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Sly's revenge will have to wait: Collingwood coach can't beat Raiders with All-Star team

By DAVE ROWNEY
 Herald Sports Editor

After seeing his Collingwood Shipbuilders drubbed 11-3 last Friday night by the Georgetown Raiders, it might be fair to say that Darryl Sly, a coach of the Intermediate A All-Stars didn't want to go back to Collingwood with another defeat on his shoulders.

However, the first annual All-Star game played against the Raiders last Saturday in Georgetown proved to be a disappointing 9-2 loss for Sly and the Shipbuilders on the All-Star team who were looking for revenge.

It wasn't even Collingwood who provided the most trouble for the Raider's netminder Doug Dragasevich, who won his team's MVP award for the game.

Keir Todd, who has been cut twice from the Georgetown line-up in the past two seasons, and now plays for Barrie, put the All-Stars in front 2-1 five minutes into the second period.

ALL-STAR MVP
 Midland's Ken Knapton moved back to defence from his familiar forward position when only two All-Star defencemen could make the game because of the inclement weather conditions. His

persistence and hard-slating all night earned him a goal and the All-Star's MVP award.

After Georgetown's Peter Sturgeon scored midway through the first period to put his team on the scoreboard, Knapton moved in from the point and slapped a shot from the slot past Georgetown's



DOUG DRAGASEVICH
 Dragasevich to tie the game at 1-1.

Due to the high winds and drifting snow, Port Elgin, Owen Sound and Midland players could not make the game, leaving Knapton and Tom Colley to fill in on defence for the All-Stars.

Midland's Wayne King and Bruce Gutherie couldn't make the game, but teammate Ken Knapton was able to drive down from Barrie.

A lack of defencemen definitely hurt the All-Stars, said coach Darryl Sly, who missed the services of Port Elgin rearguards Ken Nelson, Norm Lalonde and Owen Sound's Rob Thomas. The only All-Star defencemen available for the game were Collingwood's Del Watson and Don Raybould.

WEAK DEFENCE
 "Our defence was definitely the difference in the game," Sly said. "Our two forward lines did their job."

In the first period, both teams came out looking for goals in a fast-acting encounter, but goalkeepers Doug Dragasevich and Collingwood's Brad Steel both played exceptionally well.

The period was characterized by some good goal-scoring chances on both sides exchanged rink length rushes again and again.

With three minutes left in the period, the Raiders started to attack Brad Steel with a multitude of shots closely resembling a rapid fire M16 machine gun, but the spunky goaltender kept the Raiders off the scoreboard.

Georgetown's Peter Sturgeon increased the Raider lead to 3-2 in the second

period to register the second of his three goals for the night. The entire line of Gary Ford, Sturgeon and Bill Hamilton, who are the top three goal scorers in the Intermediate league were deadly. The trio picked up a total of four goals and four assists in the game.

INCREASED LEAD
 Goals by Georgetown Raiders John Cook and Steve Wicklum increased the hometown output of 4-2 at the end of the second period.

Barrie Flyer forward Steve McAleese had a golden opportunity to give the All-Stars a boost when he walked in cleanly on the Raider goaltender, but Dragasevich came out quickly enough to meet the challenge.

In a relatively penalty-free game, two Raiders and two All-Stars only had four penalties all night while Georgetown gathered eight.

Goaltender Brad Steel had a busier time in the second period against marauding Raider forwards as he deflected 22 shots compared to Dragasevich's 13.

An estimated 700 Georgetown fans and a few out of town supporters (judging from the cheers for Barrie, Midland and Collingwood



The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders dominated the All-Stars in the latter stage of the game to emerge 9-2 victors. Here, Brad Steel falls victim to a Scott McKenzie drive while Ray Tonelli looks on.

(Herald photo)

players) watched the All-Stars come close in the third period to scoring on a power play drive with Halder Bill Hamilton in the penalty box.

NEEDED GOAL
 With Sturgeon and Hamilton scoring two more in the third period, the All-Stars

needed a goal to put them back in the game. When they couldn't find the range, it was the turning point in the game, Darryl Sly said.

The All-Stars began to get sloppy in their own end and with having to take more offensive chances to get back in the game, the Raiders were able to penetrate the All-Star end with little difficulty.

The last three goals by Raiders Scott McKenzie, Ray Tonelli and Rick Kessell were scored on almost identical situations. A Raider



would draw the defence from the left side and slip the puck to an open man in front of Brad Steel, who had to quickly change direction.

OUTPLAYED RAIDERS
 After the game, All-Star

MVP Ken Knapton said he thought his team outplayed the Raiders in the first period, but they couldn't score capitalize on their chances.

Barrie Flyer Keir Todd

thought that the Halder line of Ford, Sturgeon and Hamilton made the difference for Georgetown. The All-Star team players are just as good as the Halder squad although the score didn't indicate it, Todd said.



A HELPING HAND

Hockey coach and instructor Chris Milne lends his help whenever there's a young hockey player in need. It's Minor Hockey Week in Canada and The Herald has a special feature on our minor hockey system on page B3. (Herald photo)

Acton Sabres fine-tuned for playoffs

The Acton Junior B Sabres are starting to fine tune their hockey club in preparation for the playoffs if recent lopsided wins are any indication.

The local Swordsmen out-maneuvered the Barrie Colts 5-3 in Barrie last Thursday night, then they came home to host the Dixie Bees and defeated them 6-0.

Chris Martin started both games in net for the Sabres, which has coach Russiani praising his efforts. The Acton coach wants to start the youthful netminder against Streetsville in their next encounter Tuesday (Jan. 19).

"I was more impressed with our game against Barrie than our win against Dixie," Russiani said. "The game against the Colts was probably the best performance by the team all season," the coach said.

With everything going right in the game plan, the Sabres could have beat anyone that night and it was one of the nicest games to watch from a coach's point of view, Russiani said.

Denis Kirton opened the scoring for his Sabres just 13 seconds into the first period. Midway through the same period Wade Vickery's shot found the mark assisted by Denis Kirton and Mike

Monahan on a power play drive.

GAP CLOSED

Barrie closed the gap by scoring at the 7:20 mark of the second period, but the Sabres pulled ahead 3-1 on Ken Whathan's goal on passes from Paul Stark and Ken Reif late in the period.

Two goals before the midway mark of the third period boosted the Sabres to a 5-1 count as Wade Vickery and Ken Reif connected for goals assisted by Denis Kirton, Mark Duval, Tony Dulisse and Paul Stark.

A new play added during a recent Richmond Hill game which stresses more emphasis on the Sabre end and helps the defence carry the puck has been successful, the coach said.

Against Dixie on Friday night, Ken Reif, Paul Stark and Mark Duval were the sharpshooters in the second half of the first period. In the second period Paul Stark scored again and made the game a 4-0 result on his effort from Ken Reif and Gord McArthur.

Three minutes into the third period Rick Dods scored for Acton assisted by Tony Dulisse. Wade Vickery topped off the win with his goal assisted by R.J. Farnsworth with 8:02 left in the game.

GDHS wrestlers host meet, lose trophy by one point

By HARALD BRANSCHE
 Herald Correspondent

The Georgetown high school wrestling team hosted some of the strongest wrestling teams in the province last Saturday in the annual Georgetown Invitational wrestling tournament and placed a close second to the defending OFSAA champions from Fergus.

The tournament turned out to be the most competitive one in ten years as the top five teams, some of the best teams in the province, all placed within seven points of each other, and only one point deciding first place.

This year's winner was Fergus, the defending provincial champion, with 51 team points, followed by Georgetown with 50 points.

The provincial champions from two years previous, Newtonbrook, accumulated 47 team points to place third, and this year's provincial favorites, Bishop Ryan, were fourth with 46 points. Mimico was fifth with 44 team points.

There were over 220 wrestlers attending the day-long event in which the Rebels could only count 15 of their team. Of the 15 possible

wrestlers they placed 10 in the top six in a weight division.

In the 84 lbs. weight class Jeff Knight and Mike DelGuidice placed first and second respectively. Tim Dixon was second and Dave Power was third in the 97 lbs. division.

WRESTLED FLU
 Wayne Morrow was fifth in the 112.5 lbs. division and in the 119 lbs. category Bob Sweetie placed sixth. Sweetie wrestled only three bouts in the day before he came down with the flu and was forced to withdraw from further matches.

This is disappointing because he showed promise of placing in the top three that day.

Doug Gillespie, who usually wrestles in the 127 lbs. division, placed second and Rick Sedore sixth in the 134.5 lbs. weight class, which is considered to be one of the most competitive.

In the 149 lbs. category, Ron Martin placed fifth. Mark Roberts placed fourth in the 165 lbs. division. Both were said to have had personal disappointments on the day.

COACHES PLEASED
 Both coach Smith and Mc-

Kay were pleased with the outcome of the meet as they had no idea of coming close to winning with the calibre of wrestling at the meet. As it was they say they couldn't be happier with such a relatively young team.

McKay said the team was building for this meet and were really peaking and eager to wrestle. The team

tries to peak twice a season, once for the Georgetown invitational and again for the Haltons and Halton-Peels.

Special thanks should be given to Beaver foods for supplying the trophies and medals for their sixth year in a row and Roberta Burke and Ann Moffat for organizing the table crews throughout the nine hours.

Old dogs out to teach Gems some new tricks

The Georgetown Junior B Geminis will be facing off once again against the Georgetown Oldtimers in an exhibition contest Saturday Jan. 30.

Ticket prices are the same as during the regular season says organizer and Gemini executive member Doug Harlow. Ticket proceeds will be used to help pay for club expenses, Harlow says.

Team members for the Oldtimers are as follows: Al Arnold, Blake Inglis, Terry Lane, Ken Morrow, Bob Moncton, Brian Peavoy, Rod Presswood, Dave Sheppard, Pete Pomeroy, Paul Robinson, George Riddal, Fred Cowbrough, Jack Gudgeon, Doug Richardson, Dwayne Hay, Jim Blair, John Boyce, Kent Robinson, Dave McHenry.

Coach for the Oldtimers is Gerry Inglis while trainers will be Al Walker and Don Fendley.

Herald conducts a fireside chat with GDMHA's Tom Davidson

EDITOR'S NOTE: In preparation for Minor Hockey Week in Canada, The Herald interviewed the presidents of both the Georgetown Support Group (Rep) hockey and the Georgetown District Minor Hockey Association (GDMHA - House League, Tier 2, Selects).

In our talks with GDMHA president Tom Davidson, he agreed to a taped interview in which it was understood that edited transcripts would be published in The Herald during Minor Hockey Week.

The following is Mr. Davidson's informative and candid remarks concerning the problems, pleasures and future aspirations of GDMHA hockey in Georgetown.

The Herald: Minor Hockey week is coming up in Canada and for Georgetown traditionally I guess not much has been done in promoting the event. Maybe you can give us your impressions of what Minor Hockey Week means to Georgetown and to the players in Georgetown?

Tom Davidson: "This year in Georgetown I'll be putting out a letter, it's going out the

week of Minor Hockey Week. The thrust of the letter is not really directed to the players - it's to the parents.

If Minor Hockey Week is to single out two functions, it would be: The Players - let the players play and my thrust to The Parents would be: the players can't play until the parents come forward and help organize.

The players can't organize the practice and the sweaters and all the things that go into a hockey season. It has nothing to do with cheering or screaming or whatever they want to do in the arena - it's supporting the players to let them play.

I think if there is one thing that Minor Hockey Week brings out in Canada it is first, there are a lot of people out there... and if we all pull together everyone does have fun and it's a community effort and it's a learning experience."

The Herald: As far as the hockey players go, they say Minor Hockey Week's slogan is for the players. Is there a message they may be trying to convey to their parents, coaches or fans?

Tom Davidson: "This probably isn't answering your question directly. The players I have found over the years convey

their feelings towards hockey by their attendance.

If players don't come to games regularly, particularly practices; if you're running a good team you'll get turnouts with no problem at all. And often if I find there is a questionable coach, I make no bones about it, coaches should look at their attendance first.

'Players convey their feelings towards hockey by their attendance'

The problems that arise which we read about and hear about often are problems that aren't necessarily a problem to the child. We've talked about this in the executive at length.

Of 2,000 hockey players at age Atom, only one makes the professional level. Now that could be the International league... that's not even a Darryl Sittler. And so the money parents put into hockey they'd be competitively better off putting that money into lottery tickets if they're looking for an income for their child."

The Herald: Could you give an example to what you mean by parents causing unnecessary problems for their child in hockey?

Tom Davidson: "Balancing is a wonderful example...parents may pull a kid out of hockey because of balancing.

Now suppose a parent pulls a kid out of Bantam. Say the kid has already played five or six years. Now that each league is different, he's been on a different team for the past five or six years.

If he's put on a different team four weeks into the season, what real grave consequences are you creating for the child?

And he's got to know the bulk of the kids. I really believe our philosophy that says, "Let the kids play". Winning is important but it's not the be all and end all and we're not putting the emphasis on how many games they win.

More importantly is the game competitive and did they have fun? So in that way, the parent writing to the paper and speaking out or protesting may be causing more problems than the kids."

The Herald: You were talking earlier about certain aspects of the community who had complained to the minor hockey association and you would ask them in turn to see how they could help out solving what they thought was a problem. Then they would come back to you and say they weren't interested. Could you comment on that?

Tom Davidson: "It's a reflection of our society. No one wants to get involved.

Everyone wants to complain because that's by far the easiest thing to do. In anything, like hockey, again we watch it on T.V. and probably we do get the impression we know a lot and we seem to expect a lot.

As I've said to you Dave, if you're not willing to do the job yourself, you can't expect anyone else to do it for you. I wish people would really take that to heart.

It's one of the biggest, biggest problems this year and I'm sure it will always continue."

The Herald: There have been a number of letters written to the paper regarding minor hockey in town. One of them was from a gentleman from Orillia. The letter has now been called into doubt as to its authenticity. This paper checked and there was no C.



TOM DAVIDSON

Walsh in Orillia. How do you feel the result of that letter affected minor hockey? Tom Davidson: "Well it was a confusing letter which was the nicest thing you can say about the letter. But that is the exact attitude that concerns me: It's that, "there

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