

Raiders behind eight ball must win remaining games

The Thorold Athletics are one nail away from closing the coffin on the Raiders after taking a 6-4 win at home Sunday and nipping Georgetown 3-2 here Friday. On Wednesday the teams played to a 3-3 draw after Thorold won the series opener 4-1.

The Athletics now have seven points to the Raiders one and needed just a tie in last night's fifth game here to wrap up the series.

The Raiders had an excellent chance to get back into the series on Friday night. The Athletics' outstanding goaltender Bill Cheropita received a match penalty in that game in the second period. The Athletics regular backup Ross Winfield was not at the game so Thorold coach Bob Urquhart was forced to use Joe

Persia, who was up from the juveniles.

The score when Cheropita headed for the dressing room at the 17:19 mark of the period was 2-2, with Ray Evan's just having tied the score for the Raiders.

It appeared at that point that the Raiders were about to turn the series around. Cheropita had excelled for the Athletics since he joined the team in mid-season.

Urquhart was fuming between periods. He said if Cheropita was suspended for three games he would not return to Alcott Arena for the fifth game.

"We always get shafted in this building," Urquhart said. "If we can't buy Cheropita back we're not coming back." Cheropita received the match for butting ending the Raiders' Ricky Becker. The goal-

tender did not argue the call too vehemently before skating off. He will be out at least the next two games.

The Athletics came out in the third period and united around their young goaltender. The Raiders have very few good scoring chances in the period, and the Athletics capitalized on one good chance to take the victory.

By the end of the game Urquhart had cooled off and no doubt he was back at Alcott Arena last night and without Cheropita in the net.

"Our guys showed a lot of heart in that third period," Urquhart said. "Persia did not have too many shots to stop." As in the 3-3 deadlock it was the Raider's own power play that did them in. In both games Thorold scored two shorthanded goals.

The winning goal on Saturday night was scored on a Raider power play only 20 seconds into the third period.

The goal happened on what was for the Raiders an unfortunate play. Defenseman Neil Cotton was skating with the puck in his own end. The puck hit a puddle of water and Cotton overskated it. Peter Mara picked up the loose puck and beat Mario MacDonald.

Coach Junior Tibbitts went almost exclusively with two lines for the latter part of Saturday's game. He said he benched Bob Fotheringham, a regular all year, because the winger was not skating. "You don't skate, you don't play," Tibbitts said.

The coach also said that he was not at all pleased with the work of his defensesmen. "Brad

Butterworth was the only defenseman playing well," Tibbitts said. Butterworth saw plenty of ice time on Saturday night.

The Raider coach is apparently opting for benching his players instead of mixing up his lines. "It's too late in the season to start trying different combinations," he said.

Tibbitts said his team was lucky to come out of Friday's night's loss with only a 3-2 loss. "The way we played we should have been defeated much worse," he said. "The way we're playing they could beat us with a Junior 'B' team."

In Wednesday's game in Thorold it took a goal midway through the final frame by defenseman Bob Elinesky to give the Raiders the tie.

The teams traded goals in the first period with Howie Doan connecting for Thorold and Tom Daley replying for Georgetown.

The Raiders gave the game to the Athletics in the second period by allowing Thorold to score two shorthanded goals. Fraser Rice and Mara scored the goals. Daley connected on the Raider powerplay to tie the score at two.

On Friday night the Raiders scored late in the first frame. Thorold took over in the second period with Greg Craig, shorthanded, and Rice tallying.

The Athletics came out flying in the second period and blasted six shots at MacDonald. Doan, with two goals, and Rice were able to put the puck by the netminder. None of six Raider shots beat Winfield.

Tom Gilbert brought the Raiders back to two with a goal at the 7:04 mark of the final period.

It appeared Thorold put the game away when Gino Fariacci and Bill Urquhart put them ahead 5-1 midway through the period.

However, the Raiders made it close again when Doug Tate and Fotheringham scored. Doan completed his hat trick with 12 seconds left on the clock and with no time remaining Elinesky scored for the Raiders.

Bantams defeat Oakville

The Georgetown Optimist Club Minor Bantams defeated Oakville 4-0 in the first game of the Tri-county quarter-finals which saw defenseman Mike Doucette receive a match penalty.

Early in the third period Doucette received the match penalty for slashing Oakville's Mike Fisher. He struck him across the head.

Doucette now stands to receive a major suspension from the O.M.H.A. and will definitely not dress for the Minor Bantams in the tournament which begins this week.

Pat Doucette, Mike's mother, said her son has written a letter to the Oakville people apologizing for his actions. She said her son slashed Fisher because he was frustrated.

"Michael has a bad knee," Mrs. Doucette said. "He was slashed on the knee several times and the referees did not call it. He became frustrated. However, that does not excuse Michael's actions."

The game as a whole was a very chippy affair with the referees having little control over the players. After Doucette received the penalty there were several cheap shots delivered by players from both teams. Georgetown ended up with 35 minutes in penalties and Oakville received 10.

Georgetown jumped out ahead 2-0 in the game. The first period goals were scored by Bobby Morrow and David Norton.

The second period went scoreless with Jeff Waterworth playing a strong frame in the Georgetown net.

The score remained 2-0 until late in the final period when Kevin Frank and Peter Haller talked.

Haller was undoubtedly the top Georgetown player as he added two assists. The captain logged extra ice time throughout the game. Georgetown started the game with only four defensesmen and when Doucette was ejected it left them with three. Haller was on the ice for most of the third period.

Shawn Zuber also played a strong game as he helped set up two of the goals. He was moved back to defense in the third period.

The second game of the series will be played in Oakville tonight. If a third and deciding game is needed it will be played here tomorrow night.

Pee Wees lose to Owen Sound

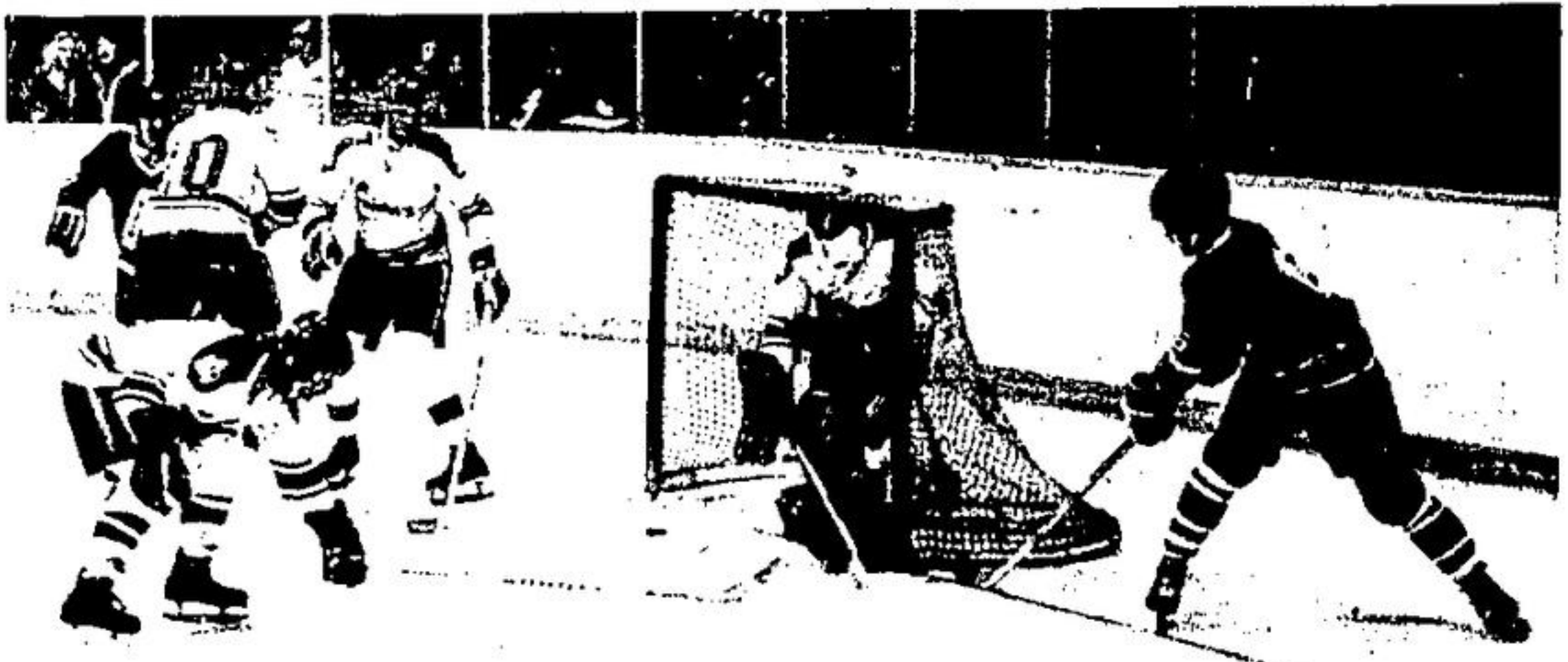
The Georgetown Standard Products Major Pee Wees were eliminated in three games by Owen Sound in the O.M.H.A. playoffs.

They lost the first game in Owen Sound 5-4 after having a two-goal lead. The Georgetown markers came from Bobby Boucher, Howie Oram, Pete Rembish and Jay Barwell. Captain Blake Harrison set up three of the goals.

Owen Sound took the second game here 6-3. Eric Clark, Oram and Mark Snow did the scoring in this game. Oram also had two assists.

Owen Sound scored late in the third game to wrap up the series at home with a 3-2 win. Barwell and Harrison did the scoring for Georgetown in this game. Harrison also had an assist.

In league games Georgetown defeated West Flamboro, Streetsville and Dundas and dropped one to Milton. They will play in a tournament in Blenheim this weekend and one in London on April 15 and 16. They will also begin their league playoffs soon.



The Thorold Athletic's Mike Purcer tries to sneak the puck past Mario MacDonald of the Georgetown Raiders in the Intermediate "A" semi-final's third game here Friday. The Athletics' lead the series seven points to one and may have wrapped it up in last night's game here. Photo by Norm Turvey

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HALTON HILLS CHAMPIONS
Above are the ribbon winners from the Halton Hills Gymnastics Meet held at Acton high school Sunday. In the front row left to right are Lisa Greenly, Heather Ormsby, Becky Armstrong, Diane Berry, Heather Bruton, Tanya Melnyk, Angela Gudgeon, Andrea Sommers, Laela Boleyski, Beth Cameron, and Jennifer Lamont. In the middle row are Lynn

Midgets dump Chinguacousy

The Georgetown Sunny Acres Farm Major Midgets are ahead one game to none in their Tri-county semi-final after defeating Chinguacousy 7-2 in the opening contest. The second game in the series was played here last night.

The Midgets reached the semi-final by downing Burlington in the quarter final. After losing the first game at home 4-2 they came back to take 6-2 and 10-1 victories.

Bill Humphries was in the nets for all of the games and compiled an excellent 2.22 goals against average.

Here is the team scoring

Player	G	A	P
Jeff Hubert	4	6	10
Mark Brabant	5	4	9
Mike McMenemy	5	3	8
Bruce McCandless	2	5	7
Bill Taylor	2	5	7
Dave Kemshead	2	4	6
Jim Pearson	2	3	5
Greg Thompson	2	3	5
Handy Waters	0	5	5
John Barnes	1	2	3
Kevin Thompson	1	2	3
Mark Falby	0	2	2
Ed Dwyer	0	0	0

Acton high basketballers rated second in province

By SUELEIN

The Acton Redmen senior boys' basketball team will be competing in the upcoming OFSAA (Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations) "A" Basketball Championships, to be held at Acton High School, March 16th through 18th. Ridgeway High School is rated as the top team, with Acton (ranked 3rd last year) currently ranked 2nd. Acton coach and tournament director, Rick McArthur feels "We definitely have a good chance of winning. We have home court advantage and a lot of supporters." Besides Acton and Ridgeway, there will be nine other teams participating, from as far away as Thunder Bay.

Altogether, there will be 500 athletes at the tournament, most of whom will be billeted out to various homes in the area. Not all teams are requesting billets, although they are encouraged by

McArthur to do so. Some prefer to stay together as a team in a motel. Assistant director, Rick Boychuk comments "We still need more billets. We have about 50 now, but we still need at least 50 more." If you are interested in taking in a player you can contact either McArthur or Boychuk at Acton High School (853-2910).

The OFSAA Championships will cost a total of \$3,000 to run. To date, the organizer has received about \$1,570 in funds. Besides the \$40 per team entry fee, McArthur has received donations from Acton's business community, private citizens, town council, and the Halton Board of Education.

According to McArthur and Boychuk, there are basically five reasons why Acton applied to host the OFSAA "A" Basketball Championships. The letters in the word PRIDE represent these five reasons: town prestige, representation

of Acton by the best senior boys' basketball team every, intercommunity and school relationships, the development of basketball, and the excellent facilities provided by the new school. "Acton would never have gotten this tournament had a new school not been built," commented McArthur. There will be many activities provided for the basketball players during their stay in Acton. On Thursday night a jacket and tie banquet and dance will be held. Although only athletes will attend the banquet, anyone can attend the dance. Acton High's Film Club will be showing a short Harlem Globetrotters film and "The Other Side of the Mountain" on Friday evening for the enjoyment of both athletes and the general public.

The whole school has given McArthur and Boychuk their support and co-operation. The

school store will be selling OFSAA buttons, pennants, hats, T-shirts, etc. The cafeteria has also agreed to supply meals. Boychuk commented, "It is impossible to name all those who have helped us, but we thank them all."

The tournament is open to anyone who wishes to attend at a fee of \$3 per adult, \$2 per student, and \$1 per elementary school pupil. This charge covers entry to all games and covers the whole tournament. Games run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday. Semi-final, consolation, and championship games will be played on Saturday starting at 12 noon, and ending with the championship game at 6 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend, so if you have any spare time come to Acton High School and watch some basketball. Tickets will be available at the door.

Major atoms in OMHA final after taking Fort Erie in five

The Georgetown Firefighters and McNally Construction Major Atoms roared back after losing the first game to eliminate Fort Erie in five games and earn a birth in the O.M.H.A. finals. They will play Stratford in the final.

The scores in the five games were 3-2 for Fort Erie, a 6-6 draw, and then 4-3, 5-4 and 9-1 for Georgetown.

In the first Georgetown win last Thursday Mike O'Brien tallied with less than a minute to be played to lead the series at three points each. It was O'Brien's second goal of the game.

Georgetown had jumped to a 2-0 lead, but Fort Erie came back and had taken the lead in the third period. Brent Smith tied the score with his second goal of the game to set the stage for O'Brien's heroics. Wayne Morrow set up three of the goals.

In the second Georgetown win Keith Reiger led the attack as he scored two goals including the winners in overtime. Georgetown was playing shorthanded when Reiger tallied.

Georgetown again took a 2-0 lead in this game only to have the tough Fort Erie squad erase it early in the second period. The game then developed into a seesaw battle. Reiger and Danny King had scored to give Georgetown the lead.

Smith then scored a picture goal to give Georgetown the lead again. But Fort Erie scored twice to take the lead at 4-3.

Morrow then tallied from captain Todd Cull and Smith to send the contest into overtime. Reiger, who played his finest game of the season, then scored the shorthanded goal late into the overtime session.

The big line of Morrow, Smith and O'Brien had a field day in the 9-1 rout. Smith scored the hat trick, O'Brien had two goals and Morrow had

one marker and helped set up five others. Reiger, who also had two assists, and John

Barclay scored the other goals. Georgetown general manager

Tam O'Brien said it took a total team effort to eliminate the tough Fort Erie squad.



Todd Cull, captain of the Georgetown Firefighters and McNally Construction Major Atoms, leads a rush into Fort Erie territory. Georgetown won the series in five games to advance to the O.M.H.A. final against Stratford.

What's wrong with Raiders?

By Tony Panacci

What's wrong with the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders? At press time the Thorold Athletics were one point away from eliminating the Raiders in the Intermediate "A" playoffs. The two teams squared off in the series' fifth game last night and as you are reading this the 1977-78 Raider season may be history.

One month ago the Raiders were sitting in first place in the league standings and looking invincible. Then things started to fall apart for them. Bill Currie, their best defenseman, quit because of personal reasons. Colin Gordon, who was touted to be a star, was dropped because he missed away games and could not work himself into shape.

General manager Jack Handy said the troubles on the team did not begin until after the January 10 signing deadline, so he could not bring in players once the team started slumping.

Handy said with Currie and Gordon in the lineup the Raiders were approximately a 20 per cent better hockey club than last year. He said he is very pleased with the improvement shown by some of his young players such as defenseman Bob Elinesky and Brad Butterworth.

The general manager also said that a couple of players who could have helped his team very much decided to play elsewhere. One player who Handy said would have been a great asset to the Raiders was Ray Tonelli.

The Milton native played a couple of exhibition games with the Raiders. He played on a line with Jurl Kudrasovs and Handy said the two players went together "like bread and butter." Tonelli decided to play pro in the International League.

Handy feels that Kudrasovs needs wingers of the calibre of a Tonelli to be of maximum effectiveness in this league.

Handy also thought that he was going to have Neil Korzack, who started the season with the University of Toronto Blues. Korzack left the Blues and Handy said he has not joined the Raiders because he is concentrating on his studies. He may be on the roster next year.

Handy said he was not certain whether he would be back as G.M. next year. If he is back expect the Raiders to go with more youth. The Raiders have one of the oldest teams in the league at present.

The general manager said he is pleased with young players Doug Barnes, Chris Milne, Ricky Becker and Bob Fotheringham. He also said if Larry Peterson played alongside a good veteran defenseman such as Currie his work would show much improvement.

"On paper I think we have a good enough lineup to take the championship," Handy said. "I don't know what's wrong with us. Maybe the guys are just trying to hard."

He said some things he did not want to be specific before the season ends are getting the players down. "It appears that maybe Thorold just wants to win more than we do."

If Handy is around for next year he said he would be doing a lot of shopping in the off season. "The Georgetown fans expect a winner," Handy said. "The players played on a winner last year and may be it's harder to do it the second time around."

Sports beat

By Tony Panacci

only from three feet, ended his hockey season. He was at the Raider game on Saturday night on crutches and will have his knee operated on.

"The doctor told me last November that the knee was injured," Barnes said. "But he also said that I could not hurt it anymore by playing hockey."

Barnes was being bothered by his knee during the semi-final series against the Streetsville Derbys and sat out part of it.

In his three games with the Raiders he was one of the team's most effective players. He said he hopes to be back with the Raiders next year.

Bob Fotheringham may not be back with the Raiders next year. The young winger works for Canadian National Railways and is being transferred to Sarnia.

Sports from Acton high

By SUELEIN

The intramural program at Acton High School (supervised by the Athletic Society, headed by teacher Bruce Andrews) is now in its fourth year of operation. There are four teams: Yellow, Red, Green and Blue. All students in the school belong to a team, and have their locker in a section coloured with the team colour. Each team has four captains: a senior boys and girls captain, and a junior boys' and girls' captain. At the end of the school year a trophy is presented to the team with the highest attendance and another to the team with the most points. In four years, no team has received both trophies on one year.

Andrews says the goal of the program is to "offer some extra-curricular recreation for the whole student body, not just those good enough to make teams. It is basically to provide fun and enjoyment for anybody." He has had visitors from other schools come and look at the intramural program, and feels that "Acton has one of the better programs in Halton County." He thinks that this is mainly true in that most schools spend more time and effort on interschool athletics, because "there is no glory in intramurals." But because of the time, effort and money the Athletic Society has put into the program, "it is now an integral part of school," according to Andrews.

Intramurals are run mainly after school, but when the gym schedule permits, also during lunch periods. They include both team and individual sports, some of which are co-ed. The only sport offered only to boys is touch football, while bordenball is offered to girls only. The major reason why some sports are co-ed, while others are not is because of ability level, according to Andrews. "It would be kind of silly to have boys against girls in basketball because boys have a tendency to hog the ball among themselves. Certain sports, such as baseball, lend themselves to co-ed more than others."

Andrews feels he and the Athletic Society have now gotten the program to the point where they don't have to spend as much time selling it, as they did in the beginning. Now students know there are activities offered after school, and regularly go to the gym and take part. Attendance, which is based on the total number of times each student comes out, has grown by about 2,000 every year. This year it is starting to level off, possibly because of the move to the new building. Andrews is cautious to state any direct cause, and thinks he will be better able to judge the building's affect next year. However, he does admit that the facilities are better all over the school and "perhaps because there is more for students to do now, some students are taken away from intramurals."