

# Raiders move into league's top spot

By **TONY PANACCI**  
Herald Sports Editor

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders moved into first place in the O.H.A. Intermediate "A" standings with a 5-3 victory over the Dundas Merchants at Alcott Arena last Friday.

The Raiders again got excellent goaltending as this time Mario MacDonald turned in a stalwart performance.

The home side did not take long to get the scoresheet as Tom Daley scored with only 16 seconds gone in the game with his linemates Steve Blundy and Ray Evans earning assists.

A defensive lapse on the part of the Raiders enabled the Merchants to tie the game. The Raiders were enjoying a manpower advantage when the Merchants' Greg Higson stole the puck at his blueliner and moved in alone on MacDonald. He beat the goaltender on his

glove side to tie up the score.

The Raiders ended the period the way they started it as Evans scored with only 28 seconds left to go. He fired a rebound from an Art Webster shot past Merchant goalie Mike Clarke.

Dundas tied the game at the 1:38 mark of the middle frame as Steve Aglor tallied from Greg Clause and Bill Nunn.

MacDonald was at his best in the second period as the Merchants fired 15 shots at him. However, they were unable to get a puck past him for the remainder of the period.

Larry Peterson put the Raiders ahead at the 8:10 mark of the period with his first of two goals. Assists on the play went to Jari Kudrasovs and Doug Tale, who has been in a slump since he won the Raider Player of the Month award for October. Dundas came very close to

tying the score with approximately two minutes left in the period. They broke away on a two-on-one break but an excellent defensive play by the Raiders' Brad Butterworth stopped in their tracks.

Right after the Butterworth play the Raiders pinned the Merchants in their own zone. The persistent forechecking paid off for the home side as Tom Gilbert scored with only 1:20 left on the clock. There were no assists awarded on the play, but the remaining four Raiders on the ice all played a part in the goal.

The second period also featured the only fight of the game. Webster squared off against Aglor and the Raider took the decision in the altercation as the Merchant had to retreat to his dressing room to get patched up.

Peterson gave the Raiders a 5-2 lead with 6:47 gone in the

final period. He took a pass from Webster and moved in on the Merchant net from the corner. He was foiled on his first shot by Clarke, but he

grabbed his own rebound and slammed it past the prone goaltender.

Another defensive lapse on the part of the Raiders result-

ed in the Merchant's third goal midway through the period. Georgetown had the puck in the Dundas zone and were pressing the visitors when

Neil Cotton threw a blind pass into the slot. The puck was cobbled up Clause and the speedy Merchant glided in unmolested on MacDonald. He

made a nifty move and put the puck past MacDonald to make the score 5-3.

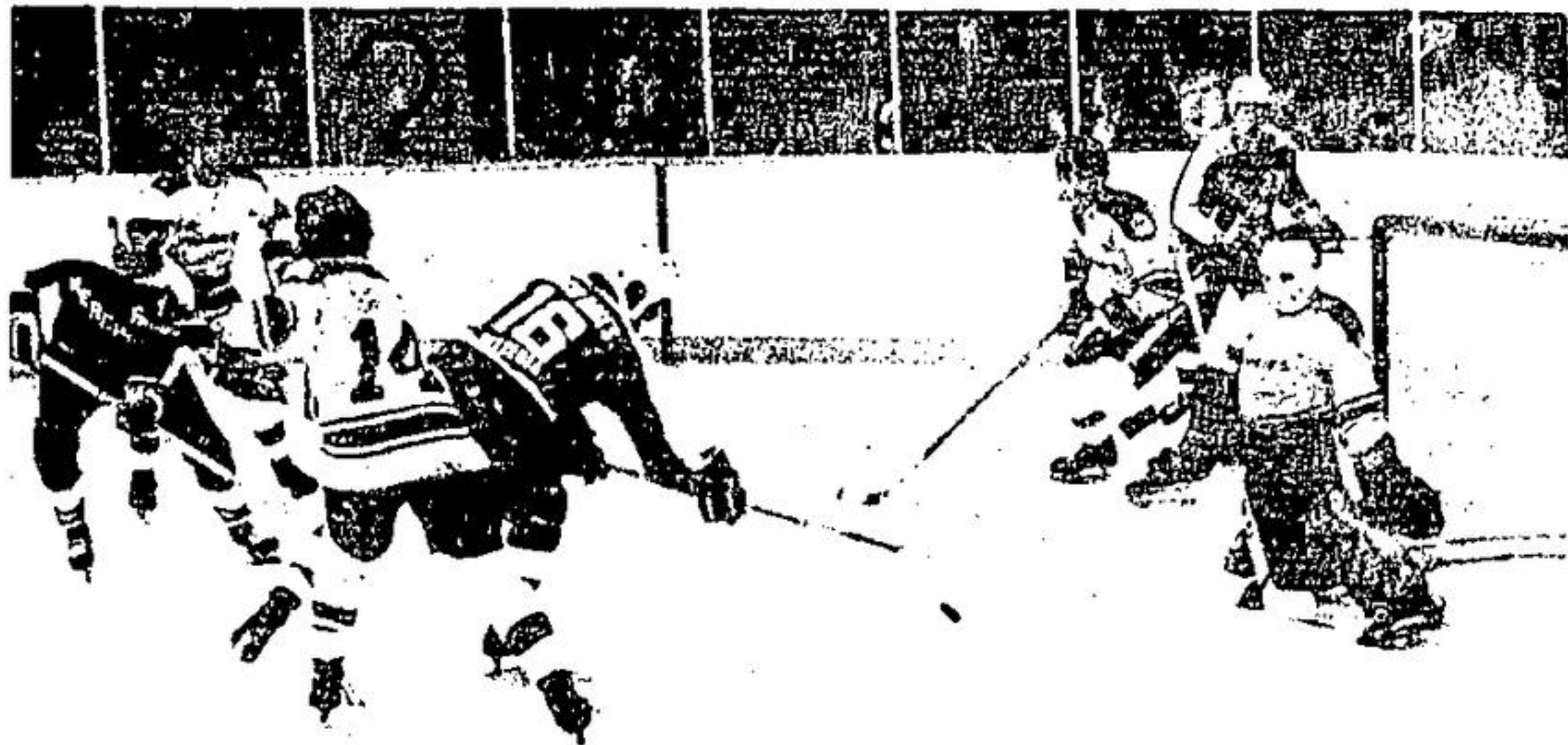
The Merchants tried valiantly to get close to the Raiders but they were kept at bay by MacDonald. MacDonald handled 33 shots in the game as opposed to 28 for Clarke.

Raider coach Junior Tibbetts used Cotton, who is usually a defenseman, at centre for the game. The big, strapping blueliner looked uncomfortable at the pivot and he also took the great majority of the faceoffs he took. However, the move did have some positive aspects as the hard-hitting Cotton kept the Merchants apprehensive in their own zone.

The Merchants have a very fast and well-coached team. The game was very competit-

ive with the two teams being almost equal in calibre and don't be surprised if they square off against one another for the league championship. Although there were eight goals scored in the game it was actually a defense-oriented match. Both teams took six minors as well as the two majors handed out to Aglor and Webster.

The win gives the Raiders a one-point lead over Dundas. However, the Merchants have three games in hand. The two squads play one another four more times this season and those meetings should decide who takes the league pennant. The Raiders will try to maintain their winning ways when they meet the Port Colborne Sailors at Alcott Arena this Friday.



Raider goaltender Mario MacDonald turned back this scoring attempt by the Merchant's Greg Higson. Tom Gilbert, 14, tries to help MacDonald out from behind. MacDonald played a strong game as the Raiders took over first place with a 5-2 win.

## Gems fall to Braves blueline problems cause

The Georgetown Geminals modest unbeaten string of three games came to an end in Burlington on Friday night as they went down to the Braves 6-2.

Coach Ron Dixon said that he had only three regular healthy defensemen dressed for the game. Only one of the three, Joe South, managed to play the whole game. Tony Giannini went out with an injury in the second period and Mark Eutenier was thrown out of the game for being the aggressor in a fight in the third period. Bob McCandless returned to the lineup for the Gems, but he is not 100 per cent yet so he played only a few shifts.

General manager Bob Tost said his team did not play as badly as the score might indicate.

"We had a few good scoring chances early in the game and if the puck was bouncing our way the outcome may have been different," Tost said. The Gems outshot the Braves 32-31.

Dixon said goaltender Brad Miller did not have one of his better games. Miller may be an awfully tired netminder as in the past few weeks he has handled the goaltending chores exclusively for the Gems. The Braves took a 2-0 lead in the first period on goals by

Kevin Charbonneau and Art Joyce. They upped their lead to 3-0 early in the middle frame on a Dave Beckon goal.

Doug Barnes, who has been red hot lately, finally put the Gems on the scoreboard late in the frame. Assists on the play went to Eutenier and Chris Milne.

The Braves put the game away with two goals early in the second period. The scorers were Beckon and Hal Montford.

The Gems cut the lead to 5-2 with approximately five minutes left in the game. Grant Bodnar scored his second goal in as many games on a play set up by Barnes and John Krasnukusky. Beckon then completed his hat trick to make the final 6-2.

Dixon said he was very pleased with the work of the Bodnar twins, Grant and Greg, in their first two outings.

The Bodnars will play their third game against the Braves tonight at Alcott Arena. After the game they will have to decide whether they want to stay with the Gems or go back and play for Way-Jay in the Georgetown Industrial League. If they play anymore games with the Gems they will be ineligible to play for the Way-Jays.

"I think the boys are playing well and the decision will be up to them whether they want to stay with us or not," Dixon

said. "They were a little behind the play in their first two games, but they'll pick up the pace after they've played a bout 10 games."

Dixon and Tost were both pleased with the work of McCandless. Dixon said he is working the defenseman back slowly because he does not want him to have a recurrence of the knee injury.

Tost said he was surprised that McCandless played as well as he did against Burlington.

Dixon said he is also trying to solve his defensive problems by moving forward Marty Power back to the defense.

"Marty is a young, strong and big kid so I'm going to start working with him as a defenseman in practices," the coach said.

The injury to Giannini is not expected to keep him out of action for any games. The Gems will also have Tim Turner, who has been serving a suspension and Dale Meezanec, out with a back injury and the flu, back in the lineup for tonight's game.

One Gem who will not be back for tonight's game is Blake Shortill who has quit the team.

"He got mad in Acton because he didn't play in the last five minutes and he quit the team," Dixon said. "If he does come back to the Gems it's going to be on our terms."

## Bantams win five straight to take Hespeler tourney

Outstanding team play by the DRG Statorary Major Bantams highlighted their championship in the 11th annual Hespeler Minor Olympics held during the Christmas holidays. Led by the excellent goal tending of Keith Ledger and Benny Beckett, the Bants went undefeated through the tournament allowing only six goals in 5 games. The defense combinations of Scott Harris, Chris Peavoy, Brad (the bird) McMullin and Dave Pilote consistently thwarted the attacking players with crunching body checks and head-up clearing passes. Solid two-way hockey and relentless forechecking by the forwards kept the opposition off balance throughout the tournament.

Bob Dean broke out of a recent scoring slump by firing eight big goals to lead the team

in scoring with two of his goals coming in the pressure packed final game against Hespeler.

With Mark Hamilton away on vacation, Russ Power moved in one time with Dean and Brian Ward and played very well. The line of Lance Doucette, Rick Poole and Jason Mogge,

controlled the play during their shifts. Each of these boys scored important goals on the road to the championship.

Mark Shearer, Gerry Mine and Bobby Davey stymied their checks while adding key goals toward the teams' victory.

During the presentation of

the awards Friday evening, the team received gold medals and a trophy while Dean got a trophy for the leading scorer in the tournament.

Coach Jack Gudgen and manager Mike Ogden, would like the loyal fans for their support and commend the organizers in Hespeler for a well run tournament.

## Three cage games on Friday

Friday is "Tip Off Night" for the three basketball teams of Georgetown district high school.

The midget, junior and senior Hetsels all square off again

st the teams of Oakville-Trafalgar high school to open the 1978 regular season.

All the teams had very successful preseason records and should all be contenders in

their respective divisions. The midgets breezed through their schedule undefeated.

The midgets game will start at 6 p.m. to be followed by the junior tipoff at 7:30 and the senior game at nine.

Admission into the games will be \$3.00 and there will be many raffles drawn from the admission tickets. The school is trying to contact as many alumni players as possible to have them present for the game.

## Gems' captain may move on

Gem Captain Terry Turner may be on his way to the Streetsville Derbys.

General manager Bob Tost said Turner has asked Gem management to trade him to Streetsville.

"We have made Streetsville an offer and now it is up to them," Tost said. The Gems would like to get a solid defenseman in exchange for Turner.

"We do not really want to lose Terry," Tost said, "but he has told us he wants to be traded to the Derbys and we're going to try to make a deal."

Apparently Streetsville was very interested in Turner before the season began, but the Gems were not willing to trade him then.

Coach Ron Dixon said he spent a considerable amount of time talking to the Gem captain. "He says he is not happy here and would like to be traded," the coach said.

"We would like to get a good defenseman out of the deal," Dixon said. "One thing is for sure, we're not going to give Terry away for nothing."

Turner has had a very unproductive year with the Gems this season. He has spent most of the year out of action and has seldom been able to play two games in a row. He has been bothered by a back injury most of the year. He returned to the lineup against Acton, but was suspended for the next two games for his part in an altercation.

Turner is a much less val-

uable commodity now than he was at the beginning of the year. The Derbys also gave up a defenseman, Warren Barnes to Acton in exchange for goalie Kent Moffat and may not be willing to lose another one.

Tost said Turner has agreed to return to the Gems if a deal with the Derbys cannot be worked out.

## Webster plays for Orillia

Art Webster, star forward of the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders, was loaned out to the Orillia Terriers for the O.H.A. Senior "A" team's game against Thunder Bay on Monday.

Jack Handy said the Raiders and the Terriers are affiliates and the Georgetown general manager added that his club may be picking up players from Orillia before the season is through.

"We have until February 10 to sign players and I expect that we'll pickup one or two from Orillia by then," Handy said.

Webster was just on loan to the Terriers for the one game and he will be back in a Raider uniform for the team's next game against Port Colborne at Alcott Arena this Friday.

**Sports beat**  
By Tony Panucci

**The agony of defeat**

Jamie Warnock, Craig Chantler and Mark Zebede

If there is a sadder scene than a hockey dressing room filled with seven and eight year old players who have just lost a big game, then I've yet to see it.

The Georgetown North Halton Sports Camp Novice Heps had just lost the final in the Stayner Tournament to Chingwaucousy by a 5-2 score.

The fact that the team beat Orillia 5-0 in the opening game was forgotten. The fact that the team beat Oshawa 3-2 to get to the final was also forgotten. All that was remembered by the seven and eight year olds was the loss to Chingwaucousy.

The job of lifting the spirits of these youngsters certainly was not an envied position. However, it had to be done by somebody.

Ron Webster, whose son Mike plays on the team and who is on the executive of the Georgetown District Minor Hockey Association, was the first to speak to the youngsters. He told them that their performance in the tournament was one of the most courageous he had ever seen in all his years in hockey. He also reminded the boys that they had done exceedingly well in the tournament.

Coach Charlie Hanman then took over and he told the boys that they had done much better than they had been expected to do. Georgetown had to play against teams from much bigger centres such as Oshawa, Brampton and Mississauga.

Hanman had shown his character during the game. All season Hanman has switched his goalies halfway through the games and given his 15 skaters an equal amount of ice time.

Here he was in the final of a tournament. He could have diverted from the game plan he has used all season to win the big one. However, the coach did not. Halfway through the game he switched goalies and every player on the bench saw approximately an equal amount of ice time.

The young hockey players however had nothing to think about other than the loss. The fairness their coach had shown them did not really matter. That they went as far as they did in the tournament did not really matter. If they had lost in their first game against Orillia the hurt probably would not have been as deep.

What Webster and Hanman had to say was not going to be heeded by the boys right after the loss. They might think about it two hours, two days or two weeks later when the hurt had subsided, but not right after the big loss.

Do not however expect to see the 17 boys on the Novice team walking around gloomy forever. One thing I have learned from observing my nieces and nephews and other youngsters is that they have short memories. The loss to Chingwaucousy will more than likely be forgotten after the Novices win their next game.

# HERALD sports

## Bantams win five straight to take Hespeler tourney

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