

Sports

Bruins attempt to bear down on ice before Christmas

□ If the Uxbridge Bruins hope to maintain their first-place lead, coach Mike Morrison says his club must play well this weekend.

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

Uxbridge Bruins head coach Mike Morrison is hoping his players can restrain themselves from becoming overly festive on this the weekend before Christmas.

The first-place Bruins will be forced to cut short their pre-Christmas partying if they hope to still be sitting atop the Central Ontario League heap come Sunday night, suggests the coach.

The team was to kick off the busy weekend with a home ice encounter with the Port Perry Mojacks on Friday, before hitting the road for a make up game with the Bobcaygeon Bullets tonight.

They finish out their stretch of four games in six nights with a visit to Bowmanville to play the Eagles, who are currently challenging the Uxbridge crew for top spot.

"I think we need to come out with four points from these three games," Morrison said Wednesday.

"I'm kind of hoping they win the first two, because they could be too partied out to play at their best Sunday night in Bowmanville. After all, Christmas is only a week away."

The Bruins prepared for this weekend's triple header with a 7-4 home ice win over the Bobcaygeon Bullets Tuesday.



Steve Brown counted a hat trick, with Andre Marois knocking home a pair of goals.

Lee Wideman and Jean Francois Amyot added singles.

Marois and Brown each set up a goal as well.

Team captain Jason Underwood was credited with four assists, while Gavin Tackney picked up two assists.

The Bruins were in control all the way, out shooting the Bullets by a margin of 45 to 24.

The Uxbridge outfit broke loose for four goals in the first period, compared to two scores for the Bullets. They failed to add to their lead in the second, despite holding a 10-4 advantage in shots on goal.

The Bruins found the range three times in the third period.

Morrison said the match was a textbook Bruins-Bullets affair.

"It was a typical Uxbridge-Bobcaygeon game. You think you're going to blow their doors off, but it doesn't happen. Once again, they got outstanding goaltending. But you definitely want to capitalize on a game like that, and we did."

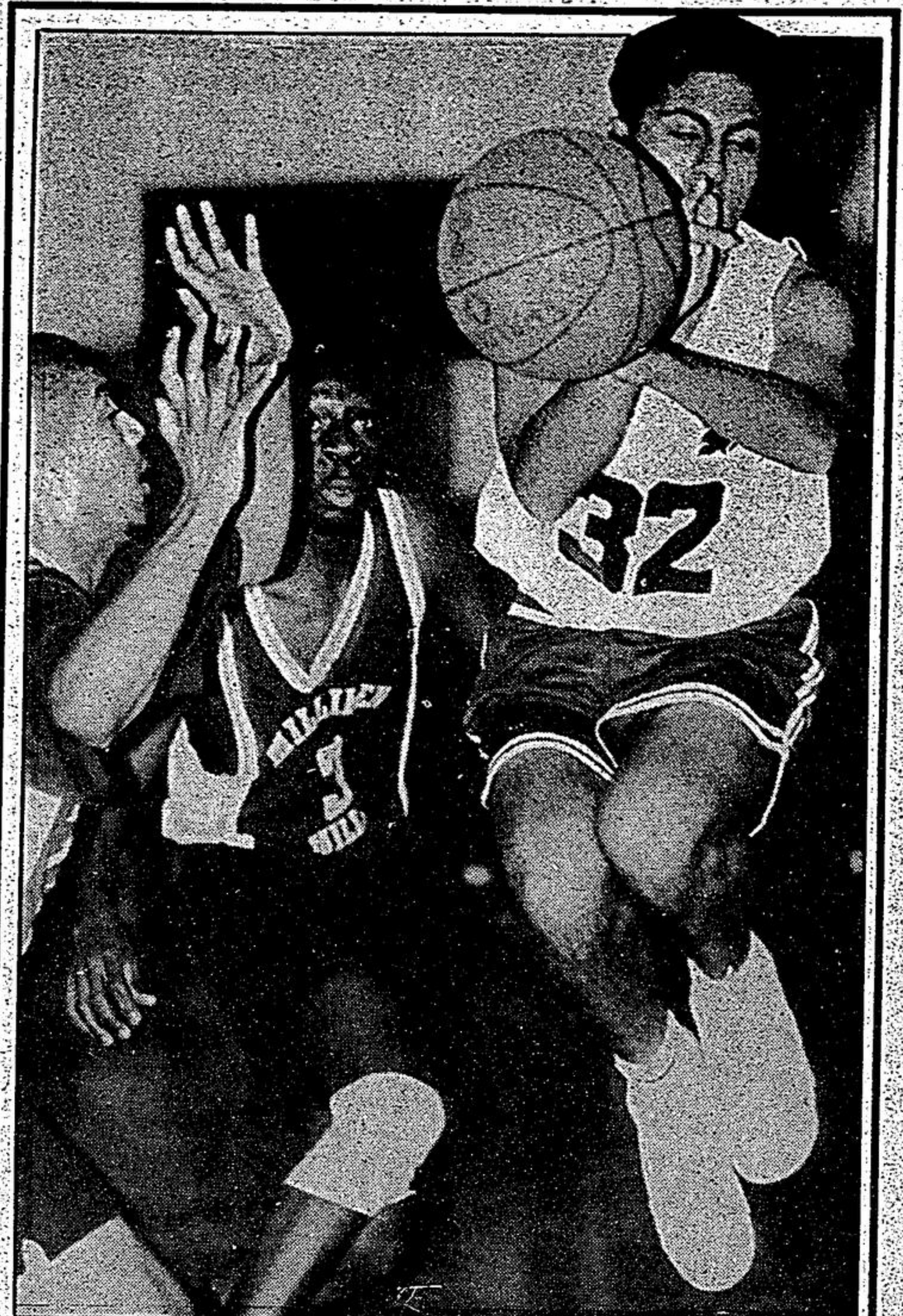
Morrison attributed the relatively close score to the Bullets' grinding style of play.

"They're a hard team to play against. They just get the puck and dump it in and chase it, and clutch and grab."

The coach pointed to the play of Marois as a big plus for the Bruins in the game.

"Marois played a really good game for us. He picked up a few goals, and played the way we want him to play."

After the weekend's action, the Bruins host the Little Britain Merchants this coming Wednesday, then are idle until Jan. 2.



Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Here, you take it

Stouffville Secondary School's Neil Jorejo, (32), goes high in the air to dish this ball off to a teammate during action in Wednesday's York Region Secondary Schools Athletic Association junior basketball game against Milliken Mills at Stouffville District Secondary School. Milliken Mills prevailed 52-19.

Jets possess the Wright stuff in win over Kings

Doug Wright was the only shooter able to find the target as the G & R Flooring Jets shaded the Stomark Rental Kings 1-0 in Stouffville Amateur Hockey League action Sunday at the Rec Centre.

Wayne McMann potted a pair of goals to help power the Spring Lakes Nordiques to a 6-1 win over the Occasions Catering Blues.

Bob Swain, Lionel Villeneuve, Robert Smith, and Ken May rounded out the Nords scoring.

Ron Tanaka counted the lone Blues marker.

Phil Pirie's two goals were the difference as the May Real Estate Whalers slipped past the Gallo Real Estate (Sherri Hayes) Red Wings 5-4.

Wayne Jackson, Gary Goss, and Randy Lee also scored for the Whalers.

Lionel Henry had two for the Wings, with Ian Clark and Bill Corner each lighting the lamp once.

The Rand Pools Maple Leafs got goals from Irwin Meyer, Art Nicholson, and Terry Wetherill as they edged the Villeneuve Heating Flyers 3-2.

Bill Guest accounted for both Flyers goals.

The Village Landscaping Capitals got goals from six different sources in a 6-2 win over the Boyd's Sports Sharks.

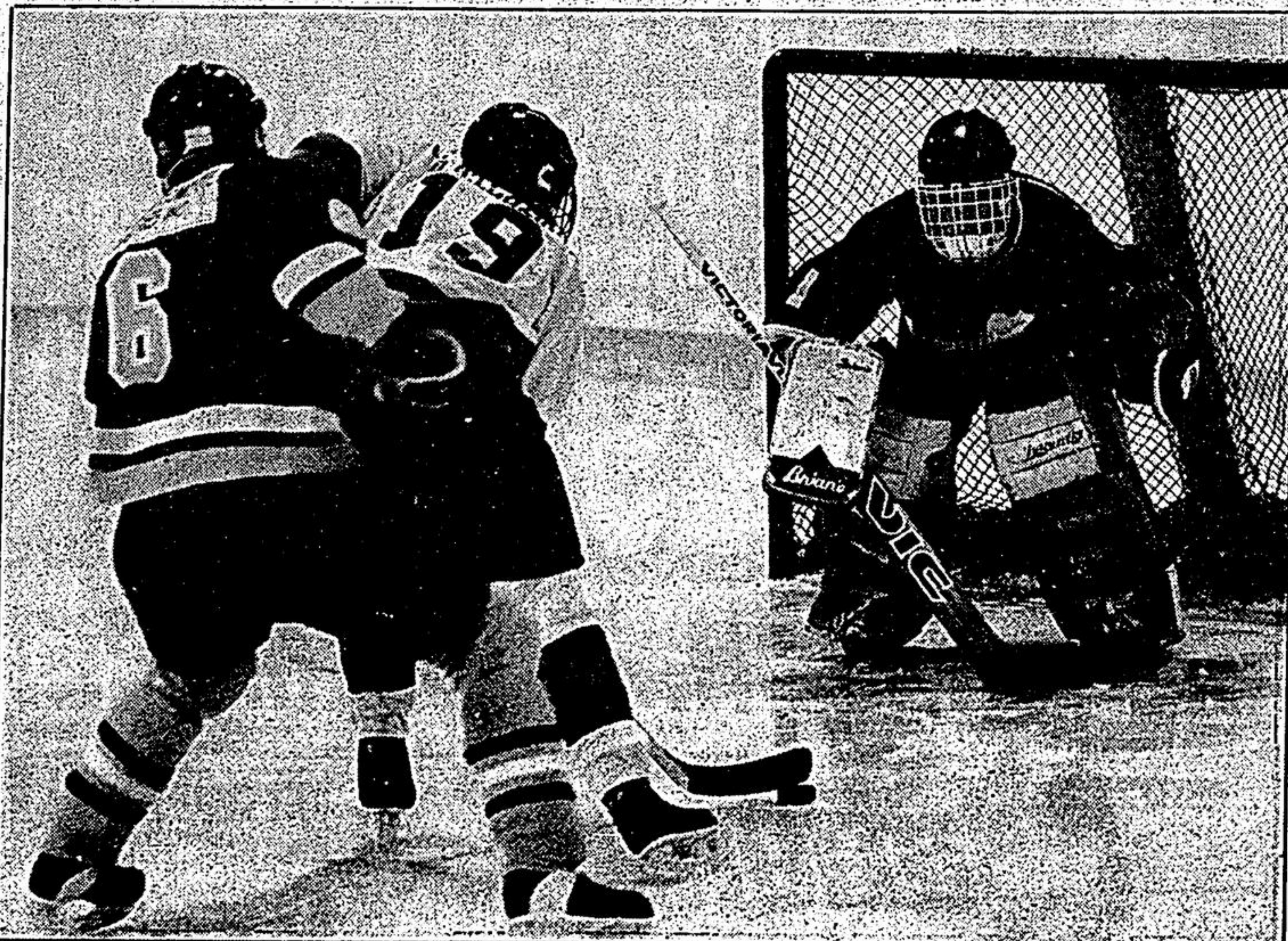
Doug Taylor, Robert Slack, Wayne Emmerson, Doug Taylor, Marty Ellis, and Ian Billich scored for the winners.

Bob Hughes and Dave McVicar responded for the Sharks.

It was Garth Bell and Don Lloyd scoring for the Smurthwaite Heating Bruins, and Dave Tucker replying for the Stouffville Travel Black Hawks, as the Bruins squeaked out a 2-1 triumph.

Kevin McGuckin's two goals enabled the Hunter's Nest North Stars to hold the A & S Construction Flames to a 3-3 tie.

Bob Smith managed the third Stars score. Kim Kavluk, Wayne Thompson, and John Barnett scored for the Flames.



Photo/CELIA BRONKHORST

Uxbridge Bruins' goalkeeper Jeremy Ranich (right), gets set to bear down on Bobcaygeon forward Jason Condon (19), who is about to unleash a shot during Tuesday's game at the

Uxbridge Arena. Trying to prevent Condon from unleashing his shot is Bruins' defender Frank Kavanagh. The Bruins, occupants of first place, won this contest 7-4.