



GEORGETOWN NON-CONTACT TEAM. Front row, left to right, Ed Elsiger, Jim Walker and Brian James. Second row, left to right, Larry Knight, Merve McNamara, Ken Norman, Ernie Bodnar, Wayne Houle, Lee Verxa, Mike Marshall, Howie Cornfoot, Peter Thompson.

Bill Bingham and Brian Quinn. Back row, left to right, Vic Kokel, Walter Arbuckle, John Packer, Paul Barber, Bill Wells and George Koeslag. Absent, John Chisholm, Gord Nisbet, Sid Harris, Walter Marini, Bill Reid and Pete Walker.

Georgetown team claims league title

Jim Walker's 6-0 shutout over Hillsburgh Country Gents gave Georgetown's team the Halton-Wellington-Dufferin Hockey Championship in the leagues first year of operation. Georgetown played a tight checking disciplined style of hockey in allowing the opposition only 24 shots on net.

Wayne Houle opened the scoring assisted by Bill Wells and Larry Knight. He was followed by Sid Harris 25 seconds later who was assisted by Merve McNamara. With 1:12 to go in the period, Howie Cornfoot stickhandled through the entire Hillsburgh team on a solo effort to score and put

Georgetown ahead 3-0. Ken Norman scored the only goal of the 2nd period from Peter Thompson. Bill Bingham and John Packer each scored in the third period and each goal was assisted by Merve McNamara.

The Georgetown team has had an outstanding season. They lost only one game in the regular season and two games in the final series.

The Georgetown team, put together by Mike Marshall has an average age in the range 35-38 years, whereas their opponents in the final, the Hillsburgh Country Gents has an average age in the range 20-23

years. The other three teams in the league have an average age of 30 plus.

The league plans to grow to

eight teams next year with a second team from Georgetown. The second team is being formed by Gord Kerr.

Top point men in the playoffs for Georgetown.

NAME	G	A	PTS
Merve McNamara	9	9	18
Peter Thompson	6	2	8
Larry Knight	1	5	6
Brian Quinn	1	1	5
Howie Cornfoot	3	2	5
John Packer	3	1	4
Sid Harris	2	2	4
Bill Bingham	1	3	4

Timmins Northstars

The Northern Ontario Hockey Association champions, Timmins Northstars, is a young team and currently undergoing a rebuilding process. The Northstars won the NOHA title last year but this year's roster has 10 new players.

Retiring from last year's club were former NHL'er Jim Mair and the terror of the OHA Jr. A League Butch Buchar.

Mair played with the Vancouver Canucks and the Philadelphia Flyers before retiring after five seasons two years ago. Buchar was Bobby Orr's linemate in Oshawa and the husky defenceman was used as Orr's bodyguard for two seasons. Buchar's fighting and penalty records are still untouched in the OHA.

The Northstars were a club last year that intimidated their opponents. This year with the retirement of many of the veterans, the Northstars concentrated on youth and speed.

The Northstars have two coaches, Moe Chevrefils and Art Corbell. Chevrefils is a former senior hockey player with the Kapuskasing GM's who won the Ontario title 10 years ago. He is also the brother of Rheel Chevrefils, the former NHL star.

Corbell coached the Schumacher Bears to three All-Ontario juvenile championships. In juvenile hockey, Corbell has coached NHL'ers Eric Vail and Don Lever.

In goal, the Northstars have two veterans Jim Young and Mitch Martin. Young starred in the OHA and also played a few seasons for Port Huron in the International Hockey League. Young was also the top goalie in the NHL this season.

On defence the Northstars have a combination of youth and size. Steve O'Donnell weighs in at 260 pounds and stands 6'3". He played for the Gatineau Nordiques who went to the Eastern Canadian Intermediate semi-finals two years ago. He also played two seasons with Oklahoma City in the Central Hockey League. The other big defenceman is Rick Stefanich.

Stefanich had an assault charge laid against him last year and the 6'4" veteran was acquitted. Stefanich graduated to intermediate hockey after playing juvenile in the Porcupine League, which is the Northern Ontario equivalent of junior B hockey in Southern Ontario.

Ted Zajac is the best defenceman for the Northstars. Zajac played for the Niagara Falls Flyers and also played junior hockey in Quebec. Rounding out the defensive corp are Dan Montrose, John Fasciano and Mike Reid.

The Northstars are strong at centre ice. Bill Hamilton centres the highest scoring line for

the Northstars. He scored 30 goals and had 30 assists in 25 games. Hamilton played for the now defunct St. Catharines Black Hawks last season. Hamilton's wingers are D'Arcy Quinn and Steve Holt. Quinn had 37 goals and 22 assists in 25 games and played for Fanshawe College in London three years ago.

Holt is the brother of Chicago Black Hawk defenceman Randy Holt. Holt joined the team late in the season and earned four goals and nine assists. He has been with the top Northstars scorers in the playoffs.

The B Line features former Cornell University Varsity Hockey team captain Dave Buchar, brother of Butch. Buchar only played four regular season games with the Northstars but scored three goals and assisted on five others.

Buchar's wingers are Gil Bertrand and Brian Beyer. Bertrand and Beyer both moved up to intermediate hockey from juvenile and the two combined to score 35 goals and 35 assists. It is doubtful that Beyer will make the journey south with the Northstars. His place will probably be filled by utility winger Jim McGee.

The Kid Lane has been the surprise of the season for the Northstars. Veteran Ken MacNair anchors the line. MacNair played junior hockey for Niagara Falls. His linemates are youngsters out of juvenile hockey, Giz Lambert and Dennis Wagner. The line scored 54 goals and had 62 assists.



STEVE HOLT



TED ZAJAC



DAVE BUCAR



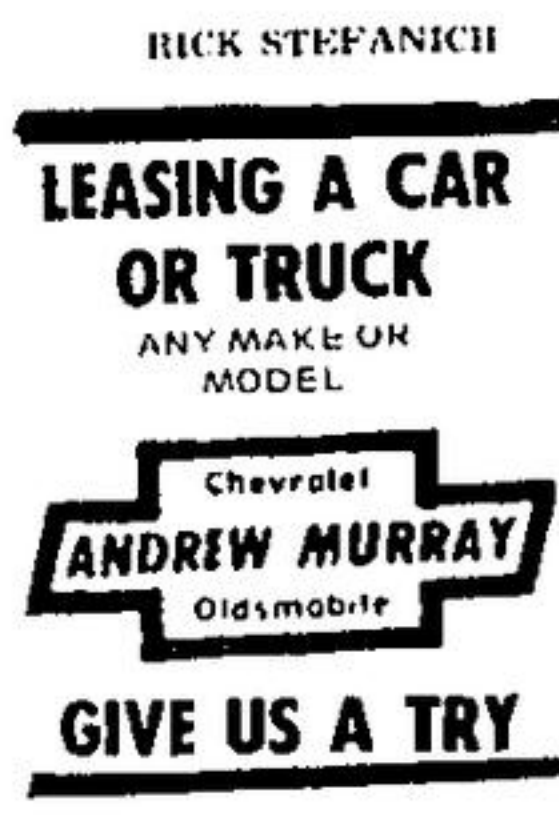
STEVE O'DONNELL



RICK STEFANICH



STEVE HOLT



STEVE HOLT

Timmins goalers

BY COLIN GIBSON
Herald Sports Editor

The Timmins Northstars, the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders opponents in the Hardy Cup quarter final series have been operating with a two goaler system through all of their 1976-77 season. Jim Young and Mitch Martin have shared the goaltending duties and through the regular Northern Ontario Intermediate Hockey League regular schedule, they alternated each game. In the playoffs, Young saw action in eight games, while Martin was employed in seven contests.

Jim Young, 26-year-old, stands at 5'8" and weighs in at 150 lbs. He has to be considered one of the smallest goalenders involved in intermediate hockey, if not the smallest, but this doesn't bother him in the least. His competitive attitude is well known in Timmins and he makes up for his lack of size by employing other tactics. "I would think that my strong points would be concentration and anticipation," noted Young. "I try to think ahead, outguess the shooter, give him one thing he can't resist, then take it away at the last instant."

His methods have obviously been effective in the NHL and he was the loops best netminder this year, sporting a 3.83 goals-against average.

Young is a lifelong resident of Timmins, but he has travelled the hockey road. He played his minor hockey, up to juvenile in Timmins, then journeyed to Chatham to play in the "Outlaw" Western Ontario Junior "A" hockey league in 1968. He won the league goaltending title in the 1969-70 season and proceeded to Port Huron of the International league in 1970.

He didn't make the team in training camp but was called back late in the season and finished the 1970-71 campaign with the team. Young also put in some time with Fort Worth.

Young is a Gung-Ho type player who feels his team has a chance of topping the Raiders. "We did have a strong league this year," he pointed out and I think we can win, because there are no quitters on this team. We have three good lines that I think can play with anyone."

Mitch Martin, the other Timmins netminder has also been with the Northstars since the team's birth, but until this year, he has played in Young's shadow. Martin is 30 years old and this year posted a goals-against average of 4.70. From 1964 through the 1966 season, he played for the Sarnia Legionaires.

The Al Piloni Minor Atoms have emerged as Georgetown's sole Tri-County Champion, thus far, as they downed Oakville 2-0 in the leagues best-of-three championship final. The Georgetown pucksters dropped Oakville 6-5 in the series opener, on Tuesday, March 29 in Georgetown, then wrapped up their championship effort by defeating Oakville 4-2 in Georgetown last Thursday.

In the series opener, Georgetown outshot Oakville, 24-9 and through the first period had things pretty much their own way, building up a 3-0 lead. The second period was a different story, however, as Oakville outscored Georgetown, 4-1 and deadlocked the game at 4-4 after two periods of play.

Oakville continued with their sharp play and moved in front, 5-4, early in the deciding period. Less than 50 seconds later, Georgetown rallied to tie the game and the winner was scored with less than two minutes to go in the game.

John Barclay and Wayne Morrow paced the Al Piloni attack, both scored twice and picked up an assist. Mike O'Brien and Brent Smith were the other Minor Atom marksmen.

The game last Thursday saw the Minor Atoms take a period to warm up, but once they got going, they were never headed. Oakville opened up a 1-0 first period lead, but Georgetown knotted the contest early in the second stanza. By the 2:53 mark, Georgetown had moved in front, 2-1 and they were never to relinquish the lead. Early in the third period, the Al Piloni gang moved ahead 3-1, but Oakville gamely rallied to narrow the Georgetown lead to a single goal at the 2:49 mark. Barely 30 seconds after the Oakville counter, Georgetown what turned out to be the insurance marker and Oakville were never able to recover from the two goal deficit. Georgetown outshot the Oakville lads, 23-8.

In the championship clinching game, Brent Smith played splendidly. He did most of the damage to Oakville by notching a hatrick. Wayne Morrow got the other marker.

Timmins Northstars Champions of NIHL

The Timmins Northstars are the Northern Ontario Hockey League champions for the second year in a row.

The Northstars finished in first place this year in the regular 28 game schedule with 19 wins, eight losses and a tie. Two of the losses were because of protests while the tie occurred in the final game of the schedule with first place wrapped up.

Last year the Northstars finished in second place but in the playoffs, defeated Abitibi Majors of Iroquois Falls 4-3.

The Northstars then went on to win the Northern Ontario Hockey Association Intermediate A championship against Sault Ste. Marie Charlies. The first two games of the series were played in the Soo with the Charlies winning

by wide margins. The Northstars then won the next two games on home ice. The Charlies refused to play the fifth and deciding game and the Northstars were awarded the title.

The Northstars were then bombed twice by the Embury Panthers in the Eastern Canadian quarter finals. The Panthers went on to win the Hardy Cup.

This year's semi-finals saw the Northstars defeat the third place Chapleau Huskies 4-1. Last year the two teams also met in the semi-finals. The Huskies led the series 3-1 at one point before the Northstars made a comeback. In the fifth game of the series, three Huskies received serious injuries and as a result Chapleau

coach Mike Morris laid criminal charges against Brain Beyer, Rob Dubeau and Rick Stefanich. The Northstars went on to win the series and the court cases, which were thrown out in the preliminary hearing stages.

In the championship series this year, the Northstars defeated the second place Kapuskasing A's 4-2. In the sixth game of the series, the Northstars won 12-9, tying a league record for the most goals in a single game. The Northstars then advanced to the NOHA finals against the Charlies.

The Charlies split the first two games in Timmins, losing 6-2 and then coming back to win 6-3. In the Soo, the Northstars scored three goals in the final two and a half

minutes to win the third game 5-3. The Northstars then wrapped up the series with a 6-2 win the next day.

The Northern Ontario Hockey League is in its third year of operation. The Abitibi Majors won the title the first year and went on to win the NOHA Intermediate B championship. The Northstars represented the A teams but lost in the NOHA championship, losing to Leveck, Ont. Last year the Abitibi Majors finished third but lost to Noelville for the B title.

Roadtrips are features in the NOHA schedule. To play the Hearst Lumber Kings, the Northstars must travel 180 miles, one way. Kapuskasing is 140 miles from Timmins while Chapleau is 130. Iroquois Falls is a mere 48 miles from the

Northstars to travel.

The league has many former semi-professionals. Graham Wise plays for the A's and was a star with the Toronto Marlies a few years ago. Bill Scheer plays for Chapleau and starred in junior B hockey in Burlington and university hockey in Pennsylvania. Steve O'Donnell of the Northstars played for Oklahoma in the Central Hockey League. Northstars coach last season Jim Mair played for the Vancouver Canucks and the Philadelphia Flyers in the NHL. Mair did not return to camp this season and is a policeman in Timmins.

Atoms win Tri-County

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Tod Cull had a pair of assists, while Keith Reiger and Shawn Coffey had single assists. GDMIA Support Group President, Henry Cull, made the trophy presentation.

The Minor Atoms also saw action in the Streetsville Tyke Tournament and were as successful as in their drive for the Tri-County pennant. Last Saturday, Georgetown dropped Huron, 4-1 and last Sunday they tied the same team, 1-1 to win the two game total goal series, 5-2.

In the series opener, Georgetown had control from the opening faceoff. The Al Piloni crew built up a 4-0 lead before Huron hit the scoresheet but this was all the

offense they could muster. Wayne Morrow, Danny King, Keith Reiger and Brent Smith scored the local markers, while John Barclay had a pair of assists and Mike O'Brien, Todd Cull and Morrow notched single assists.

The second game saw both teams miss a lot of scoring chances but the 1-1 tie, allowed Georgetown to advance in tournament play. Mike Moore scored the lone Georgetown marker, unassisted, at the 1:21 mark of the first period.

The Al Piloni Minor Atoms will play Trenton Michigan this Friday at 1:50 p.m. Should they win, they will swing into action again on Saturday.

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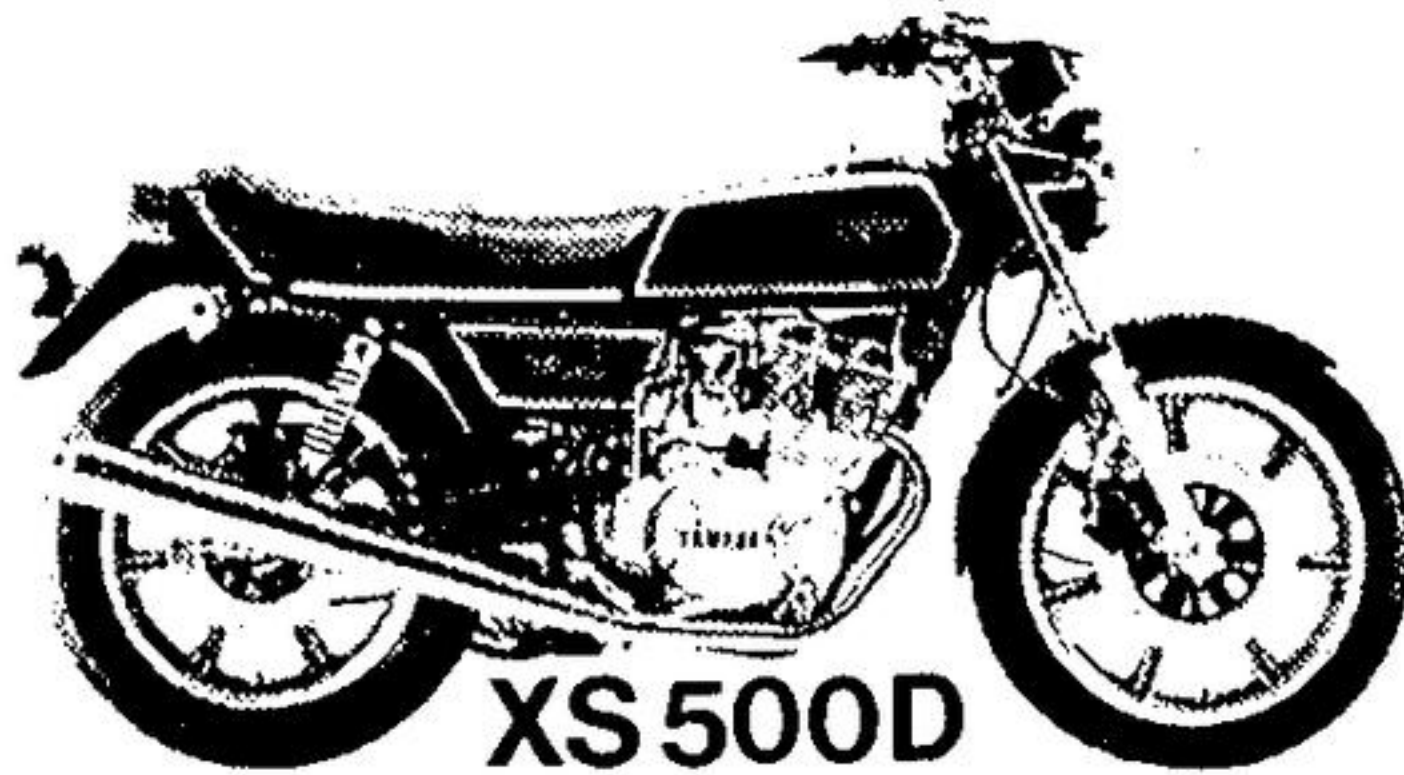
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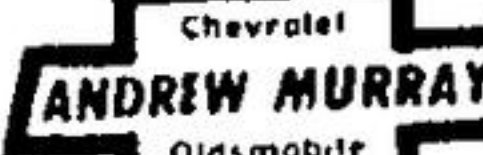
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