

# Hill Captures State Crown

By CHARLEY HALLMAN  
Staff Writer

Rhino Nelson's screamer into the short side with just 21 seconds left in regulation play gave the Hill-Murray Pioneers their second Minnesota Independent Hockey Tournament championship in three years Sunday afternoon.

As a hollering crowd of 4,300 counted the final seconds and began looking forward to sudden death, Nelson had picked up control of a faceoff from teammate Tim Whisler, walked in and drilled the puck by Duluth Cathedral goalie Bill McBride and the Toppers were topped, 3-2.

The husky Nelson, a veteran of last year's Pioneers that went unde-

feated until their final game when they bowed to Blake in the championship game of the same independent meet, has often been the unsung hero for Hill.

"He gives you 100 per cent all the time," said Pioneer coach Andre Beaulieu. "Joe (Nelson's first name but everyone except the coach calls him Rhino) is a hard worker who can really dig in the corners. He's done a magnificent job for us."

The goal came with such suddenness, the rafter-hanging crowd was stunned.

Then, the Hill-Murray side ignited into a roar and someone held up a "Rhino" sign. "Rhino, Rhino" came the cheers. Other signs read "Yogi"

for Tim Whisler, "Faco" for Rick Belde, "Gopher" for Mike Belde.

There were still 21 seconds left—time for one more Hilltopper assault. Cathedral came down the ice but Pioneer defenseman Dick Spannbauer controlled the puck and attempted to drill it at the empty Duluth open net.

However, the puck deflected straight up into

the air, smashing a huge light fixture and covering the ice with debris with only 10 seconds left.

After a pause for the cleanup, Hill took the puck off the draw and the game was over.

For much of the contest, it was up and down the ice, as fast as the two clubs could go. Both teams led, the Pioneers holding the 1-0 advantage

and the Hilltoppers the 2-1 margin.

Rick Belde scored first, stealing the puck and blasting it into the upper right to McBride's short side 4:24 into the game. The freshman right winger played magnificently, narrowly missing two other goals.

But Cathedral did not let down. The Toppers tied it just after the Pioneers had finished skating off a penalty 17 seconds before the first period concluded.

Greg Senarighi took Bill Oswald's centering pass and fired the puck home.

Senarighi, dazzling with his stick much of the tournament, had been camped at the outside of the crease and was not moved

out. His short shot was lifted high into the Pioneer net.

The second period found Duluth going in front when Mike Rockwood lofted a 35-foot golf shot that hit the right side of the Hill net off Dave Spannbauer's glove 6:37 into the period.

Hill had several good chances to tie and thought they had a goal at one point but the goal judge waved it off after lighting the red light.

Finally, defenseman Dave Langevin controlled the puck and roared through three Cathedral players to blast the puck towards McBride.

The Duluth goalie kicked the puck out but

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Mon., Mar. 6, 1972



## Brady Gets Third Place

Brady claimed third place by beating Benilde, 4-2, as goalie Gary Santori stopped 22 of 24 Red Knight shots on goal.

The Broncos, displaying the zeal for playing they had the first two nights, got off to a 2-0 lead after one period of play. Tim Quinlan scored first on a power play and then Kim Krier fired in a goal at 11:07 to put Brady two goals in front.

Benilde broke its scoring drought on Jon Urbanek's shortside screen shot that Santori never had a chance on but the Broncos quickly scored again at 5:14 when Frank Hanzel put in the first of his two goals from Paul Stifter.

The Red Knights, who finished a notch ahead of Brady in the Central Catholic Conference in second place, pulled back within one on Dan Dornsell's golf shot from 25 feet at 7:07 of the second.

Benilde continued to get good scoring chances the rest of the game but couldn't convert against Santori.

The insurance goal by Hanzel came on a two-on-nothing break with Hanzel and Stifter in alone against Benilde goalie Frank Zimmerman. Hanzel backhanded the puck into the right side after pulling Zimmerman out of position.

"It was a nice tournament for us," said Don "Whitey" Willer, the Bronco's first-year coach. "Just being here was good for the school but taking home some hardware is really pleasant."

## Nelson's Goal Beats Duluth

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Langevin picked it up, skated around the goal and fired it to Tim Whisler out front. Whisler's 20 footer drilled its way through McBride's pads at 13:34.

McBride stopped Whisler on a break halfway through the third and then Rick Belde's shot to an open net caromed off the goalpost and stayed out.

Senaright had two fine chances for Cathedral but they went awry. Tim Doherty of the Pioneers, as the game drew to a close, broke down centerice and was pulled down from behind by a Cathedral defender.

The Hill fans booted for a penalty shot but the referees didn't see it that way. But that Cathedral defenseman was still in the penalty box when Rhino Nelson fired in the winner.

"We never really had a good game down here," said dejected losing coach Denny Genereau. "We

just couldn't get everyone going together."

Genereau was madly searching for towels after the game as his team was showering and there were no towels to be found anywhere.

"We had to clean up," said the Duluth coach. "And now, the tournament director forgot the towels." Genereau, perhaps, was more concerned about the loss but looking for towels gave him something else to think about.

"We lose four kids off this club, our goalie, four forwards and four defensemen but we hope to be back next year," he added.

Beaulieu was extremely pleased — especially after last year. "Now I can relax for awhile and watch the other guys suffer in the public school tournament this week."

**HILL-MURRAY 3, DULUTH CATHEDRAL 1**  
FIRST PERIOD — 1, Hill Murray, R. Belde (unassisted) 4:39; 2, Duluth, Senaright (Oswald) 14:43.  
SECOND PERIOD — 1, Duluth, Rockwood (Oswald, Ryan) 4:37; 2, Hill-Murray, Whisler (D. Langevin) 13:34.  
THIRD PERIOD — 1, Hill-Murray, Nelson (unassisted) 14:39.  
Shots on goal by:  
Duluth Cathedral ..... 11 6 4-23  
Hill-Murray ..... 9 4 11-27  
Goalies: Cathedral, McBride; Hill-Murray, D. Spannbaumer.

## Irish, Denver Meet Tuesday

The Associated Press

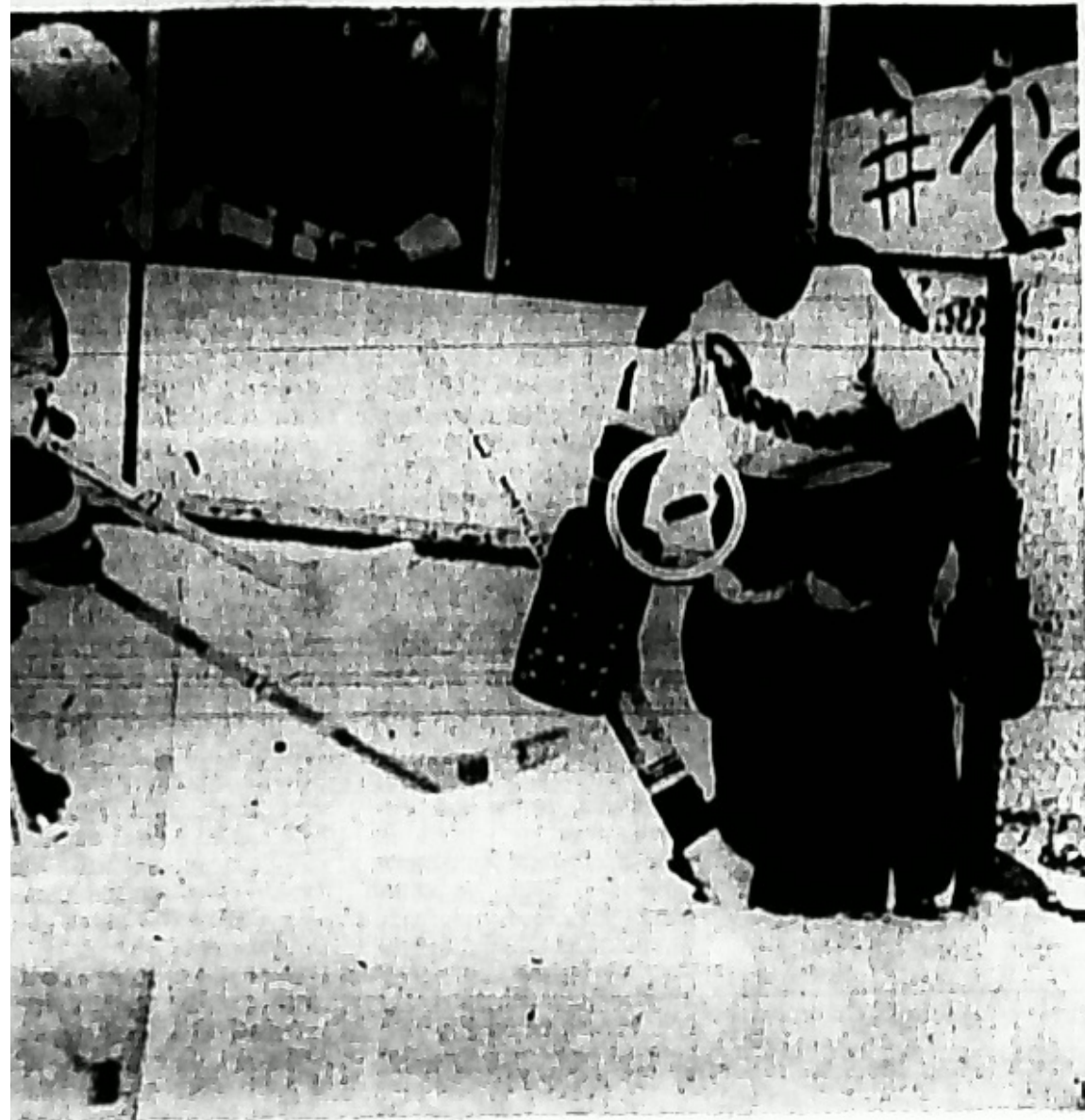
Notre Dame and Colorado College tied for the eighth and last playoff berth in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, but the Irish earned the right to face regular-season champion Denver on the basis of goal-scor-

## Hill Places 3 on All-Tourney

Champion Hill-Murray placed three members on the all-State Independent All-tournament team.

Twelve players were selected:

Hill-Murray: Tim Whisler, Dave Langevin, Rick Belde.



Dave Spannbaumer got blast by Mark Seseman in the championship game at Aldrich Arena Sunday. The Pioneers won, 3-2, to gain the title for the second time.—Staff Photo by Joe Oden.

## s Shock Bruins, 2-0

ford at 12:44 of the second period.

Detroit, which twice before had the lead on goals by Tim Ecclestone and Bill Collins, then pulled away from the Penguins to break a two-game losing streak.

Al Karlander, back for the first time since being injured two weeks ago,

ond period with his 21st of the year, scoring at the 6:44 mark.

Less than two minutes later, Curt Bennett connected, then Roberto hit his 10th and 11th goals at 9:40 and 15:30, with Blues goalie Ernie Wakely picking up an assist on the latter score.

Butch Deadmarsh ruined Wakely's bid for a

## Streaking Rangers Demolish Canucks

NEW YORK (AP) — The streaking New York Rangers got goals less than four minutes apart by defenseman Rod Seiling and center Bobby Rousseau to break a second-period tie and went on to score a 6-1 National Hockey League victory over the Vancouver Can-