

Weekender

Sports

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Markham Atoms in football finals

Make no mistake, the Markham football Atoms certainly know the right time for getting revenge.

The squad was shut-out three times this season by the Thornhill Seahawks. But it gained revenge at just the right time, shooting down the Seahawks 18-0 to gain a spot in today's North York Football League championship.

Scott Crone's running game made the difference. He galloped 50 yards on a first-quarter reverse to put the locals on the scoresheet with an unconverted major.

In the second quarter Crone took off for a 60-yard run that finished in another unconverted touchdown. Wesley Matheson came up with a strong play, ending the half with an interception.

Matheson completed the Marauder offence with a 60-yard touchdown run in the final quarter. Mark Slater contributed a strong defensive effort.

"In our previous meetings Thornhill totally shut us down," said Ron Chadband, who coaches the club with John Matheson and Bob Prefontaine.

"But we have a balanced attack, and the boys just sort of realized the importance of the game."

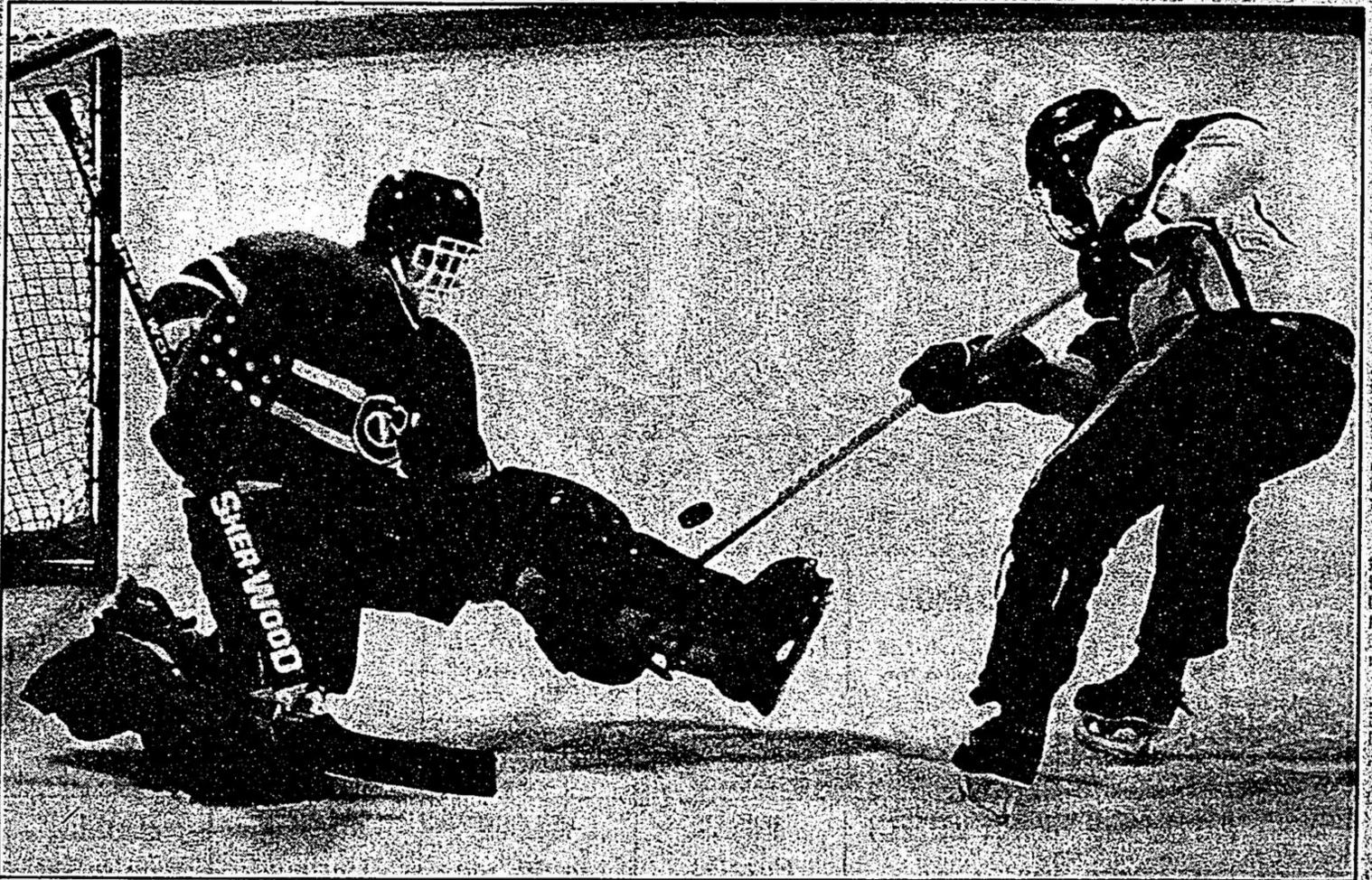
The Peewee Marauders were looking forward to a possible Thornhill confrontation in their division final. And that may have been part of the reason they dropped their semi-final matchup 6-0 to the North York Bandits.

Markham certainly had chances to score, both before and after the opposition put its only points on the board with a short fourth-quarter run.

First off, the club put together a sweep that could have hit paydirt in the first quarter. But a fumble doomed the opportunity.

"We recovered the ball, but it killed the play, which was set up beautifully," said coach Rick McHale.

(Cont. on 18)



Markham Bs go undefeated

The Markham Travelways had a good week in Metro Jr. B hockey action, trampling Kingston 8-4 and battling Bramalea to a 4-4 draw Thursday night. Here, veteran Mike O'Toole is stopped on a close-in

chance by the Kingston netminder. Markham has only one loss so far this season.

— Sjoerd Witteveen

Uxbridge's 'super coach'

By KELLY CONNELLY

Jim Schwan is probably the Scotty Bowman of high school basketball coaches.

Like the modest fellow he is though, he'd disagree with that inference. Instead Schwan attributes his successful seasons with the Uxbridge Secondary School Tigers to

the education system that nurtures student talent.

However, in the Oshawa-Whitby-Ajax area and in some cases Central Ontario, his name is synonymous with good basketball teams. And championships.

For the past 18 years, Schwan has played bench master to the girls

and boys senior Tiger squads — the linchpin of Uxbridge Secondary's pre-eminent reputation on the court.

He's guided the senior boys' squad to 12 league championships and two Central Ontario crowns. During his four-year coaching term with the senior girls' club, Schwan has brought home two of each of the above.

So what's his secret?

"We have an excellent feeder system in our public schools," Schwan pointed out. "There seems to be this constant continuity (between both levels of schooling) if the players had excellent coaching in the younger grades, it continues into high school."

"I also have another advantage," he continued. "I've coached a lot of the Senior girls when they were Midgets and Juniors, so I'm able to incorporate the same principles I taught them a few years ago."

That the girls didn't do as well in '84 and were eliminated in the semi-finals wasn't a result of some flaw in Schwan's court strategy.

The coach took a much-needed rest last year and Newton Reed was the incumbent skipper. Still, Schwan's basketball dogma achieved the league championship for the boys that season.

But where a coach's talents are really tested is when he or she must contend with a pre-season crop of rookies and only two or three experienced returning players.

It's called the graduation syndrome, and it almost always leaves a championship team — especially a senior roster — virtually anorexic in the talent department come the new season.

Only three senior girls from last year's group have returned to the



JIM SCHWAN

Scotty Bowman of coaches

Tiger dressing room. Audra Goeree, a 6'5" centre, coupled with Tracy Paradine and Dawn Stewart, inevitably form the nucleus of this year's squad, said Schwan. The remainder of his bench is filled with "very young" Grade 11 players.

Despite this Uxbridge has not only secured first place in regular season play with a 17-5 record (including tournaments), but it automatically gets a bye in first round playoff action.

The Tigers host its semi-final wrangle next Friday against the winner of an Ajax-Whitby confrontation.

Then there's the male Tiger dressing room and the return of just two veteran players: Rob Atkinson and Carl Orr, both over six feet tall. Their season gets underway shortly.

You can bet Schwan will coach this team of neophytes too, and try to carve another championship contender out of the Tiger zoo.

Baker on gold medal swimming spree

No one can accuse Markham's Kristina Baker of not having the basics of competitive swimming down pat.

Baker proved her abilities for the Town of Markham Aquatic Club (MAC) at a recent meet in Pickering. There, she collected gold medals in the 11- and 12-year-old girls' 200-metre breaststroke, and 100 and 200-m butterfly.

Those accomplishments were good enough to earn Baker the individual high point trophy for her age group.

In the same division Jennifer Lynes won the 50-m freestyle and also picked up a second, fourth, fifth and sixth. Sheri Stewart took a fourth, two sixths and a seventh. Unionville's Carla Smyth earned a sixth and a seventh.

The relay team of Stewart, Lynes, Rhlanon Shepherd and Jennifer Keogh was third in its race. Charlotte Curgiven replaced Keogh as the tandem and earned a second in another race.



KRISTINA BAKER

Gold medal winner

Keogh, Janelle Long, Carla Smyth and Holley Porteous finished fifth.

For the 11- and 12 boys it was Unionville's Matthew Cardwell with three sixths and bronze

medals in the 100- and 200-m backstrokes. Nicholas Luck had a fourth and Markham's Ryan McCartney an eighth.

Cardwell, Luck, McCartney and Adam Varga had top eight placings in their relays. Andrew Priestman, Jeff Knight, Mark Hall and Ryan Newman were sixth in their relay.

Unionville's Debbie Wright led the eight- and younger girls with silver medals in the 25-m backstroke, breaststroke, freestyle and butterfly events. Adam Porteous had bronzes for the same boys' competitions.

For the nine- and 10 girls it was Bonnie Kilpatrick with a fifth, Claudine Long with a seventh and Unionville's Sarah Smith with an eighth.

David Fogel, Adam Porteous, Chris Hewitt and Brendan Herlhy took an eighth in their relay. Chris Brockley replaced Herlhy as the team took a seventh in the freestyle relay.

Topping the 13-14 age group was Sergio Bogani for the boys.