

Sports beat

by Tony Panacci



Not everyone will agree with the three finalists for the Halton Hills Athlete of the Year award, which is being co-sponsored by the Royal Bank and The Herald.

The three finalists, Kris Barber, Ian Clark and Peter Fournier, were decided upon at a meeting of a committee of seven last Thursday night.

There were 15 athletes nominated for the award. The committee began the evening by having a short discussion on each of the nominees and deciding whether they should go onto a second round. Ten of the athletes made it to the second round.

The committee members then discussed the 10 remaining athletes and their achievements at greater length. After that discussion each of the committee members voted for the five who they felt were the top five athletes. The five athletes whose names appeared on the seven ballots the most times were then still eligible for the award.

It was at this stage of the proceedings where things really got tough. The job of the committee was then to eliminate two of the athletes. It was done in two separate stages.

The first vote was taken. Three of the five athletes tied for the third spot. The committee then voted for two of the three to make up the final four.

After the four top athletes were selected it was then up to the committee to eliminate one more. Again there was a tie between two athletes for the third spot. The committee then voted for one of those two athletes to join the other in the final.

Half the job was now over. The three finalists had been selected. Now it was up to the committee to decide whether Barber, Clark or Fournier should be the Athlete of the Year. Not an enviable task, is it? Trying to choose between those athletes, with achievements as long as your arm, was indeed not easy.

The committee decided to eliminate one of the athletes and make it a vote between two of them for the top prize.

Here's how close the final vote was. There were seven votes to be had and the eventual winner got four of them.

This reporter was the only non-committee member present at the meeting and in my opinion the seven members were very fair and objective in making their decision.

It has not been confirmed yet, but the chances are pretty good that Brian Budd and J.I. Albrecht the two guest speakers for the Athlete of the Year dinner, will be in Georgetown during the afternoon of June 22. That date will be the first day of the Pioneer Days celebrations so Main Street will be closed off to traffic. Budd and Albrecht will be somewhere on the street signing autographs and answering questions.

There are still approximately 30 tickets available for the dinner.

They can be purchased at The Herald during regular business hours, at Kenner's Dairy Bar or at the Headquarters for Pioneer Days. The dinner is at Oddfellow's Hall on June 22 and will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The special guests for that evening will be of course by Kris Barber, Ian Clark and Peter Fournier. All three have had remarkable years and all three will be honored. The two runners-up will receive plaques. The winner will receive a plaque and the Royal Bank Trophy. The Trophy will then be on display at the Royal Bank.

Also on hand will be Frank Philbrook, M.P. for Halton, and Julian Reed, MPP for Halton-Burlington. Philbrook will present the winner with a scroll from the federal government and Reed one from the Provincial government.

The good news this week is that the Georgetown Gemini will be operative this year.

Winning on the ice should be no problem for the Gems after the summer they have had. Everytime you turn around their future is in jeopardy.

First it appeared the Gems were going to have trouble getting enough people to form an executive after only five attended their annual meeting.

That problem was resolved when 15 turned out at the continuation of the meeting.

Then the O.H.A. decided to add the four teams to the league and again a dark cloud was cast over the Gemini future.

Well, that hurdle has been cleared and unless another obstacle gets in the path it appears the Gems will compete for the Sutherland Cup next year.

Gem president Bob Thompson said he was glad Bob Tost could be persuaded to stay on as the team's general manager. Tost had said last week that he doubted he could stay on as general manager because of the extra travelling and time needed.

Tost is a very hard working general manager and his loss would have been a severe blow to the Gems. Last year Tost was at every Gemini game.

Pee Wees undefeated after six contests

The Georgetown baseball Pee Wees stayed on top of the league standings by stomping Brampton 9-2 and dumping Streetsville 12-6 last week. The two victories upped Georgetown's record to five wins, one tie and no losses.

Rick Greenwood was again swinging a heavy bat as he had three hits in the Brampton game and two more in the Streetsville contest.

Rusty Gourlie went the distance against Brampton to pick up his second victory of the year. He fanned 10 batters in the seven innings.

There was never any doubt in this game as Georgetown scored three runs in the first inning, two more in the second and then coasted to victory. Georgetown batters had a field day as they belted out 14 hits. The only extra base hit was Sandy Watson's triple.

Andy Fisher knocked in three runs and Gourlie and Dave Doucette had two each. Doucette, Gourlie, Watson, Fisher each had two hits.

Whip is being cracked on rough fastball play

Some players in the Georgetown Industrial Fastball League are not able to read the many warnings handed out early in the season regarding rough play and abuse of officials and unsportsmanlike conduct, says president Bryan Lewis. During play last week two players acted up and now find themselves on the sidelines watching fellow teammates play ball.

George Trencs of Hornby will miss one game due to a rough play incident and Steve Marshall of Acton will be resting for two games due to a bat throwing incident.

Acton Merchants lost two games last week enabling Harley Motors to pull four points

up in the standings. The middle of the pack tightened up considerably with Park Toyota. The Sportsmen and Royal Trust all picking up four points during last week's action.

Rain played havoc with last week's schedule washing out four games on June 7 and three games on Monday. All games except Monday have been rescheduled.

SCORES OF LAST WEEK
TUES, JUNE 6
Harley Motors 5 - Park Toyota 4
Hornby 2 - Glen Williams 1

THURS, JUNE 8
Park Toyota 6 - Acton 0

SUN, JUNE 11
Harley Motors 9 - Glen Wms 4 (default)

Sportsmen 4 - Hornby 3
Royal Trust 3 - Acton 1
Park Toyota 10 - Limehouse 6

Geo. Chrysler 6 - DRG 2
MON, JUNE 12
rained out

Standings as of Tues. June 13 (A.M.)

	P	W	L	T	P
Harley Motors	8	7	1	0	14
Georgetown Chrysler	8	5	2	1	11
Royal Trust	9	5	3	1	11
Hornby Farmer Jacks	8	5	3	0	10
Acton Merchants	10	5	5	0	10
The Sportsmen	9	4	4	1	9
Park Toyota	9	4	4	1	9
Rexway Towing	7	4	3	0	8
Limehouse	8	4	4	0	8
Fobert's Flyers	8	3	5	0	6
Glen Williams	8	2	6	0	4
D.R.G. (Gage)	8	0	8	0	0

NOTE: Standings now reflect a win for Royal Trust and a loss for The Sportsmen when Way Jay Sportsmen failed to field a team early in the season.

44-game schedule?

Geminis are set to play, Tost will stay with team

There will be Junior "B" hockey in Georgetown next year.

After the Ontario Hockey Association decided to expand the Central Junior "B" loop to include Barrie, Orillia, Oak

Ridges and Thornhill, Georgetown Gemini general manager Bob Tost said there was a chance his team was going to fold.

The Gemini executive met last Thursday evening and

decided that they were going to field a team this year.

Tost said that earlier in the week executive members from the eight teams that played in the league last year met in Streetsville. According to Tost

all eight teams said at that meeting that they would be back to play in the league this year.

The eight teams are Acton, Burlington, Brampton, Streetsville, Oakville, Milton, Dixie and Georgetown.

League convenor Larry Robertson said he has not heard any word from any of the eight teams. The O.H.A. has given each of the teams a June 15 deadline to decide whether or not they would be operative this year.

Tost had also said that he doubted whether he would be back as general manager if the Gems did decide to go. He has now decided to stay on with the Gems and has added Norm Lockhurst as his assistant general manager.

"We decided that there would be no sense in getting out now," Tost said. "The O.H.A. made their decision and they were not going to alter."

Tost also said the fact the Gems broke even last year had a lot to do with the decision not to fold. "We've worked to make the franchise work for three years," he said. "We did not want to give it up and have somebody else take over."

The schedule for the upcoming season will not be released by the O.H.A. until after the June 15 deadline. Tost said he expects that each team will have to play 44 games. That would mean that the Gems will have to travel to each of the 11 places two times.

Lockhurst was not officially the Gems assistant general manager this past year, but he was by Tost's side for most of the games. Lockhurst also coached Norval to the Industrial League title.



BRINGING IT HOME

Rosemary Gale helped score points for her house by anchoring her team to victory in the intermediate girls' relay at Centennial Middle school track and field meet Friday.

Another look at the committee

The people photographed are the members of the committee who selected the Halton Hills Athlete of the Year.

They are Brian James, Bryan Lewis, Dave Kentner, Jack Handy, Pat Doucette, Fred Kotani and Bruce Andrews and following are briefs on who each is:

BRIAN JAMES - James is probably one of the most sports-oriented people in Georgetown. This past year he managed the Optimist Club Minor Bantams who won the Tri-county hockey championship and was the commissioner of the Pee Wee league in the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association. He is a member of the baseball executive, and coaches the Pee Wee rep baseball team. He also played Industrial fastball and non-contact hockey.

BRYAN LEWIS - Lewis is a veteran among National Hockey League referees and lives here in Georgetown. During the summer months Lewis is the very efficient president of the Georgetown Industrial Fastball League.

DAVE KENTNER - Kentner is at present a vice-president

with the Georgetown Raiders. He has also served as the president of that team. Kentner has also been involved with girls' softball and his daughter is a figure skater.

JACK HANDY - Jack Handy is at present the general manager and a vice-president of the Georgetown Raiders. In the past Handy has also been

involved with the Georgetown Royalettes.

PAT DOUCETTE - Pat Doucette is on the executive of both the hockey support group and the baseball association. Mrs. Doucette is also the mother of four sons who are all outstanding athletes so she has to love sports.

FRED KOTANI - Kotani is a

physical education teacher at Georgetown district high school. He is the coach of the boys' gymnastics team and also the junior football Rebels.

BRUCE ANDREWS - Andrews is the head of the physical education department at Acton high school. In his competitive days Andrews was also a top-flight middle distance runner.



Brian James, Jack Handy, Fred Kotani, Dave Kentner, Bruce Andrews, Pat Doucette, Bryan Lewis



Umpire Bill Webb watches the ball sail over the head of the Sportsmen's Pete Robertson during Industrial Fastball action Sunday. In spite of the throwing error the Sportsmen, who are red hot, defeated Hornby 1-3.

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sports

Georgetown bantams take Waterloo tourney

Georgetown McLaughlin Bantams went undefeated last weekend to win the grand championship in the Waterloo tournament.

Georgetown opened the tournament in great style against Thornhill. The score was 4-0 for Georgetown.

The McLaughlin Bantams played excellent soccer, setting up numerous scoring opportunities. The team looks most dangerous when they play this sort of soccer. Pass and follow possession style of play suits the team and is difficult to defend against.

Steve Robbins scored three goals and right winger Dave Finlay scored the other.

Ian Wilde and Grant Richardson worked hard feeding the ball to the other forwards and the back line of Kevin Thompson, Gord Payne and Steve Clark looked very solid in helping goalkeeper Mark Sawden maintain his shut out. Rick Pool and Peter Haller gained confidence and played well.

In the semi-final the Bantams came up against a rugged Port Colborne team winning 1-0. In the first half Georgetown was clearly the better team but had difficulty finding the target. They created some good chances around the Port Colborne defence only to shoot inches wide or over the bar. Steve Robbins pulled a ball back from the night side which left winger Grant Richardson raced onto to head inches over the bar.

Eventually Dave Finlay put Georgetown ahead to stay with a well taken goal from a scramble in front of the Port Colborne net. Ernie Haller, Mark Nelstrap, Phil Milne and Bill Dreyer worked the ball and at midfield took control in the face of some hard tackling.

Georgetown knew that they had their work cut out for the final against Salfleet, a strong hard running team who had beaten them 2-1 in the first game of the season.

It was obvious that the wind was going to be a key factor in the final. It was blowing from end to end at 25 kmh. Salfleet won the toss and decided to play against the wind.

The McLaughlin Bantams immediately went on the attack with Steve Robbins, Grant Richardson and Ian Wilde coming close. The midfield trio of Ernie Haller, Mark Nelstrap and Bill Dreyer again took control. The wind, however, often took the ball too far. After 10 minutes Dave Finlay put Georgetown ahead with an opportunistic header which caught the Salfleet

goalkeeper flat footed. Fifteen minutes later Ian Wilde put McLaughlin Bantams 2-0. Georgetown pressed continually for the rest of the half but the solid Salfleet defence held out.

In the second half Kevin Thompson and Steve Clark kept the Salfleet wingers out wide and away from their goal. After 10 minutes however, Salfleet scored.

Gord Payne at centre back was consistently clearing the ball only to have it returned as if on elastic. As the Salfleet team became more desperate Georgetown were able to work

the ball out and attack the Salfleet goal. Grant Richardson and Ian Wilde put Steve Robbins through only to be fouled by the goalkeeper. It, however, relieved the Georgetown defence.

Three minutes from time Salfleet was awarded a penalty shot. The ball hit the cross bar and Georgetown scrambled the ball out to hold on to win the championship. Special mention must be made of the strong play of two young members of the team, Rick Pool and Peter Haller. They kept working and were a real asset to the team.

Raiders had offer to Wayne Gretzky

Wayne Gretzky, the Brantford phenom, accepted an offer from the World Hockey Association's Indianapolis Pacers on Monday which means he will not be coming to Georgetown to play for the Raiders next year.

A confidential informant told The Herald that the Raiders had made an offer to Gretzky who is 17 and was the second leading scorer in June "A" last season with the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds.

The Raider offer would not have made young Gretzky an instant millionaire, but it was in perspective fairly substantial.

The Herald's source says the Raiders offered Gretzky a new car and 10 per cent of the gate for each game he played. Gretzky's agent, Gus Badali, told the Raiders that if his client decided not to turn professional he would seriously consider coming to Georgetown.

The Raiders' signing of Gretzky is sure to be protested by the O.M.H.L. If they take the case to court and win Gretzky would have to return to the non-professional ranks. The chances of that happening are slim, but if it comes about the Raiders offer will probably still stand.

Welsh family judo winners

The Welsh of Georgetown have been one busy judo family in the last little while.

Diane Welsh, her daughters Patty and Nancy and son Peter have all competed in tournaments recently.

Most recently Patty and Nancy competed in a tournament in Port Dover. Both sisters won in their respective divisions. Nancy took the under 80 pounds in the A Division and Patty won in the under 100 pounds in the B division.

The two sisters also took their divisions in the Regionals held in Ajax. Patty won in the under 100 pounds for girls born in 1965-66 and Nancy won in the under 80 for girls born in 1969-70.

The whole family competed in the Ontario championships held in Brampton. Nancy and Peter did not place in their classes. Patty took a first in hers and Diane finished third in the open division. Mrs. Welsh said it was the first year the whole family competed at the provincial championships.

Nancy and Patty also won in their respective divisions at the American-Canadian championships held in Lockport, New York.

All four Welsh take Judo at the Sheridan College club under instructor Harry Scott.

Nancy and Patty will be competing in the American Nationals on the first three days of July.