

# Verbal and physical threats face Raiders

By Colin Gibson  
Sports Editor

The mood at last Friday's OHA intermediate "A" group meeting in Thorold was definitely not lighthearted. According to Raiders' vice-president, Dave Kenner, the meeting had apparently been called to set up playoff dates. It was obvious from the start that this was the farthest thing from the various team representatives' minds.

The meeting was scheduled to start at 8:00 p.m., but got under way at 8:30. Even then, the Raiders' representatives had not arrived and the meeting was started without them. From the outset, Port Colborne took over the driver's seat and informed league convenor, Bob Potts, that they would appeal the decision reached the previous Wednesday at an OHA protest meeting. The meeting had centred on a protest lodged by Port Colborne against the Raiders. This announcement set the tone for the meeting and Port Colborne embarked on a rehash of last Wednesday's meeting for everyone's benefit.

Port Colborne had protested the status of Raiders player Jerry Pearson. He holds a resident card and Port Colborne apparently produced evidence to show that he should have been registered instead as an import. The protest committee found in favor of Port Colborne and advised Georgetown to change Pearson's card and status to import.

Port Colborne was incensed at this decision and left the Wednesday meeting threatening to withdraw from the league and hinting darkly that other clubs might follow suit. Admittedly the committee handed down a strange decision in light of the fact that a club had been found in contravention of league rules. However, a Raiders club spokesman informed us that Pearson had, at first, been registered as an import and that, after informing the league, his status had been changed. No doubt this influenced the decision.

Port Colborne was looking for a more severe penalty and on Friday, with the exception of Thorold and Fort Erie, the other clubs in the league voiced the same sentiments. They informed the convenor they intended to carry out their appeal of Wednesday's decision and five of the seven teams voted to suspend discussion of playoffs until the matter was settled.

Convenor Potts informed the delegates that if this was the case, then the playoffs would not be able to get underway until at least this coming Friday and this would seriously jeopardize the league's chances of producing a Hardy Cup contender by a previously agreed upon date. He also informed those present that they were putting their league in a tenuous situation as a commitment had been made to the OHA to produce a contender and that, in fact, the OHA had already granted the league a week's delay.

This announcement however, had little, if any, impact on the group and charges of lying and cheating were hurled at the Raiders by several clubs. Throughout the onslaught, the Raiders' representatives maintained the position that they were ready to play hockey if and when the league desired.

Oakville suggested allowing Georgetown a bye into the Hardy Cup playdowns, but the other teams would have no part of this. Port Colborne put forward a motion that the league forget the Hardy Cup for this year and this was carried by a vote of 4-3, much to the dismay of the Raiders. Fort Erie, Thorold and Georgetown voted against this motion. Even though the motion was passed at this meeting it still has to go to the OHA for approval, where, no doubt it will be tossed out, as OHA prestige is involved. At that point, the meeting degenerated into a name calling fiasco, and the Georgetown delegation walked out of the room.

Port Colborne even though they ended in first place, obviously think little of their chances in the playoffs and are employing stalling tactics aimed singularly at the Raiders. The Raiders were in the wrong, but, regardless of the morality of the decision, it was handed down by OHA representatives and therefore has little chance of being overturned. The outcome of this turmoil can hardly be in doubt.

The OHA will demand, as they have done in the past, that a contender for CAHA playdowns be determined by a certain date, even if it means cutting the playoffs short and the

real losers, as always, will be the fans in those towns whose teams' season have been prematurely terminated. An OHA tribunal will have to be set up—the first in the league's history to deal with the problem and until this is done, the playoff situation is still in limbo.

In answer to the various charges that surfaced last Friday, the Raiders issued this press release Monday morning.

Regardless of what has been said about the Raiders and illegal players, the only confrontation which is pending whether Jerry Pearson should be a fully qualified resident or whether he should be an import. It is our contention that Pearson should not be an import. Port Colborne lodged a protest and won, making Pearson an import. However they felt that the OHA should or could not make him an import and that he and Georgetown should be thrown out of the league.

The press release went on to describe Port Colborne's appeal and the teams who supported them. It also stated that Georgetown, Fort Erie and Thorold want to get on with the playoffs and Hardy Cup competition.

In concluding, the release stated, "Georgetown was called to a playoff meeting on Friday night in Thorold, which turned out to be a confrontation between Georgetown and Port Colborne, including their players who were at the meeting in numbers sufficient to cause a serious physical threat to the Raiders' executives attending. Georgetown left the meeting before it ended and so advised the OHA vice-president that they would attend no further meetings, but would conduct all playoff negotiations by phone. He agreed and so will advise Convenor Potts."

This same situation cropped up last year, when Dundas lodged an end of season protest against the Raiders. For the sake of the playoff timetable, they let the issue drop. The feeling at this meeting was that, since Georgetown had not learned their lesson, this year all available steps would be taken to ensure that the problem would not arise again.

In another development, Ray Tonelli and Jack Kempstead, who the Raiders were counting on to buoy their playoff hopes, were ineligible by both the OHA and the CAHA.



TODAY  
**Concept**  
TOMORROW

**OPENING**  
**MARCH 6th**

Downtown Georgetown

# The best of the Raiders honored

Last Tuesday evening in the St. George's Anglican Church hall, the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders, in conjunction with the Toronto Toros of the World Hockey Association held a "Meet the Toros" dinner. Five members of the Toros hockey club were in attendance. They included: Peter McAikie, sales manager; Joe Warwick, public relations director; John Armour, salesman; Frank Vanderhart, trainer for the

Georgetown Chrysler Raiders Award night. Lionel Garvin, representing Neilson's, announced that three stars over the season, as picked by the fans at the games were: Tom Gilbert, Ray Evans and Gerry Pearson. The fans who attended the games were obviously of the same mind as those that attended the "Booster Club" as Ray Evans and Gerry Pearson, manager of the A&W restaurant, announced that in

Charron injected some humor into the awards with some special presentations to the players selected. Third star, Gerry Pearson, was given X-Rays in recognition of the bumps and bruises he had suffered as a result of his aggressive play. Ray Evans, renowned around the league as much for his unruly locks as his playmaking, was given a First star, Tommy Gilbert,

who lost a few teeth in a mishap several weeks ago, was presented with a toothbrush. The toothbrush might just have implied a second meaning as Mr. Gilbert is recognized as the team's leading spokesman, whether or not he is asked to comment.

The Radical Car Club Trophy, presented annually to the Most Valuable Raider, as chosen by his teammates, was presented to Raiders Captain John Boyce by Radical Car Club president, Ron Copeland. As evidenced by the rousing round of applause accorded Boyce, his selection as Most Valuable Raider was very well received.

In accepting the award, Boyce pointed out that, although he was pleased and proud to be the recipient, he felt credit for the team's showing should be shared by the whole club and that he was happy just being a part of the team. He also announced, to an accompanying cheer, that this year the Raiders were going "All the way."

Dan Wagstaffe employed by Georgetown Chrysler, presented Mr. Russell Morgan of Mississauga with a cheque for \$400. Mr. Morgan held the lucky ticket on the Plymouth Duster. Unfortunately, he was required to put the puck through the A&W opening and he failed. The \$400 represented the consolation prize. In a special presentation, Mr.

George Poulson received a bar set for picking the first star at the "Booster Club" most consistently over the season.

The dinner and Raiders presentation went over well with the audience but there were a few red faces at the head table when the question period began. The majority of people in the audience had been under the impression that more than one Toros player would be in attendance and that one name player had been expected. Two youngsters in particular took the floor and demanded an explanation. As explained by trainer, Frank Vanderhart, attempts had been made to get more players out, but, for various reasons, they were unable to attend.

There were grumblings in the audience over this but as it was the only explanation offered, it had to be accepted. The player who did turn out, Lou Nisticco, was easily the hit of the evening. Obviously he was a bit uncomfortable at the situation, but he fielded, sometimes pointed questions, with refreshing honesty and humor and it's safe to say, saved the evening for both the Toros and the Raiders.

On March 25th, the Toros hockey club will put on a Raiders night at Maple Leaf Gardens and coupons for grey seats and discounts for other colored seats are available from members of the Raiders' executive.

Don de SANG  
Don de VIE

CLINIQUE DE  
DONNEURS DE SANG

Lundi, le 3 Mars  
1:30 - 8:45  
Auditorium de l'église  
Holy Cross  
Avenue Maple E.

Besoin urgent de donneurs  
Age 18-65. Jeune homme de 17  
ans, avec l'autorisation écrite  
des parents pour chaque  
donation.  
Telephones a  
Mm. L. Macdonald 877-7854

**GEORGETOWN CHRYSLER RAIDERS**

Georgetown Chrysler Raiders wish to thank those who participated in our recent fund raising dinner, the meet "The Toros" night was a great financial success, but we regret the disappointment caused by the absence of more Toros players. Due to unforeseen circumstances which could not be controlled by the Toros or the Raiders these people were unable to attend.

Thanking you for your continued support we look forward to exciting playoff hockey.

**THE RAIDER EXECUTIVE,**  
**WILF BROWNLOW**



JERRY PEARSON accepts his gift as Raiders' third star of the year from Neilson's representative, Lionel Garvin. Jerry was also picked as the A & W third star of the year in balloting at the Booster Club.

team and Lou Nisticco a left-winger for the Toros, recently brought up from Mohawk City. Although the dinner was advertised as a "Meet the Toros Night" it was also the balloting for the A&W Three Stars at the "Booster Club", the same three players, in the same order of preference, were chosen.



IRREPRESSIBLE Tommy Gilbert happily accepts his gift as Raiders' first star of the year from Neilson's representative, Lionel Garvin. Tommy's contribution to the club was also recognized by Booster Club regulars, who similarly voted him, Raiders' first star of the year.

## My life in the listening business

BY BETTY KENNEDY

I find hosting an interview show is a lot easier than explaining how you do it. I don't think you can be in this business without being genuinely curious about people, about their lives, and the million things that make them different from each other.

But a person's difference doesn't always show on the surface and you can't force it out. It takes a lot of listening, not only to the person's words but to the hidden man or woman behind them.

My main effort is always to make the person feel at ease, to let my guests know the moment they walk into the studio that they'll be treated with respect and thoughtfulness. Putting people on the spot or deliberately embarrassing them doesn't interest me. I want them to relax and explore the things that really mean something to them.

When a long-time international star tells you candidly she has no difficulty relating to huge audiences,

it's only in one-to-one relationships she can never make it, you know you have reached that person. She becomes a real person talking, not just a stage

good interview are the intangibles you simply can't explain. The tangibles are easy enough—the amount of homework done in advance and your own ability to concentrate completely on the guest.

If someone controversial is presenting an unpopular view, the listening audience is entitled to a fair and impartial presentation. I believe it is the audience, not the interviewer, who judges the merits of a guest. Audiences have a lot of common sense and are quite capable of arriving at their own decisions.

Broadcasting takes you into many different worlds, but always it is the people, what they think, what they feel, why they do the things they do, that count most.



personality. It's that kind of response that suddenly makes an interview take off. What I am after is exactly that personal, human quality of a guest which can often lend a new perspective to a story. Many things about a

Personally yours  
Betty Kennedy

**GEORGETOWN INDOOR POOL**

Dear Citizen:

Would you like to take part in planning your program for the new Georgetown Indoor Pool?

We would like this facility to meet your needs, and satisfy your interests, so have planned a PUBLIC MEETING to discover and discuss your views on possible Aquatic Programs and courses to offer.

Don't sit back and see what develops; plan to PARTICIPATE! We look forward to meeting with you on March 5th at 7:30 p.m., in the cafeteria of the Georgetown District High School.

See you there!

Sincerely,  
MRS. CHRIS HALL  
Pool Supervisor