

# Unrivalled Rebel team dominates Cross Country championships



GDHS runner Barb Gage, makes her way down a hilly path on her way to a Midget Girls team victory. Barb eventually finished 35th in the race.

**By JACK HARLOW**  
Herald Special

The Georgetown Rebel Cross Country Team exhibited its unparalleled strength by capturing the overall girls, boys and school titles at the Ontario Federation of School's Athletic Association (OFSAA) meet held in London on Saturday.

Georgetown won half of the Ontario divisional titles awarded, by placing first overall in the midget girls, junior girls and midget boys races. Coaches Donna Metcalfe and Karen Cosgrove, were extremely pleased as the team met all of its goals. Had it not been for last years' Georgetown team who won an unprecedented five division titles, the Rebel's victory on Saturday would have been the biggest victory by an OFSAA high school team.

**INVINCIBLE**

The unrivalled GDHS Cross Country Team proved to be invincible all season by winning all eight of its regular season meets.

Since the OFSAA (provincial) finals are made up of the top two teams of each association plus some outstanding individuals, the competition in the races is therefore quite elite.

The start of a race is literally a human stampede, where the runners attempt to obtain and maintain the best possible position in order to reduce the amount of passing to be done in the woods.

**SAVAGE START**

Even after the almost savage start, the pace is practically "blistering" at such an OFSAA event.

Positions of teammates in these races may seem high and there appears to be many

places between each runner. However, the times are often faster and closer to each other compared to other cross country meets. This is because of the large number of runners who are of near equal calibre.

At points in some of the races, runners were finishing at the rate of two per second. Therefore, while positions may seem high, many runners ran their best race of the season, which are reflected in the times.

**30 TEAMS**

Most races had 29 or 30 teams and contained 230 to 250 runners.

The start of all races were on a wide open field which turned sharply left after approximately 75 meters. The courses were hilly throughout, consisting mainly of cross country and downhill ski trails.

The courses were not the most difficult the Georgetown team has ever raced on. The "gargantuan" ski hill they had to run up was surmounted by an even larger ski hill at the Oktoberfest meet held earlier in the season.

**UNSEEN HAZARD**

At some spots, the OFSAA courses were run on uneven ground. Almost unseen tree roots and wooden stakes proved to be extremely hazardous to some runners.

At certain points because of the number of competitions, rapidity of the pace, and unsportsmanlike attitudes passing opponents was fairly difficult. However, the superlative Georgetown team, again displayed its eminence by capturing half of the provincial titles awarded.

**WATTS NINTH**

Paul Watts' strong ninth place finish contributed considerably towards Georgetown's midget boys win who finished with 167 points; 59 points in front of second placed Assumption College School.

Chris Ferguson was the second Rebel runner to cross the finish line, placing a very respectable 35th. He was followed by Gary Hulbert in 56th spot and George Howie coming in for 67th. Dave Banks was given 145th spot, but was actually 125th.

The race was won by Wayne Dustin of Bawling in a time of 15:05.

**MACPHAIL EIGHTH**

Lynn Macphail ran hard for eighth position, boosting her Georgetown midget girls team to victory. The winner of the race, Lynn Kapsa of St. Joseph's Islington timed 12:10, beating Sarah Wiley of Branksome Hall by a good five seconds.

Also running for Georgetown were Leanne Grasby, finishing in 29th position, Barb Gage in 36th and Karen Edgar, who came in 72nd. Diane Bransch was given 144th spot, but there is some argument that certain positions near these placings were out of order.

Because of the number of runners constantly coming in the finish, and shortness of the chute after the finish line, the runners had to be put in rows as they completed the race, so a pile-up of runners would not occur.

**INCORRECT POSITIONS**

There is speculation that some of these rows were mistakenly interchanged, and thus incorrect positions resulted.

The Rebel junior girls upheld their season's undefeated title by winning their division with 76 points; the second lowest divisional team total of the meet. They easily beat second place Thornlea Secondary School by 44 points.

**MARCINIUK SIXTH**

Sandra Marciniuk crossed the finish line in position number six for Georgetown in that race. She was followed by Sherry Finucan, (who ran all

but 300 metres of the race with one shoe) in tenth spot, Debbie Newman in 28th, Susan Kristensen in 32nd and Liz Ramsay, placing 50th. Kim Newcombe, who qualified for OFSAA individually finished a strong 60th.

Branksome Hall's Alison Wiley (sister of Sarah who was second in midget girls) won the junior girls race with a time of 12:49.

Georgetown's senior girls, who placed ninth last year in the province (having four midget aged runners and one senior) earned fifth place overall this year, battling against extremely tough competition, totalling 272 points.

Kathy Webb, who is junior age and Halton County's senior girl champion was the first Rebel runner to cross the finish line placing 50th.

Following Webb were Heather McLaren, in 59th, Heather Reed in 62nd, Robin Dodakin 101st and Diane Jones in an approximate 104th spot. Kate Wiley (sister of Sarah and Alison) won the race with a 17:02 clocking.

**POWERHOUSE**

All teams were simply out-classed by a powerhouse from Paul Dwyer High School, that finished with their first four runners in positions of four, ten and twelve and sixteen. Paul Dwyer's senior girls had the lowest total of the meet.

This still does not surpass the all-time low OFSAA win of 52 points set by Georgetown's junior boys team of Ian Clark, Jon Lancaster, Arnold Brakel and Doug Smith at OFSAA in 1978.

Although the junior boys were not as strong as their 1978 counterparts, the junior boys team of 1980 gave what they had and placed fourth overall, only 27 points from first place.



A happy Midget Girls team after winning the OFSAA Cross-Country Championship. Team members are (left to right) Lynn Macphail, Anne Ramsay, Diane Bransch, Leanne Grasby, Barb Gage and Karen Edgar.

The team lost the services of their fourth runner, Scott Harris part way through the race.

At the top of a small hill, which drops very steeply some four feet, Harris' right foot caught on an unseen stake, causing him at that speed to somersault and land on his back on the ground six feet below. He was dragged from the path by an official after first being stepped on by other runners.

Had the mishap not occurred, Harris' position at that point, with the positions of his teammates would have totalled enough for them to beat first place Le Ellen Park's 180 by at least 30 points. This Georgetown team did, however, beat former rivals Ching-uacouy and Upper Canada College.

**EZARD FOURTEENTH**

Mark Ezard, a first year junior on the team was the first Rebel runner in, when he placed 14th. He was edged out by Vince Bernabi of Milton, in 13th spot. Dave Griffiths of Georgetown was 16th in that

race. He was followed by Harald Bransch in 65th and Jack Harlow in 112th position. Despite a gallant effort, Scott Harris was unable to complete the race.

Chris Brewster of London Catholic Central won the race, clocking 21:02.

The Rebels' senior boys team earned fifth place overall against some extreme competition.

**SMITH ELEVENTH**

The team was lead by Doug Smith's 11th place finish. Roy Poloni of Milton was fifth in the

event. Following Smith from Georgetown was Jim McIntyre in 53rd spot John Warnock in 60th, Glenn Britton, 104th and Dale McGregor, placing 121st.

The winner of the race was Dave Reid of West Humber.

The Georgetown Rebel Cross Country Team remained unexcelled this season and truly was worthy of such recognition.

I would personally like to thank the coaches and team for their help and support with these articles.



Junior Girls: (left to right) Sandra Marciniuk, Debbie Newman, Kim Newcombe, Liz Ramsay, Sherry Finucan. Absent: Susan Kristensen, Cheryl Thomson.



The Georgetown Junior Boys shown here finished fourth in the OFSAA Cross-Country final. The team (left to right) includes Mard Ezard, Dave Griffiths, Jack Harlow, Scott Harris and Harold Bransch.



Midget Boys: (left to right) Paul Watts (being held), Chris Ferguson, George Howie, Gary Hulbert, Dave Banks, Doug Gillespie.



The GDHS senior girls shown here placed fifth in the province. Kathy Webb, (extreme left) was the first Rebel to cross the finish line and took 50th place. Other runners (left to right) are Heather McLaren, Robin Dodakin, and Heather Reed. Absent were Diane Jones and Arlene Gray.

**A bonspiel welcome**

By PAT McLEOD  
Herald Special

All of you novices and out-of-practice curlers should not be shy about signing up for the Bonspiels. The Bonspiels are for all curlers. They are a great experience and promise to be lots of fun for all.

Two of our best Lady curlers, Norma Wilson and Greta Lamb were in Welland Ontario for the week-end to take an instructor's course.

Welcome to all the new curlers who have joined us on the ice at North Halton. Hope you have a great curling season. Good curling and see you on the ice!

**Georgetown & District Minor Hockey Association**

**NOTICE**

**FALL GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday, November 30th, 1980**

**1:00 p.m. at**

**Gordon Alcott Arena Hall**

The general public is invited to attend this meeting with the members of the G.D.M.H.A. for the hearing of any proposed changes to our constitution.

Written submissions stating any proposed changes must be received by the president no later than November 10, 1980, two weeks prior to the date of this meeting.

Wendy Stewart  
President, G.D.M.H.A.  
10 Graystone Crescent  
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**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT ONTARIO PROPERTY TAX GRANTS**

Waiting For Your Grant?

- If you sent in your Property Tax Grant application but haven't received your grant, please be patient. Many of the applications which contained incomplete information or arrived late because of postal disruptions are still being processed. **IT'S NOT NECESSARY TO CALL ABOUT YOUR GRANT.** A large number of seniors have already been contacted in this regard. The remainder will be contacted or have their grants paid by **NOVEMBER 30, 1980.**

Turning 65?

- If you reached or will reach age 65 between July 1 and December 31, 1980 and are just becoming eligible for the Old Age Security Pension, you may be eligible for Ontario Tax Grants for all of 1980. Property Tax Grant applications and Sales Tax Grants will be **AUTOMATICALLY** mailed to you **BY JANUARY 1981.**

Not Eligible for OAS?

- If you are a senior who has not resided in Canada long enough to qualify for the Old Age Security Pension, you may still be eligible for these grants. You should contact the Ministry of Revenue as soon as possible for an eligibility form.

Reminder

- If your principal residence throughout 1980 is a nursing home, home for the aged, chronic care facility, charitable institution, home for special care or other similar institution, you are not eligible for the grant unless the institution in which you reside pays municipal and school taxes and your rent payments are not government subsidized.
- Applications for the 1980 grant can be submitted any time before December 31, 1981.

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