

Crushing loss for Raiders

By **EAMONN MAHER**
Staff Writer

Other than giving up goals in the first and last minute of the game, the Georgetown Raiders played as well as any visiting team could hope for against the first-place Toronto Lakeshore Patriots Monday evening in Etobicoke.

Unfortunately for the third-seeded Raiders, those two goals were the difference in a 4-3 loss to the Patriots, who now take a commanding 3-0 lead in their best-of-7 Ontario Junior Hockey League South/West Conference final series heading into game four Wednesday night in Georgetown.

Toronto Lakeshore, which lost just four times on its home Westwood Arenas' ice during the season, jumped on the Raiders with a rebound marker just 27 seconds into the contest and took a 2-0 lead at the midway point of the period, threatening to start a rout.

But Georgetown clamped down and took advantage of some rare undisciplined play by the Pats, as veteran centre Ryan Smith scored two-power play goals in the middle stanza to equalize.

Trailing 3-2 by the second intermission, Raider captain Steve Hladin, who played despite a leg injury suffered in Saturday night's loss in game two, tallied to even the score early in the third.

Hladin appeared to have set up the winner late in regulation as winger Anthony Marra was stopped on 2 on 1 by Toronto Lakeshore goalkeeper Joseph Pianta. After the Patriots won a draw in the Georgetown zone with just under a min-

ute remaining, NHL Draft prospect Michael Prapavessis swooped in from the point unchecked and beat rookie Raider goalie Michael McNiven with a screened shot in the top corner for the clincher.

"(The Patriots) have a great hockey team and there's no room for error," said Raiders' head coach & GM Greg Walters.

"I thought we came up with a good gameplan and we played hard enough in the second and third period to win it. We just lost an assignment on that last faceoff."

If a fifth game is required, it would be played Thursday night at Westwood starting at 7:45 p.m.

Walters recalled his major junior days playing for an Ottawa 67's squad that came back from a 3-0 deficit to defeat the Oshawa Generals in 1988.

"If we can continue to play like we did tonight, it'll be a close game and from there, just take it shift by shift," he said.

In the OJHL's North/East Conference final, the Aurora Tigers also took a 3-0 series lead following a 3-1 home triumph over the Kingston Voyageurs on Monday.

NOTES: Second-year Raider forward **Richard Court** was named the OJHL's Scholastic Player of the Year Award recipient, carrying a 93 per cent average in his Grade 12 year at Appleby College. The 18-year-old from Burlington also recently became a Big Brother to a 10-year-old boy...Feisty forward **Drake Hart** of Cayuga, who played here last year before joining the Jr. B Thorold Blackhawks for the 2013-14, re-joined the Raiders for the Toronto Lakeshore series after his team was eliminated from their playoffs.



Georgetown Raiders' goaltender Michael McNiven manages to make a save despite the presence of Toronto Lakeshore's Nathan Feric during their Ontario Junior Hockey League playoff matchup Monday at Westwood Arenas. The Patriots again pulled off a late 4-4 victory to grab a 3-0 lead in their third-round playoff series. The Raiders were at home Wednesday night, trying to prevent a sweep.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Jags set to take the field

Christ the King's Jaguars girls' and boys' field lacrosse teams are getting ready for another season in the Halton high school leagues.

The teams are looking to both improve on their finishes from last year's provincial championships and the varsity girls' team will host the Trillium Cup this year, which is a tournament to decide the best ladies high school lacrosse team in the province, from May 28-29 at the Trafalgar Sports Park.

CtK's squads will play under the lights at Jaguar Field on most Friday evenings starting tomorrow (April 4).

The junior varsity girls' Jags will host Stephen Lewis at 6 p.m., followed by the varsity girls vs. Stephen Lewis at 7 p.m. At 8 p.m. the varsity boys will take on Humberview.

On Saturday, May 3, CtK's varsity girls play host to Newfane College of Pennsylvania in an exhibition contest.

Admission to every game is free.

All teams will also be playing in tournaments both at CtK and away at other locations throughout the season. You can follow the Jaguars on twitter at @CtKFieldLacross for updates through the season.



50th Acton Skate Carnival Saturday

The Acton Skating Club will host its annual Skate Carnival this Saturday with shows scheduled for 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. a special tribute planned for the club's 50th anniversary.

Current club members have been practising for weeks and have their costumes ready to go. 'Dreaming of the

Past - Looking Forward to the Future' is the theme of the show.

After the morning show is finished, a reception will be held at the Acton Arena to reunite alumni from the last half century.

Tickets are \$10 each and will be available at the door.



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