

Mark -Clairmont

Sports Editor

Raiders like Russians

The Georgetown Intermediate A Raiders are considered amateur bockey players in the eyes of the Caradia: Amateur Hockey Association and their provincial affiliate, the Ontario Hockey Association. Yet in the past 12 days the team has played nine playoff games. Torm 14, if the team can stretch their series with Dundas this far, it will be their 10th game in 13 nights.

This is all happening because the OHA changed the format they used last year to decide the provincial chan ps. Instead of all the individual area winners playing off against each other, as is the case now, the 1979 Ontario epresentative was decided at a round-robin tournament at Tuo n ins

Because of this year's setup, the players will be spending all ost as much time on hockey as many of them do working at their regular jobs. And at the rate of pay (for expenses) they are given (or are supposed to get) many could be considered professional hockey players like the Russan hockey teams.

The time travel and execution of their evening winter hobby is at a premium level right now because of the way the deadlines for series are scheduled.

TIGHT SCHEDULE

The Itaiders' current series with Dundas is supposed to be finished by Friday the 28th of March. That is so that the Georgian Bay champions can meet the Northern Ontario champions down here in a best two-out-of-three series scheduled for March 29, 30 and 31.

The winner of that series will play host to the winner of the Ottawa District Hockey Association, in a best of tiace final between April 4 and 10,

The Ontario winner will then host the winner of the New Brunswick-Nova Scotia league in yet another best two-of-three showdown, April 11 to 17.

That will then pit them against the winner of the Newfoundland-Prince Edward Island champions in a three-out-of-five series for the Eastern Canadian chan pionship April 18 to 25. This is the title the Raiders wor last year.

If the Raiders can win it again, they will go west for He Hardy Cup national championship, slated to begin April 26. It will be a best of five series.

I guess the thinking behind these schedules is that it would be best not to continue much into June, for the sake d everyone.

This does make sense, since some teams get going in ate August. Two months off isn't much time to get ready tor another grueling season.

And they call it amateur hockey.

While watching the many hockey games in the paretan hockey tournament that just wound up, it was referesting to note that it is no longer so hard to believe that the An erican team won the 1980 Olympic hockey gold. The young USA players on the Detroit Adray Nationals tean here at the tournament, were easily the class of the or tires. But, as in sport it is not always the best that win.

Although the calibre of play from most of the teams was good, few players stood out. The most valuable player of the tournament, Terry Butryn of the champion Bean sville team, was one of them. He didn't get noticed intil the grand championship game, in which he dazzled be entire crowd who witnessed his play. In fact he wasn't officed as the fourney's best until he had scored two of the three overtine goals to lead his team to the championship.

The short assistant captain is not likely to become a National Hockey League player mostly because of his size. However, another strike against him, it would seem if history repeats itself, is his honor as MVP.

ONLY TWO MADE IT

In the previous 19 years only two MVPs have made it to the MIL or the old World Hockey Association. They are Mark Howe, 1968 winner, and Doug Brindley, the 1963 winner. Yet, there have been 52 other tournament participants who did find employment at the big league evel.

Either the players got better as they advanced on tron this tournament or the people picking the MVPs can't be looking for the same thing the scouts are. Maybe this year the locals will be right. Only time will tell,

Pilutti atoms win

After disposing of Oakville and Brampton in playoff action the Pilutti Minor Atoms opened their championship series with Milton. It was reminiscent of the titanic struggle earlier during O.M.H.A. zone playoffs.

The locals started sluggishly falling behind 2-0 and 3-1 before sparking a rally, capped by a last minute goalie-pulled marker.

McCarthy with two goals and Lorito with 1 goal and 2 assists led the way. Burton and Bewley chipped in assists in the 3-3 overtime draw.

The defensive core of Burton, Atherly, Howlett and Cruise were standouts.

Fowards Bewley, Arnold and Thibeault were robbed on several occasions. Lawry. Bergeron and Shepherd checked tirelessly while goalie Eastwood held them in during the rough going.

Coach Tyler praised a fine team effort and predicted a long series. Next game is Thursday March 37 at 6:45 at Memorial Arena.

Standard peewees win first

Stephen Ray led the Standard Product Major Pee Wees to a 3-1 win in the first game of their tri-county final playoff series with Dundas Sunday, Last night (Tuesday) the two teams played their second game in Dun-

Steve Turner from Keith Rieger and Glen Leslie got the opening game scoring started for Georgetown.

Todd Cull from Scott Farley got the winning goal. Brent Smith made it 3-1 from John Barclay.

GDHS at Halton Classic

John Karolidis will be representing GDHS in the third annual Halton Classic basketball game Friday at Nelson High School in Oakville. Martin Osso will be representing Acton high.

The two players were selected by their coaches to play on the East Halton team against the western counterparts. Rick McArthur, from Acton, will coach the east team.

The Classic is a senior boys

Girls end hockey season

The Georgetown senior girls hockey team wound up another season on the weekend, at a tournament in Beeton, It wasn't an auspicious end, as they only won one of their three games.

Fort Erie beat the locals 3-2 and Pinewood outscored them 1-0. -

Their only win came over the Caledon Queens. A 1-0 victory with Mickey Richmond having the lone mark-

Sixteen teams were enter-

all star game, intended to showcase the athletes. The teams are made up of selected players from Halton West (Burlington) versus Halton East (Oakville, Acton, Milton and Georgetown). Each school in the east was asked to select a player for the team. The top two schools in the regular league were asked to send an extra player to round out the squad to 10.

Both the East and West have won the event once.

Four still left

Minor Atom vs Milton (League finals)

Mon. Mar. 24 7:45 Millon 6:45 Geo. Memorial Thurs, Mar. 27 Sat. Mar. 29 4:00 Milton Mon. Mar. 31 7:30 Geo. Memorial Thurs. Apr. 3 7:00 Milton

Major Atom vs Kitchener (OMHA Zone Finals) Game 3, Thurs. Mar. 20 Geo. 1 - Kit. 6 Game 4, Tues. Mar. 25 Bp.m. Memorial Game 5, Wed. Mar. 26 7:30 Kitchener

Minor Pee Wee vs Brampton (League finals)

Tues. Mar. 25 7:15 Brampton Thurs. Mar. 27 8:00 Geo. Memorial Sat. Mar. 29 3:15 Alcott Sun, Mar. 30 1:00 Brampton 6:45 Geo. Memorial Tues. Apr. 1

Minor Midget waiting for winner of Chinguacousy and Guelph series.

Acton figure skating revue

The Acton Figure Skating Club is presenting two performances of Ice Revue 80 in the Acton arena Sunday, March 30 at 2 and 7 p.m.

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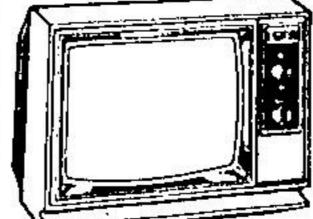
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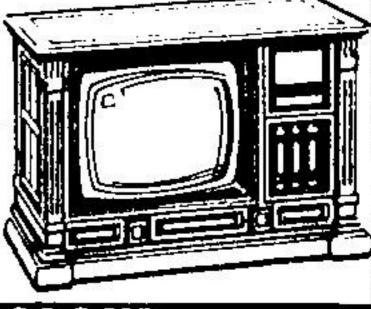


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