



GEORGETOWN SUNNY ACRE FARMS GOALER, CHRIS MURDEN didn't receive much support from his teammates in the local's second game of the Georgetown

Midget Tournament and Stratford (eventual tourney champions) eliminated the Georgetowners, 4-1.

Sunny Acre Midgets bounced from tourney

The host entry on the Georgetown Midget Tournament, the Sunny Acre Farms Major Midgets, had their ups-and-downs and fell by the wayside after their second game.

In the opening round, Georgetown downed Saltfleet, 6-4 and advanced into the Championship Section against Stratford, Stratford, however, were more poised than the locals and posted a solid, 4-1 win and thereby eliminated the Georgetowners from further tournament play.

Against Saltfleet, the Sunny Acre lads couldn't be faulted as all aspects of their game came together and allowed them to post their impressive 6-4 win. Sunny Acres Coach, Benny Heppes, termed the game, "One of the best we've played all year," and praised his defensive corps while crediting the victory to a total team effort.

The "Apples" opened the game scoring late in the first period, when Paul Gingras deflected in a drive; Terry Simpson and Mike McMenemy helped engineer the scoring play. Saltfleet knotted the contest at 1-1 early in the second stanza but Georgetown went one up again, barely a minute after the Saltfleet counter on another deflection, this time off the stick of Bill Taylor. Paul Gingras picked up the assist.

Saltfleet tied the game at 2-2, but what took a lot of the starch out of the out-of-towners, was Georgetown's third goal, a 40 foot blast by Steve Krajaich. Mark Brabant and Mark Euteneir earned assists on this counter and from this point, the Sunny Acres pucksters rolled on to their well-deserved win. Terry Simpson, Bill Taylor (his second of the game) and Turner rounded out the scoring for Georgetown. Steve Krajaich picked up two assists on the final three goals, while single assists went to Bob McCandless, Greg Thompson, Bob Allison and Blake Emmerson.

The impressive opening tourney win should have stoked the local favourites in good stead as they entered their second game, but a complete reversal of form occurred and the Georgetowners were easily outclassed, 4-1 by Stratford.

The about-face against Stratford, left both Sunny Acres Coach, Benny Heppes and Manager Jack Heppes totally confounded. "They obviously weren't up for the game," noted Benny Heppes, "they weren't aggressive enough in the corners, the wingers weren't backchecking and their passes were off. How can you win a game when you only get 10 shots on net?" Jack Heppes commented that positional play was non-existent and offered the suggestion that the early game time (8:30 a.m.) might have been a factor in the loss.

The only bright spot in the game, for the Georgetowners, was the play of goaler, Chris Murden. In the second and third periods, when the Sunny Acre crew was obviously faltering, Murden, time-again came up with saves that should have turned the game around. Instead, his mates failed to capitalize on chances and were guilty of numerous mistakes.

One example highlighted the ineptness. In the third frame, with Stratford holding a man advantage, a Stratford puck-carrier broke down the right side. At the Acre blueline, three checkers descended on the puck-handler, leaving one man in front to cover four opponents.

Georgetown played it's best hockey in the opening period. At the end of the first, the game was tied, 1-1 and neither team was in control. From this point, however, Stratford took over, with excellent positioned play, and led, 3-1 after two periods. Stratford salted away the win with a third period insurance marker and bounced the "Apples" from the tournament. The lone Georgetown goal was scored by Paul Gingras, with 3:57 left to play in the first period, off a pass from Terry Simpson.

EX-GEORGETOWNER STARS

Stratford wins Midget Tourney nips Port Colborne in overtime

The 11th Annual Georgetown Midget Tournament was staged last week at the Gordon Alcott Memorial arena. From January 11, through to the 16th - and although it was one of the smoothest running tourneys that Georgetown has hosted, lack of town support served to put a bit of a damper on a very successful week.

Player, was won by Ron Scott of Guelph. The Lady Byng Trophy, for the Most Gentlemanly Player was donated and awarded by the Georgetown Referee's Association, and won by Chris Ravenda of Port Colborne.

The championship game had all the ingredients necessary for an exciting head-to-head confrontation as well as a few sidelights that served to even more enhance the game. Stratford claimed the winner's silverware with a 3-2 win but the game went into overtime before being decided.

The over-time frame was a bit anti-climatic, however, as Stratford's Scott Walker, with his second goal of the game, gave Stratford the Championship, barely 11 seconds into the overtime period. In Tournament's as well as in ordinary games, it's unfortunate that

rules decree that there must be an over-all winner. In this case, Stratford copped the laurels, but Port Colborne must be commended for an extremely valiant effort. A sidelight to the Championship game, was the heroics of Stratford's Scott Walker, walker's family moved from Georgetown to Stratford, two years ago and up to that point, the youngster had played all his hockey in the Georgetown Minor system. In another ironic twist, Stratford was forced to wear Georgetown sweaters because of a similarity in colours between them and Port Colborne and perhaps Walker's performance came from being just a little bit more comfortable in the hometown, red and white colours.

Stratford emerged as the Tournament Champions, edging Port Colborne, 3-2, in overtime, while the Consolation Championship was garnered by Guelph, who posted a relatively easy, 6-3 win over Bramalea. Georgetown's host entry, the Sunny Acre Farms Major Midgets, had a frustrating week. They were impressive in recording an opening game, 6-4 win over Saltfleet but then they met eventual Champion, Stratford, on Saturday morning and the Georgetowners came up flat, in dropping a 4-1 decision.

For competitors, there were ample awards up for grabs. Stratford walked off with the Town of Halton Hills Trophy as tourney champions and players on both teams in the Championship and Consolation Championship games, received souvenirs of the event. Guelph claimed the Toronto Dominion Bank Trophy as Consolation Champions. The Bill Chapman Memorial Trophy donated by the Chapman family, that goes to the Tournament's Most Valuable

Bramalea held a slim, 1-0 lead after the first period, but the contest was tied at 2-2 after two periods of play. The third period belonged to Guelph, as they potted four goals, to but one reply from Bramalea to wrap up the win. Jim Barry paced the Championship win by scoring twice, while singles were netted by Pat Campbell, Mark Schinkel, Pat Baleriote and Andre Charbonneau. For Bramalea, Roy Dollman, Gord Kerr and Rob Campbell fired singles.

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Over the years, the calibre of play in the Georgetown Midget tournament has improved by leaps and bounds. The organizers intend to continue this striving for excellence and promise an even more exciting tournament next year. Hopefully, their efforts will be rewarded by an appreciative turnout of fans.

Sports Comment

Ramblings from a brief respite

By COLIN GIBSON
Herald Sports Editor

Well, the all-too brief mid-winter respite is over, and it's back to work, pounding a typewriter. As most of you are aware, for the last two weeks, I have been on holidays and although, the standing order is, "Forget about the job," one cannot but help forming thoughts that are related to work. In this, please pardon me, but I would like to just ramble a bit, in this my first column after the season.

My wife and I journeyed to Timmins Ontario (about 450 miles north of here) to spend a few days with my parents. Believe me, holidays it was not. When we arrived, we were informed by my parents that the town, outdoor workers had been on strike for a month-and-a-half. This might not seem too significant at first, but believe me, in Timmins it caused havoc. The garbagemen, the local transit workers and the snow-plow operators decided that they didn't want to work shift-work and walked off the job. As simple as that.

Unfortunately, it wasn't so simple and schools had to be closed because the board of education wouldn't allow the children to travel in buses on unplowed streets and the dogs of the town had a field day with the garbage, because the Dog Catcher were on strike.

Some local construction men decided to offer their services to clean the streets - free of charge - but this idea literally went up in smoke, when one man had both his front-end loader and his car bombed. I presume things are back to a semblance of normality now, because in his last letter, my father merely noted that it was a bit chilly, -40 degrees below zero.

They called them "Hardy Northerners" and although now, I consider myself southerner, I must concur with the opinion. While Susan and I were fighting our way through snow banks and packs of dogs, the other citizens just seemed to have adopted a "Well what can you do?" attitude and went about their lives with very little complaining.

Although I didn't get a chance to take in any of their games, I was told that a touring Midget hockey team from Sweden was in Northern Ontario on an exhibition tour. The weather might have seemed familiar to the lads from a similarly chilly country but their welcome didn't exactly appear to warm the cockles of their collective hearts.

The Swedes, against point, had played three exhibition games, against Chapple, Kapuskasing and Timmins and were soundly beaten in all three contests.

This past week, I took in some games at the Georgetown Midget Tournament and although hockey, in general is passing through a rather difficult time, you couldn't tell that by the infectious enthusiasm displayed by the competitors all week-long at the Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena.

The calibre of play surpassed that seen in recent years and with the exception of several minor incidents, mainly caused by one team, clean crisp hockey was highlighted throughout the tournament.

It seems to me that I wrote a column last year around this time, upon my return from the frozen North, concerning the problems in hockey and they are still with us, in fact, they are growing day-to-day.

The conclusion I reached and one I offered to my readers, was that more attention must be paid to the game at the minor levels. The Georgetown Midget Tournament more than made me realize that I was right, because of all the good points of the game that came to the fore. Excitement, camaraderie, sportsmanship and talent were on display last week and basically, that is what hockey is all about and that is what has made the game so popular to Canadians.

It appears that problems start in the upper-middle ranks of the game and you sometimes wonder about these yokels, both on the ice and in boardrooms. They get there because of a basic love of the game, yet once they reach a sort of pinnacle, they forget their roots.

Coaches and Managers, throughout minor hockey are always stressing the basics of the game to their charges. This is where success comes. As I mentioned last year, for the game to once more attract adherents at all levels, a simple formula must be remembered, "Stick to the Basics". Without them, the game wouldn't even have gotten started.

HERALD sports

COLIN GIBSON, SPORTS EDITOR

Midget Tournament Scoreboard

SEMIFINALS		
Oakville 10 - Ajax 0	Bramalea 6 - Saltfleet 2	
Bowmanville 5 - Bramalea 4	Guelph 5 - Belleville 4	
Georgetown 6 - Saltfleet 4		
Stratford 10 - Milton 2	FINAL	
Port Colborne 10 - Port Perry 4	Guelph 6 - Bramalea 3	
Richmond Hill 7 - Belleville 4	CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION	
Lindsay 4 - Guelph 3	Bowmanville 2 - Oakville 1	
London 5 - Grimsby 4	Stratford 4 - Georgetown 1	
	Port Colborne 8 - Richmond Hill 3	
	London 7 - Lindsay 0	
	SEMIFINALS	
	Stratford 4 - Bowmanville 3 (OT)	
	Port Colborne 7 - London 6 (OT)	
	FINAL	
	Stratford 3 - Port Colborne 2 (OT)	

Major Bantams on roller coaster

A snowstorm, a shellacking and an important team win, saw the DRG Stationery Major Bantams ride the roller coaster in Tri-County play last week.

Monday's game in Oakville was cancelled due to a snowstorm and Thursday's at home game with Ancaster was a disaster as the bants absorbed a 10-2 drubbing by the big and strong Ancaster club. Kevin Thompson from Brian Simpson tied the score briefly in the first period before Ancaster slammed in four goals in four minutes in the middle frame.

A visit to Chingacousy is not always pleasant, particularly with their late starting time, but the DRG's decided enough was enough and dug in to come up with one of their best games and a 2-1 win. Brian Bombardier in the nets got them off to a good start by stopping a breakaway and putting the zinger on a

Lewis lauds referees

Bryan Lewis, Georgetown's resident National Hockey League referee took in a few games and he was impressed by the way the games were handled by the Georgetown Referee Association as well as the high calibre of play. All entries on departing (10 teams took part) were extravagant in their praise for the facilities, organization and talented competitors and expressed hope that invitations would be extended next year.

Tourneys don't draw

Minor Hockey Tournaments don't just attract spectators and players and in this scope, the Georgetown Midget Tournament was no exception. Although no central registration booth was set up for Scouts, throughout the week, the talent-hunters from various organizations could be seen, slipping in and out of the nooks and crannies in the Alcott arena. Kingston and Kitchener, two Major Junior "A" teams were represented as well as the Pro Provincial Tier "II" Junior "A" organization. Norm Bryant, a scout for the Central League, also put in an appearance.

penalty shot early in the game. His teammates responded by dominating play and Hlick Knight from John Lehman, strictly on second effort, scored the winner in the final frame. The score could have been onesided except for some good and lucky goaltending in the Ching net. Bombholt played excellent in the DRG nets to keep the big Ching guns off the scoresheet.

The bants host Burlington this Thursday and have to make up the cancelled Oakville game while waiting for the OMHA elimination with Dundas to be set up.

MAJOR BANTAM RAFFLE
Prize Winners
Team Canada Jacket: Mrs. Spence, 238 Delrex Blvd. Georgetown. Seven piece Itego Cookware: R.E. Pritchard, 57 Hewson Cres., Georgetown. Electric Juicer: Mary Turner, 190 Delrex, Georgetown. One pair Blues Hockey Tickets: D. Abercrombie, 88 Mountainview, Georgetown. Box of Stationery: Doug Tucker, 17 Chelvin Drive, Georgetown. Electric Timer: James Angus, RR2 Erin. Year's Free Skate Sharpening: D. Greenwood, RR5 Milton

Kevin Parker wins 1977 Central Championship

Kevin Parker, a student at Acton High School and last year's Canadian Novice Men's Figure Skating Champion, edged another feature to his already impressive skating cap, by capturing the Central Canadian Junior Mens Figure Skating Championship at the Central Canadian Divisional staged last week in Guelph. Kevin will now proceed to the Canadian Championships.

The Divisionals took place from January 12th, through the 16th and Kevin's ascent to the Junior crown was by no means an easy one. In the Figures part of the competition, held last Thursday night, Kevin found himself tied in second place with Roy Priesnitz, the 1976 Junior Champion who skates out of Hamilton. Their totals read, 11 ordinals and 21.72 points. In first place in the Junior competition, at this point, was Brian Nilson, also of Hamilton, with nine Ordinals and 22 points.

The Compulsory Free Skate Program was the next judging category and although Kevin completed an excellent and strong program, after two thirds of the competition was completed, Parker still found himself in second place; this time behind Priesnitz. Brian Nilson, by this time, had fallen

and triple jumps and he handled spins and combinations, flawlessly. He performed his program with grace and pose, beyond his years and speed over the ice with controlled artistry. Kevin ended his performance with a brilliant combination of set spins that flowed into a breathtaking scratch spin and left him a veritable blur at the centre of the ice surface. The audience responded to this thrilling performance with a thunderous ovation.



KEVIN PARKER, 1977 CENTRAL CANADA JUNIOR CHAMPION

runner-up, with 91.82 points and nine Ordinals, while third place was garnered by Paul Mills, who skates out of Preston, with 86.62 points and 15 Ordinals.

An almost packed house was on hand at Guelph's Memorial Gardens on Sunday and they greeted the parade of Champions with a rousing welcome, demonstrating their appreciation for the talent on display throughout the week.

For Kevin Parker, the next mountain, beckoning to be conquered, is the Canadian Junior Mens Championship. This will be decided at the Canadians, to be staged January 31, through February 6th, in Calgary Alberta. The Canadians will be shown on National Television and undoubtedly Kevin Parker will have many supporters wishing him well through the visual medium.

Georgetown scene of Test day

The Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena was the scene last Monday night of the western half of the Central Ontario Figure Skating Section's Senior Silver and Gold Dance Test. Twenty-nine skaters, including three from the Georgetown Figure Skating Club, Cidney Sherry, Laura Yerra and Sherry Smeton, as well as Club Professional, Connie Swallow, performed before the judges to attain the level.

The four area skaters were not successful in passing the test, but it should be remembered that the Gold Dance Test is the highest test level that a skater can reach and therefore the judging is very strict. Six judges were in attendance from the Toronto area and all had Gold Test qualifications. Rick Dowling, another local Club professional was the partner for all four local skaters.

The severity of the judging was obvious by the results. Of the 24 dances attempted, only seven were granted passes.

In addition to the Georgetown skaters, clubs from Mississauga, Sutton, Newmarket, Aurora, Port Credit, North York and Weston were represented. Dr. Sydney Soames, author of the text, "Ice Dancing" was in attendance to supervise the proceedings.

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