



WELCOME HOME RAIDERS

THE GEORGETOWN CHRYSLER RAIDERS returned home last Monday, defeated but undaunted. Although the weather left a lot to be desired, a welcoming committee

was there to greet the hometown favorites. From left to right: Wendy Cotton, Bonnie Marshall, Sean Cotton, Geoffrey Evans, Bev Benoit and Heather Evans.

Raiders bow out in style

By COLIN GIBSON
Herald Sports Editor

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders journeyed to Campbellton, New Brunswick last weekend, determined to make a good showing for both their league and their Georgetown supporters in the best-of-five Eastern Canada Final series of the Hardy Cup.

No other OHA Intermediate "A" team had advanced as far as the Raiders (since the inception of Intermediate National play in 1977) in Hardy Cup play, so there was a lot at stake.

The Raiders were eliminated by the Campbellton Tigers in three straight games, by scores of 5-1, 12-2 and 8-3, but the class they showed in battling throughout the series, against monumental odds, speaks well both of the players and the Raider organization.

The Campbellton Tigers could easily hold their own in Senior "A" competition and this was obvious from the opening faceoff in Friday night's game. The Flyers forte was the play of their speedy forwards and on an ice-surface, 15 feet wider and slightly longer than facilities the Raiders had been used to, they proved almost unstoppable.

As Raider forward, Tommy Gilbert, (no slouch himself) remarked upon returning to Georgetown, "I would have paid the admission price just to see these guys play." The Raiders lost the series opener by a 5-1 count but had it not been for the splendid work of Raider netminder, Mario MacDonald, the game could have turned into a rout.

MacDonald faced 43 drives off the sticks of Tiger snipers, while his counterpart in the

Campbellton nets, Mike Frawley, was tested on but 20 occasions.

The Tigers opened the game scoring when Greg McCullough beat MacDonald at the 16:24 mark of the opening frame. This was how things stood after 20 minutes of play.

The Raiders got their lone game marker at the 13:04 mark of the second, when Doug Tate combined with Tommy Gilbert and Gary Hill for a score. The Tigers, Mike Martin had notched his team's second goal early in the second and Campbellton were in front, 2-1 after Tate's marker.

Campbellton got a goal from George Parker later in the second and lead 3-1 after 40 minutes of play. Over the two periods, the Tigers had outshot the Raiders by an amazing 27-11 difference, another example of the supreme effort turned in by MacDonald.

The third period saw Campbellton wrap up the win on goals by Mike Martin, his second of the game, and Dave Wisner but the Raider effort has to be applauded.

They arrived in Campbellton, from Ontario, barely two hours before game time, yet came up with a supreme effort.

Saturday's game saw the Tigers romp to a 12-2 win over the Raiders but more damaging to the Georgetown cause was the injury sustained to goaltender, Mario MacDonald. MacDonald suffered a shoulder separation in the second period and although Campbellton were in front by a comfortable margin at the time, the injury to their goaltender must have been a crushing blow to the Raiders hopes.

Gregg Hooper, who has seen

little action between the pipes for the Raiders this year, mainly because of the brilliance of MacDonald, was called into action and he performed admirably.

Unfortunately, for the Raiders, the game was decided by a Tiger second period explosion.

Going into the second stanza, Campbellton held a 2-0 lead, but were by no means, in charge. In the second stanza, the Tigers exploded for six goals and this virtually put a blanket over the Raiders chances.

The Tigers added four more goals in the third period to coast to their 12-2 win, but the Raiders were very much a factor in this game, as they outshot the Tigers, 33-31.

Danny Blair, the Raider addition from the Fort Erie Mavericks, got both goals in Saturday's game, with Pat Maloney, Owen Held and Gary Hill (the latter two, also Fort Erie players) collecting assists.

As game time for the Sunday night tilt rolled around, the Raiders must have realized that their cause was hopeless. They were being asked to go against a vastly superior hockey machine, without their front line goater, it must be added, with little at stake except pride.

Although the Tigers can be credited with having more hockey talent than the Raiders, in terms of pride, the Raiders claimed the series hands down.

The Tigers had the game well in hand after the first period, opening up a 4-2 lead after 20 minutes of play. It could have been time to lie down and die, but the Raiders weren't going to allow their

opponents an opportunity in this sense.

In the second period, the Raiders outshot the Tigers, 11-10, but found that they were slipping further behind. Campbellton led 6-3 after two periods.

The Tigers wrapped up the game and the win, with two more goals in the final frame, but again, the Georgetowners showed their class by battling all the way and outshooting the Tigers, 15-10.

In the final Raider appearance, Owen Held, Bob Fotheringham and Danny Blair notched goals, while Blair, Held, Gary Hill, Steve Blundy and John Boyce earned assists. For Campbellton, six players figured in the scoring.

The defeat at the hands of the Campbellton Tigers, signals an end to the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders 1976-77 season, a season that had it's high points and it's low points for the local Intermediate "A" team.

Campbellton now goes on to meet either Warroad Minnesota or North Vancouver in the Hardy Cup Final series. At press time, Warroad leads that best-of-five series, two games to one. The third game in the series was slated for Tuesday night, at press time, the score in that game was not available.

CAMPBELLTON LINEUP
Mario MacDonald, Neil Cotton, Bill Currie, Ray Evans, Steve Blundy, Owen Held, Chris Mince, Brad Butterworth, Gary Hill, Tom Gilbert, Ari Webster, Tom Daley, John Longstreet, Danny Blair, Bob Fotheringham, John Boyce, Pat Maloney, Doug Tate and Gregg Hooper.



Sports Comment

Amateur hockey gets black eye

By COLIN GIBSON
Herald Sports Editor

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders returned home late Monday afternoon after jousting with the hockey windmill in the form of the Campbellton Tigers, of Campbellton New Brunswick: beaten and unbowed.

The Raiders were defeated in the Eastern Canadian Final of the Hardy Cup, in three straight games, in the best-of-five affair, by scores of 5-1, 12-2 and 8-3. To set the record straight, however, the Raiders weren't beaten by a hockey team but by the bumbling, boos who profess to have their collective fingers on the pulse of amateur hockey in Canada; namely the CAHA.

The Raiders, after winning the OHS Intermediate "A" League, outclassed Timmins (in effect, causing the Northern Ontario team to default the Hardy Cup quarter-final series) then put down the Val D'Or Voodoos, 3-1 in the Eastern Canada best-of-five semifinal, to qualify to go against the Campbellton Tigers for the right to host the Canadian Championship Series for the Hardy Cup.

The Raider entrance into the Eastern final represented the high water mark for the local Intermediate "A" club in their long and honor-strewn athletic tradition.

There were, however, certain questions raised, about the CAHA's antics, even before the Raiders journeyed to Campbellton.

The Timmins Northstars defaulted to the Raiders because, they stated they were not informed, until the last minute, about the length of the series. Although this claim doesn't hold water, another point, raised by the NHL should be looked into.

The CAHA had decreed that team's entering into National Championship play were allowed to pick up four players and two goalers. The Timmins club were not informed of this, until just before they left for the south and the fast-trip search for roster additions only allowed them to pick up two players, neither, it should be mentioned, were considered high-calibre players. Stroke one up, for the CAHA.

The Quebec representative, the Val D'Or Voodoo, pose an even stranger question. The Voodoos were an All-Star team, selected from the Quebec Intermediate League. They played together, as a unit, for the first time upon arriving Hardy Cup play.

According to their Coach, Marcel Lamothe, the first 100 players for the All-Star Quebec contingent was called last December with the roster being filled out as the Quebec Intermediate schedule came to a close.

How can one league be allowed to ice an All-Star team, to compete for a National Championship while their opponents, in this case, the Raiders are limited to but six additional players. The Raiders didn't fulfill the allowed quota, as their Coach, Junior Tibbitts had enough confidence in the players that had toiled all season long and only added three Fort Erie Mavericks, Danny Blair, Gary Hill and Owen Held Chalk up another for the CAHA.

Now the Campbellton situation.

According to a source, in Campbellton the two Intermediate leagues that operate in New Brunswick quite openly, pay their players. Since all teams do it, no complaints reach the light of day.

This is fine when the competition is restricted to league or even Provincial play, but it is a completely different kettle of fish when competing on the National scene. It immediately puts the opposition at a distinct disadvantage.

Whoever coaches the Tigers should be given the "Coach of the Decade" award for his four-decade force in 1976-77. Last year, the Tigers didn't even make the playoffs in their league and in fact, their number of wins can be counted on the fingers of both hands, with several digits to spare.

Going into the Raider series, the Tigers had won 25 games in a row (were undefeated in post-season and Hardy Cup play) and had lost only four games all year.

While no financial figures are available, on the Campbellton club, the Herald's source provides us with an interesting sidelight.

The owner of the team that lost out to the Tigers in the New Brunswick final series, lost approximately \$6,000 in operating the team this year. Players were flown in from Ontario and Quebec for games and flown back out after the games.

Raiders outclassed

Special to the Herald from Peter Maher, Sports Editor

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders first venture into the Eastern Canadian Intermediate "A" hockey final series, may have been their last.

The Raiders were badly outclassed, but they went down gallantly despite losing by scores of 5-1, 12-2, and 8-3 against a powerful collection of Campbellton Tigers in the best-of-five Eastern Canada Final series played in its entirety in the New Brunswick community during the weekend.

Raider's Coach, Junior Tibbitts praised his players at the conclusion of Sunday's last series game, saying they gave their best but added, "unless there are changes in the structure of Intermediate "A" hockey in Canada, we will not enter Canadian playoffs again and we will recommend strongly that no other team from the Ontario Hockey Association Intermediate "A" league advance either. It just isn't worth it if this type of opposition is what we are going to run up against."

Tibbitts explained "The Tigers have one hell of a hockey team with no real noticeable weakness. They played the wrong team. They should have been playing Brantford this weekend instead of us."

He was drawing reference to the OHA Senior League champion, Brantford Alexanders, who are involved in Allan Cup playoffs.

When asked how the Tigers would have fared in the OHA Senior League this year, Tibbitts replied, "They would have finished either first or second. It would have been difficult to predict a winner between them and Brantford."

Tibbitts remarks were echoed by just about all members of the Raider delegation as well as Jim King, the OHA representative who attended the series here.

Said King, "If Campbellton and Brantford had played an Allan Cup series here in Campbellton, I don't know who would have won. However Brantford, likely would have won if the series had been played in their rink. But it wouldn't have been a runaway."

"I'm proud of my players," Tibbitts said, "We have a bunch of fellows here who receive no money for playing hockey. In fact, many of the boys had to take money out of their own pockets to make this trip. I'd like to know how much money it's going to cost Campbellton to win the Canadian Championship."

He was making reference to reports that all players on the Tiger roster are paid to play.

Tibbitts felt the Tigers would win the Canadian Championship. "Next weekend, in the National Final, it will be the same thing all over again. The Tigers will beat the West in three straight games and all of them will be one-sided. The people I feel for are the Campbellton fans who

have to watch such one-sided hockey."

Attendance in the Georgetown-Campbellton series was considered poor by Tiger officials. A crowd of 2100 witnessed the first game with 1200 taking in the second and 800 the third. Tigers General Manager, Arnold Firlotte, expressed dismay with the weakness of the Raiders, noting, we figured Georgetown would be the toughest team we faced so far this season, but instead, it was probably the weakest. I don't know how they ever won the Ontario-Quebec title."

Firlotte answered the claims that his club is too powerful for Intermediate hockey by saying "We won the Canadian title in 1972 with a team that is just about as strong as this year's squad but we ran into some very strong opposition. The National Final against Rose-town Saskatchewan went the full five game limit and so did our Eastern Final against Em-bran Ontario. We suspected that if we were to go all the way this year we would be facing tougher teams than we met five years ago, but so far that hasn't happened."

The Tigers have run up an awesome record this season.

Overall, in 52 games, they have won 47, lost four and tied one. Sunday's win was their 25th in a row including all 21 playoff matches they have been involved in.

Tigers will face either War-road Minnesota or Vancouver in the Dominion Final starting Friday in Campbellton.

The Raiders who played as best as they could, but were unquestionably into a mismatch, took a severe jolt midway through the second game on Saturday when their most impressive player, goaltender, Mario MacDonald, suffered a dislocated shoulder and was through for the series. MacDonald was injured when a teammate ran into him after Campbellton's sixth goal.

The diminutive netminder was sensational in the first game, kicking out 43 shots in making the game respectable. The Tigers had a great deal of praise for MacDonald and Coach, Gerry "Red" Ouellette, stated, "He's a very fine goaltender and he made some excellent saves. Some, I don't know how he stopped."

While being outscored, 17-5 in the series, the Raiders were also outshot greatly by a 141-68 margin.

Industrial League expands to eleven

The Georgetown Industrial Softball League has expanded once more this year and added yet another team to bring the League total to eleven with the addition of a team called Yankees (formerly Perks).

Teams now formally entered are: Peel Regional Police Association, Flyers, D.L.G. (Gage Stationery), Sandhill Shell, Niner's Sports Outfitters, Norval, Fort-a-mix Mets, Royal Trust Company, North Valley, Yankees and Way Jay Sportsmen.

Most teams are holding work-outs in preparation for the League opener scheduled for the Georgetown Fairgrounds Sunday May 15 with one game at 2 p.m. pitting Niner's Sports Outfitters against Flyers and this single game will be followed later with four games starting at 8:30 and 8:30 on the Sunday night seeing Way Jay taking on Gage; Sandhill and Peel Police with North Valley and Fort-a-mix and Royal Trust and Norval locking horns at 8:30. The first day of action will see ten of the eleven teams in action with the Yankees tasting victory or defeat on Monday May 16 against Peel Police.

The schedule calls for 165 league games with 7 on Sunday afternoons, 56 games Sunday night; 28 Monday night and 60 games scheduled for Wednesday nights. Sandhill will play 14 of their 15 home games in Ingewood Park on Thursday nights with a game time of 8:30 p.m.

The playoff format will be decided at the next League meeting but it is anticipated that 8 teams will qualify for post-season play with the length of each series to be determined.

Next League meeting, Monday May 2, Cedarvale Boardroom, 7:30 p.m. Bring, names, addresses of 2 contact people per team. Ideas re playoffs.

HERALD sports

COLIN GIBSON, SPORTS EDITOR

Car Rallying made easy

Those interested in getting a start in car rallying will be happy to know there's an easy, inexpensive way. The Ontario Region of the Canada Automobile Sport Clubs (C.A.S.C.) sponsors a series of short rallies in various southern Ontario locations.

These rallies are carefully run under the guidance of C.A.S.C. designed to introduce beginners to the sport of rallying. No special car preparation is required as all events are held Sundays in daylight and on roads that will not break your car. The only equipment required is paper, pencils, clipboard, ruler measuring in tenths of an inch and an accurate watch with a second hand.

Examples of all the types of instructions that will be used are available from the organizers well in advance of each event.

The first event was held in Kitchener on April 3rd. The second event, MAY DAZE is organized by the G.T. Motor Sport Club of Georgetown and will be held May 1, 1977, starting from Georgetown with registration at 9:00. For more information contact Alan Ryall (416) 678-6152.

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WHO CAN ATTEND??
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