newmarket 2. The Hillers were playing their third game of the day. Suchy opened the scoring again in the second period from Hunt and Poirier.

Newmarket tied the game 30 seconds later only to have Minuti scoring from Teofilo and Brian Coulson. Hunt then scored the go-ahead goal from Suchy and Poirier. Newmarket scored one more goal in the third period. Brian Hunt scored the last goal from Poirier and Bobby Cook.

The Steelers now have won 23 out of their 25 games and have outscored the opposition 117 goals to 33. Get-well wishes to Lorenz Boff who was unable to go with the team to Owen Sound.

Near miss for Marway

The Richmond Hill Marway Minor Midgets came within one game of going all the way in the Belle River Midget Tournament on the weekend near Windsor.

They stormed through their first four games undefeated only to fall 5-1 to an American Minor Midget Double A team from Pontiac, Michigan in the final championship game.

Despite the loss the Hill team had numerous near-misses around the Pontiac twines. Marway's only goal of the final game went to Duane Aubie from Jim Flett and Mark Stevens.

Earlier in the tournament the Marway squad had whizzed through Belle River Midget B's 6-0, Grosse Pointe Minor Midget Double A's 6-2, Essex Midget A's 6-2, Harrow Midget Double C's 6-

0. Marway Farms 6, Belle River B's 0. A tremendous save by goalie Ron Laird on a one-man break late in the second period preserved Marway's shutout in this game.

Richmond Hill goalscorers in this game were Bob Hay from Mark Ellison and Mark Joslin; Jim Flett from Duane Aubie and Mark Stevens; Ellison from Aubie and Hay; Carl Boyle from Aubie; Ellison from Walter Harapiak; and Don Head from Harapiak and Aubie.

Marway 6, Grosse Pointe 2. Marway opened the scoring with two goals in the first period with James Kennedy scoring from Barry Munro; and Carl Boyle from Munro.

The second period saw Bob Hay

scoring from Joslin and Boyle. Grosse Pointe scored two quick goals in the third but Marway replied with three more as Hay clicked from Ellison; Aubie from Stevens; and Ben Carbone from Head.

Marway 6, Essex Midgets 2. Essex jumped into an early lead but Marway roared back with three goals to lead 3-2 in the second. It was Hay from Carl Boyle and Joslin; Carbone from Al Evelyn; Jim Flett from Joslin and Harapiak.

The third period saw Hay scoring from Joslin and Evelyn. Then it was two quick goals from Eddie Main from Barry Munro and then Munro and Carbone.

An amazing defensive move by Carl Boyle on a three-man break in the third period robbed Essex

of what looked to be a sure goal. Marway 6, Harrow Midgets 0. Goalie Don Fawcett got the shutout and winger Aubie had two goals and an assist. Other Marway goals went to Barry Munro, Mark Ellison, Steve Rumble, Carl Boyle, Carbone, Hay, Harapiak, two, and Mark Stevens, three.

Despite the loss of the final game the Richmond Hill Marway team came up with a fast-skating, well-disciplined performance all weekend. They had few penalties and left a good impression of Richmond Hill at Belle River.

Richmond Hill plays this Sunday against Barrie Minor Midgets at the Richmond Hill Arena.



fred simpson

Fun time

Here it is only 14 days till Christmas Eve and I read somewhere that Santa Claus got fired. These are truly troublesome times.

The word is he got fired from a Metro Department Store because he was a she and someone didn't like Santa with a high voice. And if that's confusing it must be 1979.

I just refuse to worry about it. Right now, anyway. There are more pressing things to talk about in this fast-approaching Christmas season.

For example, the eighth annual Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Pee-wee Tournament will be holding forth at the local arena December 26, 27, 28, and 29.

And it looks like it'll be quite a deal. There will be a total of 28 teams competing (including three from the United States for the first time) from December 26 to December 29.

It'll be a double knockout affair with "A" and "B" championships and a grand championship taking place on wind-up Saturday.

I can hardly believe eight years have sludged through the hour glass since I attended the first one of these tournaments. With mixed emotions, I might add.

Couldn't get too excited about watching small ones chasing a puck after being brought up on a steady diet of NHL hockey and such.

FUN TO WATCH

Came the pleasant surprise. These youngsters play fine hockey but more than that. They're fun to watch. Some are tiny, some are big, some are halfway in between.

And their co-ordination (mine still plays tricks on me) sometimes leaves a trifle to be desired. You'll see a goodly share of pratfalls, tumbles, missed opportunities, and a lot of humorous near-misses.

Aw, I can't explain it right now. Drop down to the arena and see for yourself. I'll guarantee you'll enjoy the proceedings. More on this next week.

CONGRATS

Better push on now. Should say congratulations to the Richmond Hill Legion Midgets for their triumph in the Silver Stick hockey tournament at Owen Sound on the weekend. And to all the other local minor hockey teams who didn't win the Silver Stick but came pretty close in some instances.

The Legion won their Division championship and now go on to take a stab at the North America title. Good luck.

BASKETBALL

And for your basketball aficionados, there'll be some fine action at Bayview Secondary School this Saturday.

Cliff Nuttall's Junior Bengals will be holding a tournament starting at 9 a.m. and it'll feature four top out-of-town squads as well as teams from Thornlea, Markham, Woodbridge and Parkway. The out-of-town teams will be from Erindale, Park Collegiate of Orillia, North Toronto and Neil McNeil. Admission is only 50 cents so drop around.