

Local issue touches on concern for the future of Canadian hockey

When you run into a discussion revolving around hockey philosophy you will always find a ready argument, but not always a willing ear to listen.

A phone call from a concerned parent to The Herald prompted this comment on an issue which goes back to last Spring at the Georgetown District and Minor Hockey Association's annual general meeting. Last week the issue was further brought to light as the GDMHA's policy decision was implemented.

At the end of the hockey season the GDMHA voted to implement a new rule which caused a few coaches to walk out of the meeting and threaten to stop coaching.

The sensitive rule called for an open draft whereby players are graded and drafted as before, but a coach does not necessarily end up with the team he picks; his team is selected by himself and his

coaching peers and then he selects a team from a hat.

Previously a coach could select players for his team if they were in the sequence of how they were graded: either A, B or C. He knew what players he was picking and often he scouted leagues below his division to pick the "cream of the crop".

STILL INVOLVED
A coach is still involved in the selection process of picking teams, but not necessarily their own teams. This has led to three or four Bantam league coaches, who feel their extra efforts to field a competitive house league team by scouting, should not be curtailed and they have subsequently quit.

To put some perspective on the matter, this process of coaches picking their teams is now carried out in the younger house league divisions. Oakville has also implemented the open draft system. The executive at the annual



Sports beat

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Sports Editor

general meeting wanted to try the new system in the older leagues for a number of reasons.

With an open draft a player doesn't have to go back to the same team and thus he is given more exposure to different

coaching styles and has a chance to make more friends. A new coach, or a coach who is not interested in spending extra hours scouting other leagues has a better opportunity to pick a team equal to other teams in the league.

The Bantam coaches who are the dissenters in this matter feel the competitive edge has been taken out of their vast hockey knowledge. Some of them have been coaching for more than a decade and careful scouting and drafting is crucial to how their team does over the winter, they feel.

However, one must remember that the GDMHA has built its philosophy around making hockey fun for the players themselves as stated in their constitution: "To foster, promote and teach amateur hockey for children and adolescents and provide maximum opportunity for all eligible individuals to participate equally."

Under the leadership of last year's

president Wendy Stewart and current president Tom Davidson, the GDMHA has strived for equality and fairness for the players and the promotion of hockey at the house league level.

Scouting players for the express benefit of one coach seems to go against the GDMHA philosophy which depends on sharing skills for the benefit of all. Coaches who want a more competitive system should perhaps consider entering a more competitive league such as Support Group (Rep) hockey.

But the crux of the matter is that the system should be given a try and hopefully these dissenting coaches can find a way to tolerate the change. The Georgetown Youth Soccer Leagues have their own system of drafting players, some of it being similar to the GDMHA's system. Soccer president Alex Tough adds some insight to the matter when he says that a good coach can often make the difference even if the team has

some weak players. "A lot of it (winning) is in the coach. He'll bring out more in a player," Tough says. His comments can be looked upon as a pro or con argument for the grading system. To look at the 'pro' side, a good coach should be able to see a competitive squad even without scouting and drafting. This issue touches upon one of a number of areas regarding the future of hockey which has been further emphasized since the outcome of the Canada Cup series.

An informative newsletter and a Parent's night last Monday night seems to indicate the present GDMHA is willing to listen, educate and explain.

One of our strongest allies in promoting hockey and hockey instruction has to come from observation and change. What the GDMHA is trying to do is promote a system of change which will hopefully aid their hockey program and the players it represents.

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the HERALD

Sportsweek

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Local team shows true colors in 10-6 drubbing

Geminis begin on winning note

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Sports Editor
The Georgetown Junior B Geminis rebounded from two earlier lopsided losses in exhibition play last week to show their true colors to local fans Sunday after outlasting and dominating Port Credit 10-6.

The Gems displayed some awesome offensive power in the second period against Port Credit as their play was reminiscent of the Intermediate A Raiders, leading to a five-goal barrage.

QUICK BREAK
Swift-skating Riv Kennedy, who played with the Georgetown Midgets last year, opened the scoring with a quick break from centre to the left face-off circle where he let go a solid slap shot.

Kennedy, who showed a lot of hustle and poise for the Geminis also opened up the second period scoring with his second goal of the night. Overage Midget Bob Morrow and Kennedy both looked impressive during the night as Morrow added to the scoresheet in the second period with a shorthanded goal.

Kennedy may be lost to the Geminis, however, when he goes to the Markham Junior A camp for a tryout.

In the first period Rick Madgett gave the Geminis a 2-0 lead assisted by Geminis veterans Mike Tibbitts and Brad McMeekin. Recently

signed import Byron Braye from Newfoundland showed his worth by scoring an unassisted shorthanded goal to tie the game at 3-3 going into the second period.

HAMPERED STYLE
Three quick goals by Port Credit mid-way through the period hampered the Geminis offensive style and forced them to defensively regroup. A few clean breakaways in the first period showed the speed of some of the Port Credit forwards.

Newcomer Guy Cornier whose playing rights belong to the Dixie Beelives was dazzling on the specialty assignments as he netted a shorthanded goal mid-way through the second period then added a power play goal two minutes later.

His size and speed plus his dogged determination could help the Geminis this year and according to GM Bob Tost, the Georgetown team are close to reaching an agreement with Dixie for his playing rights.

Defensive lapses by Port Credit allowed Mike McMenemy and Bob Morrow to collect unassisted goals.

Recently named Captain of the team, Bill Taylor capped off the score late in the game on passes from teammates Byron Braye and Rick Madgett.

The final outcome was much different from the 6-2 drubbing received from Port

Credit the week earlier. Port Credit coach Bill Shannon said the difference in the two games was that Georgetown hit his players and slowed them down to the point where they didn't score as in their earlier encounter.

"They (Georgetown) are going to be a good hockey team," Shannon said.

Against Waterloo last Friday night the Geminis looked better than their previous encounter when they were defeated 8-1. Friday night's game was a 9-5 loss which indicates some improvement by the local team.

COACH PLEASED
Geminis coach Dave Switzer was pleased with Friday's game because Georgetown showed the capacity to come back from a 2-2 score. "Friday's game gave me an indication of how they can play. The team played with a lot of heart," he said.

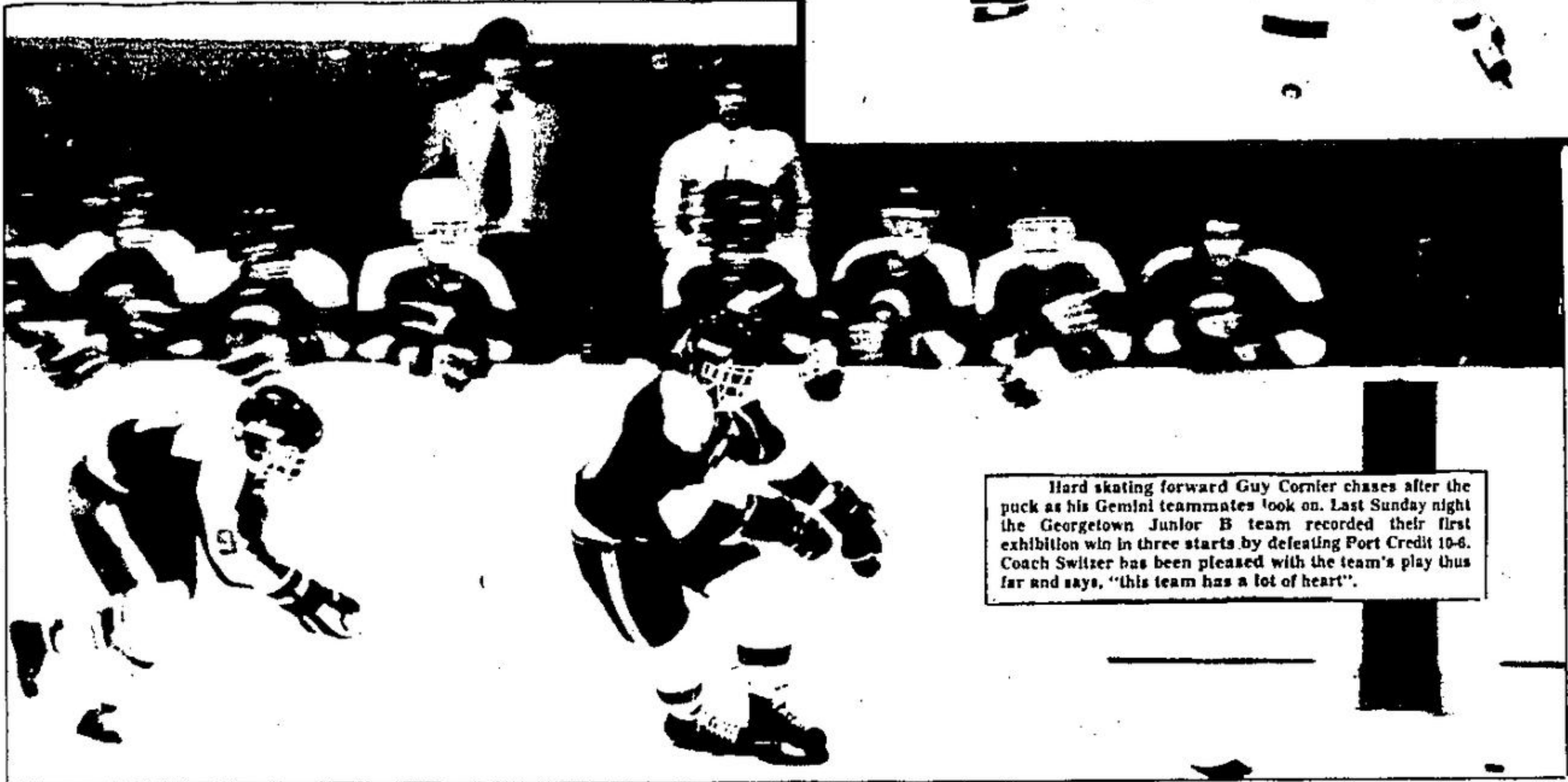
The coach was pleased with the team's passing, something Switzer has only been able to work into practice a few times this season - but the difference is noticeable, he says.

Two local players that have caught the coaches' eye are Kevin Franks and Chuck Moffatt. Moffatt, a former Georgetown juvenile player has shown promise for his first time out and Kevin Franks from Meadowdale looks to be a good hitter and a

thinking player, the coach says. The coach is still hoping more overage midgets and juveniles will start practicing with the team as he is

confident there is more local talent in town that could try out for the team. The Geminis begin their regular season schedule with a home game against the

Barrie Colts next Sunday, which will be their first big test of the season. GEM Notes: The exhibition game against Port Credit Continued on page B6



Hard skating forward Guy Cornier chases after the puck as his Geminis teammates look on. Last Sunday night the Georgetown Junior B team recorded their first exhibition win in three starts by defeating Port Credit 10-6. Coach Switzer has been pleased with the team's play thus far and says, "this team has a lot of heart".

Gemini Bill Taylor selected team captain

Veteran forward Bill Taylor of the Georgetown Junior B Geminis has been named captain for the 1981-82 hockey season, it was learned Friday.

The selection of Taylor to wear the 'C' for the Gems comes as no surprise to many local Junior B observers as the four year veteran has been a consistent, hustling hockey player, always setting a good on-ice example.

The 28-year old former 'Alternate' captain is enthusiastic about the coming season and he says the big difference in this year's team should be in their team spirit. "We're always talking and coaching ourselves in the dressing room, even without our coach," Taylor says. He sees his duties as being a good listener as well as a player whose leadership qualities will be used to motivate teammates and carry out the coaches' wishes.

"Everyone knows that to win we need a team effort. The players can't just rely on themselves," he says.

KEY IMPORTS
Taylor says that in the 1981-82 version of the Geminis the acquisition of key imports are making "100 per cent improvements" in the team. The veterans are helping a number of the younger players fit into the Junior B system and the more experienced players should form the backbone of the team, Taylor says.

Players such as Mike McMenemy and Ed Dwyer should help tremendously with their good attitude, the team captain says.



BILL TAYLOR

Taylor says coach Dave Switzer has been recognizing the team's weakness on the ice and he is making the team practice such areas as their passing which improved last Sunday night against Port Credit.

Another big asset to the team this year will be in the executive, Taylor feels. "Everyone notices the work the executive are putting into the team and everyone has a respect for the executive. It makes you want to put out on the ice as much as they are working off the ice," Taylor says.

The team captain feels the Geminis will play a fast-skating and hard-hitting style of hockey this year, but the players will be disciplined and shouldn't take

many unnecessary penalties, he says.

Goalkeeping has improved 100 per cent and the defence has improved steadily, under the tutelage of former GM defenceman and captain Bob McCandless, Taylor says. McCandless has put a lot of work into helping with the team as assistant coach and he's well respected and good to talk to, Taylor says.

SURPRISES
When asked about the season's standings, Taylor sees Oakville, Acton and Streetsville all having strong teams this year. But he adds that Georgetown could quickly surprise some people and he thinks the Gems could finish close to the top three teams in the league.

"We'll have to discipline ourselves to win even against easy teams, something we had trouble doing last year," he says.

In four exhibition games Taylor has averaged a goal per game, scoring two goals last Friday against Waterloo. Along with former Gem Herb Kewley, Taylor was constantly singled out for being one of the few Georgetown players who always gave 100 per cent in every game by the coach and executive.

The Georgetown native played rep hockey in Georgetown and in his Midget year was named to the all-star team for the league.

Currently Taylor is working for the Halton Hills Herald as an advertising consultant.

Football

Fobert's hot in the cleat dept.

Meanwhile 'I'd rather be in Philly' seems to apply here to Greeks and Mountainview

By TIM TOLTON
Herald Special

On the whole the Greeks and Mountainview Plaza would rather have been in Philadelphia Sunday, but they weren't and both were rudely spanked by some of the league lesser lights as the trend toward upsets continued.

Fobert's upset the Greeks 27-15, Royal Pizza dumped Mountainview 16-7, Dairy Queen creamed the Glen 35-7 and Delrex hammered Norval 52-21.

Mountainview ran into a piping hot Pizza team this week and played like they had gum on their shoes whenever they got in scoring range.

Joe Domingoes and Paul Egerton traded first half TD's which Riv Kennedy and Jack Poot converted. Both teams marched back and forth throughout the game but both also stalled repeatedly. Domingoes put the game away in the second half on a 14 yard strike from Paul Larose. Brent Ferguson converted and Kennedy added a single on a punt to round out the scoring.

HOT CLEATS
Fobert's continued to be the hottest thing on cleats, thoroughly frustrating the Greeks with swarming defense and a varied offense. They held a 20-15 halftime lead and led with Brian

Pemberton's second TD of the game in the third quarter. Fred Enge hit Pemberton, Keith Baker and Wayne Johnson in the first half, all converted by Terry Hunt.

The Greeks had 8 from John Karolidis, 6 from Dan Reynolds, 2 from Rick Fisher and 1 from Rick Baldwin.

Mitch "Ferragamo" Leblanc filled the air with footballs for Dairy Queen Sunday and most fell on DQ players as they coasted to an easy victory over the war torn Glen Williams squad.

GLEN'S CRUTCHES
It takes a strong stomach to look at the Glen team these days because they all sport some form of disfigurement with an assortment of crutches and casts. Even the Bummer has been activated and it's not a pretty sight.

That didn't seem to bother Leblanc though or if it did he shrugged it off. Jeff Lockwood, 210 Hal Hulme and one to Steve Crossman.

Lockwood had 4 converts and Andy Broadbent one. Elton Hayes had the only Glen score which Andy Tyrell converted. Norval played very well against Delrex, so well in fact that his hard to believe they haven't beaten someone this year.

At least they played with some class which is more than can be said for one of the Smoke Shops assassins who was thrown out for a blatant cheap shot in the second half.

Tempers flared more than once in this rather physical contest.

AIR STRIKE
There hasn't been such an air strike since Nixon invaded Cambodia and with Delrex's Bob Inglis playing the mad bomber Smoke Shop overwhelmed Norval. Mark Rels had 3 majors, Werner Mikoleit 2, Bruce Cartwright and Jerry Nell 1

each. Two point conversions went to Nell (2), Doug Getty and Mikoleit. Cartwright also had 2 singles. Greg Lawr scored twice for Norval and Glen Waites once. Bruce Cunningham caught a 2 point conversion and Randy Doucette booted

one. Players of the week: Ken Baker Fob, Duncan Owen Gr., Hal Hulme DQ., Bill Fournier GW., Randy Doucette Nor., Mark Rels SS, Brent Ferguson RP, Paul Allison Miv. N.B. See Friday's edition for team standings.

Sports in brief

Powderpuff ladies tourney

Saturday September 26 the Georgetown Powderpuff ladies softball league will be hosting a 16 team one-day tournament.

The tournament starts at 7:30 in the morning and the consolation final is scheduled for 6 p.m. while the final should start at 8 p.m.

According to powderpuff tournament spokesman Pat Akers, it is the largest ladies powderpuff tournament Georgetown has ever held with some teams coming from as far away as Erin, Wasaga Beach and Orangeville. Acton will enter two teams, L and L Ford plus the Mauraders.

GDHS at York

Some 1,500 athletes from across the province will compete in York University's 15th annual high school and university cross-country meet on Saturday September 26 at the Keele Street Campus starting at 9:45 a.m. Meet director Bryce Taylor will handle more than 75

high school team entries for the six races and approximately 130 individual men and women for the two university-level races.

Georgetown District High School is, once again, favored to take the team trophy, having won the York award in 1980, 1979, 1977 and 1976.

Raider dates

For those interested in an early look at the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders, the following dates will give fans plenty of opportunity to see the local Red and White:

Thursday Sept. 24 there is an exhibition game against Rockton while on Friday Sept. 25 the Raiders play Durham Sr. A's at home.

Sunday, September 27 features a game against Midland of the OHA intermediate league. Friday, October 2 is the date of the Season Opener for the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders, starting time 8:30.

Player signings

The latest Raider signings as of last Tuesday morning are Juri Kudrasovs, Gary McFadyen and Scott MacKenzie. MacKenzie is the only one of the three who did not play for the Raiders last year, but he was with the Georgetown team three years ago when they played in Timmins for the OHA crown.