



Sports Beat

By Tony Pancci
Sports Editor

Lance Doucette's hockey ability has denied him a chance to play hockey against a visiting team from Hagsfor, Sweden.

Doucette was named to the original Georgetown lineup to face the Swedes. That lineup was named by coaches Neil Cotton and Dale Law.

As a member of the team Doucette made it out to all the practises the team had, including many at Meadowdale Arena in Mississauga, and also took part in the ground training set out by coach Cotton.

However, last week the OMHA Ontario Minor Hockey Association ruled that Doucette was not eligible to play against the Swedes.

At the beginning of this past hockey season Doucette signed a playing card with the Georgetown Gemini of the OHA Central Junior "B" Hockey League. He played the whole season with the Gems.

The OMHA ruled Doucette ineligible for the two games against the Swedes because he was not on one of their cards. Had Doucette signed on a minor midget or midget card before last and played for the Gems as an affiliated player he would have been eligible to play against the Swedes.

Youngest player

Had Doucette been allowed to play against the Swedes he would have been one of the youngest players in the Georgetown lineup.

"We were told at the beginning of the season that it would be best for Lance to sign on a Gemini card," his mother Pat told The Herald. Of course at the beginning of the season no one knew that a Swedish club would be coming here to play exhibition games.

Georgetown coach Neil Cotton said that Doucette was at every practise the team had and even after he was informed he would not be able to play he still practised with the squad.

"It's really a shame that politics had to get in the way of kids of having a good time," Cotton said.

Doucette was at the exciting 6-5 tie between the Swedes and Georgetown last Friday night. "I'd love to be out there playing right now," Doucette said between the second and third periods.

"I found out I wasn't going to be able to play when I read it in The Herald last Wednesday."

The Swedes had a player in their lineup who is also an excellent hockey player. Stefan Persson scored three of his team's six goals in the game.

Persson was allowed to participate in these games despite the fact that he has played in some professional games back home in Hagsfor. He of course also played with the team which is visiting here throughout the season.

Doucette's plight reminds one of the late sixties when Canada dropped out of international play because the cards were always stacked against them. The question then was, "Why can't we use our best when they're using their best."

During the hockey game last Friday Doucette was still hoping that he would receive clearance to participate in the scheduled match this Friday. The chances of that happening are exactly nil.

Doucette made the mistake of being too good a hockey player to play with and compete against players his own age. Now he is paying the price for that mistake.

After the 10-1 beating the Georgetown juniors gave Hagsfor in the first game Saturday night, someone said, "I don't think they should have run up the score so much."

From where I was standing it did not appear that the Georgetowners had a choice in running up the score. Coach Bob Webster certainly did not go out of his way to make it a nine-goal difference.

Throughout the contest Webster continued to give each of his players an equal amount of icetime. Had he chosen to run up the score the likes of Peter Haller, Bobby Morrow and Rivy Kennedy would have more icetime.

A big plus for Georgetown in this game and the reason the score rose was the performance of the minor bantams in the lineup. Eric Clark, Dave Doucette and

A victim of his own talent

Blake Harrison all took a regular shift, and all three looked right at home playing with and against older boys.

Double trouble

Eric Clark and Blake Harrison, aside from playing so well in the hockey match, also had excellent performances on the soccer field.

The junior soccer match was very interesting in that the Swedes and Georgetowners had distinct and different styles. The clash of the two styles made for very entertaining soccer.

"I'd say the best way to describe the game (which ended in a 6-4 victory for Hagsfor) would be to say it was like the Boston Bruins playing the Montreal Canadiens in hockey," said Alex Tough, president of the Georgetown Youth Soccer.

Tough's analogy hit the nail right on the head. The Swedes used a very offensive style and slick passing plays. The Georgetowners were dogged in their pursuit of the Swedes and their scoring chances resulted from pure persistence.

To get back to Clark and Harrison. Clark, although he is not a netminder, manned the nets in this game. The little player made some exceptional stops, especially in the early going, and kept his team in the thick of things. One might say he performed like Gerry Cheevers at his best.

Harrison, who is always steady as a rock whether he is playing defense in hockey or soccer, was chosen as Georgetown's Most Valuable Player for the game.

Entertaining

The Glen Williams Way-Jays are playing very entertaining fastball. Unfortunately there not usually

many fans out at Glen Williams Ball Park to witness the action. I've been to the last three Tuesday night Glen games and each has been entertaining and close.

I was raised near the Beaches area of Toronto. Some of the best fastball in the province is played at Kew Gardens. I would say the Glen Men are very close in calibre to the beaches, but they certainly do not draw the crowds they do.

Trading pros

Getting back to hockey for a second it appears the Georgetown Raiders may lose a former pro and gain one next season. Apparently Peter Sturgeon, who joined the Raiders for the latter part of last season, is prepared to give the pro ranks another try. Meanwhile Gary Ford, one of the leading scorers in the history of the International Hockey League, is prepared to join the Raiders.

Ford was seen being escorted through Georgetown by real estate agent Finn Poulstrup. Poulstrup is also the first vice-president of the Raiders.

Raider general manager Jack Handy said he is not surprised that Sturgeon is going to give the pros another shot.

"He's got a lot of hockey ability," Handy said. "I think he is better than some of the forwards now in the National Hockey League."

It now appears that there is a good chance that Handy and Raider President Bob Hooper will now share the Raiders general manager's duties next year.

Apparently the Thorold Athletics are prepared to fold their Intermediate "A" franchises. There are also several former Senior teams who now want into the Intermediate League.

CORRECTION NOTICE

CIRCULAR: JULY SPECTACULAR PAGE 6

DUE TO A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR,
PRICES ON THE TWO FOLLOWING ITEMS
WERE INVERTED.

THEY SHOULD READ AS FOLLOW



Nylon Yucca Bag

7.97 ea.

Adjustable padded
shoulder strap, pock-
ets. 17" x 15½" x 7½".



Mini Rucksack

1.97 ea.

Nylon, 12" x 18", in self
pouch. Bright colours.

PLEASE EXCUSE US.

Zellers MANAGEMENT

Zellers

IN THE GEORGETOWN MARKET PLACE
MON. thru FRI. 10:00-9:00 - SAT. 9:30-6:00