



**Mark  
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**Sports Editor**

Part of the struggle facing the Raiders, and other teams in the Intermediate A league, is the good goaltending that is showing forth this season. Many are ex-professional puck stoppers. Players like Bob Sneddon in Dundas, Grant Cole in Barrie, Clyde Harris in Orillia have all had stints in either the NHL or the WHA. As well many of the other netminders have had experience in semi-pro leagues elsewhere in Canada or the United States.

Equally so, have the Raiders. Peter McDuffe who minds the crease here is a former professional as well.

On Friday night the Raiders encountered another former pro between the pipe. This time they had better luck than usual, beating Wayne Rutledge 7-6, including two minutes of overtime.

Rutledge is a veteran of many years in the big leagues. He started out his career as a fill-in replacement in pee wees and the next year led his team to the Ontario Bantam Championship. From there he steadily improved through the minor ranks and moved to the Barrie Flyers junior team. After a few years there it was on to Windsor and then to a stint toiling in the semi-pro ranks of the States, during the early 1960's.

When the first NHL expansion came in 1967 Rutledge was picked up by the Los Angeles Kings. There he played backup to the great Terry Sawchuk. After a couple of years with them, during a time when there was an abundance of young upstart rubber rebounders, he was dropped from the pro squad. He did some playing for a couple of years then got another break when the WHA was formed.

He signed with the Houston Aeros, who eventually also signed the Howe family, Gordie, Mark and Marty. This was his break. He shared the duties with several other goalies who all stayed about a year and then moved into the NHL. He and his different partners won three WHA equivalent Vezina trophies while helping lead the team to three Avco Cup league championships.

When the talks of a merger between the WHA and NHL first began getting serious three years ago, Houston made it known they wanted into the established circuit. Unfortunately the NHL made it pretty well clear there wouldn't be any room for them. The team folded and Rutledge was out of the big leagues again.

How do I know so much about his career, you might ask? Well, he comes from my home town in Gravenhurst. Not a hot bed for producing hockey stars but, good enough to establish Rutledge in one of the most difficult positions in the game.

Although he is a few years my elder, we did know each other in passing. So, I decided, while on my hitch hiking travels through the States a few years ago, to drop in to Houston and see him.

When I finally got there, he was away on a road trip. His wife, whom I had never met, welcomed me with open arms into their home. I guess it was nice seeing someone from the old country.

When Wayne got home the following morning I was greeted by a tall strong bronze god. The warm climate of Texas had obviously not been harmful to him. I guess he was used to playing in warm temperatures like Los Angeles, although I'm sure he has had his share of cold arenas both sides of the border. We sat up most of the night talking about everything from his career to home and many inconsequential things in between.

The Aeros were at the top of the league and Rutledge's play was one of the reasons. He took me to a team practice, held at one of three hockey arenas in the city, where I watched Howe and several other young stars toiling good naturedly through their 90 minute workout. John Tonelli, a younger brother of Ray, played for the Aeros at the time.

A day later I got a chance to see the team in game action, against I can't remember who. I sat with his wife and watched Wayne play brilliantly in a 4-1 win.

Following the game I was introduced to Gordie, who I can say had a surprisingly gentle handgrip. From there we went to the booster club where I was somewhat a mini celebrity, being from the hometown of the evening's first star. I picked up all the excess beer which flowed Wayne's way.

Next morning at breakfast the sports page had a big write-up on the game praising the triumphant Aeros and in particular the heroic efforts of Rutledge. It was an incredible sight sitting around the breakfast table, the sun shining brightly through the window on to a loaded breakfast table. His three children and his wife and I all beaming, as the accolades were being heaped upon him by the press.

Wayne just sat there. Like it had all finally come together. Time for a dip in the pool.

I stayed there a week before Wayne's parents-in-law came down for a visit. I saw the sights and even managed to see his son play a game in the nets with his father at the side giving him encouragement.

Today Rutledge lives on a farm near Huntsville, 30 miles north of his hometown. From there he commutes 60 miles to Orillia to coach and play with the Terriers. He's had a long career and now has Roger Crozier's younger brother Greg playing for him. The Crozier family are from Bracebridge, just between Gravenhurst and Huntsville, in the Muskokas.

# Ian Clark sets the pace at championships

By CAYLEY GRESSWELL

Ian Clark led the way for several other Georgetown runners, by capturing first place at the Canadian Cross-Country Championships in Halifax on Saturday.

Georgetown runners competed as members of the Scarborough-Optimists Running Club. Eight runners from Georgetown competed, seven of whom also competed for GDHS this season.

In the Junior Men's race, Ian Clark ran up to expectation, and won. He finished with a comfortable lead over the second place runner. This marks the second year in a row that Ian has taken the title of Canadian champion. Other runners in this race were Jon Lancaster, who finished 20th, Arnold Brakel, 26th, and Fergus Barnes who came with 38th place.

Running in the Juvenile Boys race (younger than junior) were Doug Smith, who came in for an outstanding 12th place finish, Jim Allan, who finished 30th, and



Georgetown's Ian Clark

Dale McGregor who came in 35th.

The weather was good during the race, with the temperature at about 60 degrees F, but it was raining during the warm up which made the course and the runner a little soggy.

These boys are coached by Brian Barnes, and although this race marks the end of the cross-country season (OFSSA last Saturday was the last school race), they will continue running an average of about 70 miles a week. They will do 10-12 miles a day, and some interval training in preparation for a meet in January. The meet is the trial for the world cross-country championships' Canadian team. It hasn't yet been determined whether it will take place in Kentucky or in Vancouver.

To keep in shape, these runners have to run all year long, and keep looking towards the next race. As one runner, Jon Lancaster put it, "we never stop training".

## Squash teams split pair of wins and losses

The Georgetown Raquet Club spit a pair of wins and losses with their opponents this week. The ladies' inter club and the men's B team were triumphant while the men's C and D teams lost their sets, but still managed to make them close with a couple of game wins.

Judy Rivers led the ladies' team in an away series against Val Halla in Toronto.

She took her set 3-0. Team-mates Dynese Griffiths won 3-1, Anita Warner won 3-2 and Sandy Morrow lost 0-3.

The Guelph Country Club were the visiting team, here, when the men's B team captured four of five sets played. Allan Kogon and Rod Eastwood shut out their opponents 3 games to none. Terry Madill and Norm Hertz each won their games

3-2. Boyd Hoddinott had a little trouble, losing 3-0.

In Guelph at the Cuten Club, the local men's C team also had some difficulty as they lost their match three sets to two. Alex Furness and Dave Rivers were the only two with Georgetown wins. Furness won 3-1 and Rivers 3-2. Erwin Schandelemeier lost 2-3, John Collier lost 0-3 and Al Thompson lost 0-3.

The Golf and Country Club in Brampton was the site of the men's D division confrontation. Unfortunately the local side lost this one also. Paul Duval and Gary Kirkpatrick won their sets 3-2, while Graham Smith and Christine Kogon each lost 1-3. Tom Kankainen lost 0-3.

## Ski-o-rama coming

The recreation department, in co-operation with the Georgetown YM-YWCA, are sponsoring a Ski-O-Rama December 5th and 6th at Gordon Alcott Arena, as prelude to their winter ski lessons enrollment.

Wednesday, the 5th, a ski and skate exchange will be handled by the 'Y', as well as a cross country ski presentation, put on by the Ontario Ski Council. Waxing tips and proper equipment and clothing will be demonstrated.

Thursday the ski and skate

exchange will continue. A downhill presentation will be the feature of the day. The ski and skate exchange will run from four to seven in the afternoon and the presentations will run from eight to 10 each night.

Local sports stores and ski organizations are invited to set up displays.

The rec department reminds everyone of the noon hour public skating at Gordon Alcott Mondays and Wednesdays. Only half a dollar.

## Welsh ponies best

Early results from the Royal Winter Agricultural Fair in Toronto show two local girls winning second place ribbons in the Welsh pony division.

On Thursday 10-year-old Alison Amos came behind the winner driving her Ardmore Delphi. On Friday her 9-year-old sister was a second place finisher in the breeding division with Penny Lane Rhyme.

The two girls live out on the 6th Line. Bethy Kewley, a Georgetown resident attending Wooster College in the States, on a field hockey scholarship, is taking part in the number three division national championships at Princeton at the end of the month.

Her team, who won the right in the playdowns, is now ranked in the top 10 field hockey schools in the country.

## Skate-a-thon to host 300

More than 300 skaters are expected Sunday in the Rotary Skate-a-thon at Gordon Alcott. The seven hours of sponsored skating, from 9.30 in the morning to 4.30 in the afternoon, is an effort to raise \$8,000 for community projects the sponsoring club supports.

Seven one hour time slots have been set up to accommodate the various number of skaters. Centennial Public School hold the first time slot from 9.30 to 10.30. The other hours are to be filled by Glen Williams and GDHS student council, Stewarttown, guests and celebrities, Harrison and Joseph Gibbons, Glen Williams Parents Group Association and George Kennedy. Skaters are requested to be at the arena a half hour before their skating time.

Adidas sports bags and warmup tops are prizes for sponsor sheets worth \$40 and \$60. McDonalds, the hamburg people, are donating french fries for the skaters.

Money raised from the skate will go to many of the Rotary Club's local endeavors, such as the recent seniors dinner they hosted. Part of the money will also go to their juvenile hockey team, who will be out Sunday pacing the skaters. Other projects which will benefit are the Rotary exchange program, whereby a local student goes abroad in exchange with another country's student.

Reporter Lori Taylor will represent The Herald at the noon session.