

Thunderbirds lose

The New Year probably can't come soon enough for Thornhill Tudor Glen Thunderbird Junior B coach Al Morris. Especially after 7-1 and 7-4 losses to Streetsville and Oakville respectively.

"We seem to be capable of playing good hockey in the other team's end but not our own," was coach Morris' comments following last Friday's loss to Oakville in Oakville.

"When they get in our

end we just don't finish off our checks. We're roaming all over the place and that kills us." Morris added that the team's defence is hurting due to injuries to such defenders as Paul Myers and Doug Heron.

"And another of our defencemen, Rob Browning, is playing on a bad leg. If we can ever get our defencemen healthy we should be okay in our own end."

The Oakville tilt saw the Birds trailing 2-1 at the end of the first period with Bill Chappell getting their only goal at 15:47.

Thornhill came out flying in the second period with Paul Howson tying the game at 5:48 from Rob Humphry and Mark Wiltshire on a power play; and Wiltshire putting them in front 3-2 at 7:06 from Howson on another power play.

Then they relaxed and the result was three Oakville goals, the last two within six seconds of one another, and the Birds never got really going again after that.

Thornhill's Shane Edgehill got one of the goals back before the period ended. The third period saw two more Oakville goals with the last one coming on an empty Thornhill net at 19:54.

Thornhill's best moment against Streetsville was the first period which was scoreless.

The Derby's then proceeded to hammer in five straight goals in the second period and then outscore the Birds two to one in the final 20 minutes. Howson got Thornhill's only goal from Mike Davidson at 3:32.

The Thunderbirds host Burlington Sunday night at 8 p.m. at the Thornhill Community Centre.

Bayview undefeated

The Bayview Secondary School Junior Bengals made it three wins without a loss in York County High School Basketball League action last week with a hard-fought 52-45 win over Thornlea Thors at Bayview.

A big reason for the victory was the smallest

man on the team. Rick Scragg.

"Rick played exceptionally well," said coach Cliff Nuttall. "He kept us in the ballgame most of the way. If I had five more Scraggs on the team there wouldn't be a team around that could beat me."

Nuttall noted that

Scragg "is very quick, has excellent timing and just never quits."

Scragg also popped in 16 points to go along with high-scoring John Brillert's 19.

The Juniors total season record is now six wins and one loss.

Another game saw the Bayview Midgets lose 59-35 to Markham.

Santa misses curlers... but that's all right

By JACK RICKABY Santa Claus failed to make his usual appearance at the Mixed Christmas Bonspiel at the Richmond Hill Curling Club this year.

It was not an oversight on the part of the old gentleman. Instead of distributing gifts to the curlers, the presents brought by the members were turned over to the Salvation Army for their welfare program.

This did not detract from the enjoyment of the day. A full program of curling, in a unique, although somewhat confusing format, a traditional turkey dinner and an evening of energetic dancing produced an enjoyable opening for the Club's series of holiday activities.

The "Sinners" held their Christmas Turkey Bonspiel on the following Sunday. In addition to the usual number of "turkeys" taking part,

three authentic birds graced the holiday dinners of lucky members of the winning groups. Four extra prizes, donated by Art Gibson, were taken home by other Sinners.

The Ladies' Section celebrated their Yuletide Bonspiel on a snow swept December 19. Although activities were delayed a bit by the inclement weather, the arranged two draws eventually got underway.

An added feature was the imposition of a small fine for any curler not making the hog line or throwing a "hot" draw through the house.

These fines, together with the proceeds of a lucky draw, produced a total of almost \$60 which was donated to the Adult Rehabilitation Centre. Someone is benefitting from all those missed shots.

The curling was followed by a luncheon and sing-song. Santa Claus, in the person of

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Laura Watson, did manage to make an appearance although "he" did have some difficulty with his costume. Laura hardly has the figure to fill the club's Santa outfit which was originally intended for a much more robust individual.

Curling activities will remain in abeyance until January 3. However, plans are well underway for the New Year's Eve party to usher in the new decade. A limited number of reservations may still be made by calling the Club office.

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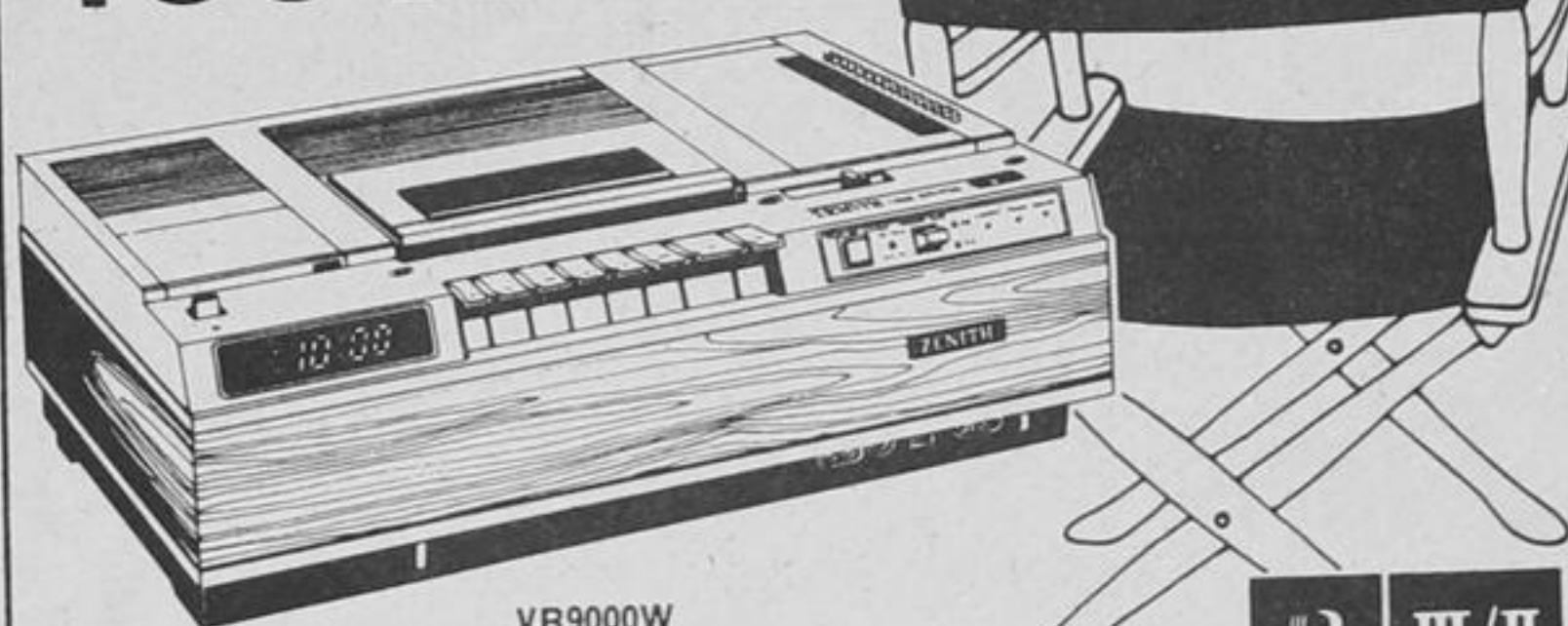
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