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Sports Editor

## Raiders like Russians

The Georgetown Intermediate A Raiders are considered amateur hockey players in the eyes of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and their provincial affiliate, the Ontario Hockey Association. Yet in the past 12 days the team has played nine playoff games. Tomorrow, 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 form at they used last year to decide the provincial champions. Instead of all the individual area winners playing off against each other, as is the case now, the 1979 Ontario representative was decided at a round-robin tournament of 10 teams.

Because of this year's setup, the players will be spending almost 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 Russian 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 Raiders' 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 three 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-out-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 Championship April 18 to 25. This is the title the Raiders won last year.

If the Raiders can win it again, they will go west for the 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 of everyone.

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

And they call it amateur hockey.

While watching the many hockey games in the Ontario hockey tournament that just wound up, it was interesting to note that it is no longer so hard to believe that the American team won the 1980 Olympic hockey gold. The young USA players on the Detroit Adray Nationals team here at the tournament, were easily the class of the others. 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 Bearsville team, was one of them. He didn't get noticed until the grand championship game, in which he dazzled the entire crowd who witnessed his play. In fact he wasn't noticed as the tourney's best until he had scored two of the three overtime 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 NHL 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 level.

Either the players got better as they advanced on from 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 as-

sists in the 3-3 overtime draw.

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

Forwards 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 27 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 Dundas.

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

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.

## 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 marker.

Sixteen teams were entered.

## Four still left

Minor Atom vs Milton (League Finals)  
Mon. Mar. 24 7:45 Milton  
Thurs. Mar. 27 6:45 Geo. Memorial  
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 8 p.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  
Tues. Apr. 1 6:45 Geo. Memorial

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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