

the HERALD

# Sportsweek



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## Our Raiders face the 'Roos tonight

Representing a town of about 9,000 residents with another 9,000 in outlying areas, the Quesnel (pronounced Qwa-nell) Kangaroos Intermediate A hockey club will be facing the Georgetown Raiders for the Canadian hockey Hardy Cup championships this Friday at 8:30 p.m.

The Quesnel team has had an interesting season and have prevailed over the best Intermediate teams from Western Canada.

Quesnel didn't play in any formal league over the season because the Intermediate league folded when Prince George opted out of play.

Quesnel were forced to play at the exhibition level, sometimes against senior A clubs. To qualify for the Hardy Cup playoffs, the team had to schedule at least 20 games, which they managed to do.

In total, Quesnel has only played about 35 games, the same number as the Georgetown Raiders play in a regular season.

In addition, says Quesnel Caribou Observer sports editor Tim O'Rourke, the team missed about five weeks of hockey because of winter storms.

LAST YEAR  
 Last year the Quesnel Kangaroos were in the Senior A leagues and they reached the semi-finals of the Western Canadian championships.

Quesnel had their hardest series perhaps in the first round as they defeated Fort St. John two games to one.

Against the Winnipeg North End Flyers for the Western championships, the team won the first game 7-2, lost the second 6-5 and then won 9-2 and 6-1.

Brad and Ken Gassoff, the two leaders on the team have returned and they are both classed as "dynamite".

Ken Gassoff is a former member of the Vancouver Canucks NHL club while Brad Gassoff is reported to have spent some time with the Buffalo Sabres and St. Louis Blues organizations.

Len Dies, who forms the third member of the Kangaroo top line, is a former player in the Western Hockey League.

The second line consists of Wayne Holmes, Bill Roach and Terry Shaw. Holmes and Shaw played Tier I hockey in Ontario, Caribou Observer's O'Rourke says.

Defenceman Jim Marsh is a former American hockey player with Syracuse, a steady player on the blueline which John Cook once played against.

In goal, the Kangaroos has Danny Mussell (pronounced "muscle") who has played for them for the past two years.

He is young and the Winnipeg Jets of the NHL have expressed an interest in him and he may be drafted next season.

GOOD GOALIES  
 Leroy Keuger in goal is an experienced goaltender and he was picked up from the Fort St. John team.

According to the Quesnel sports editor, the Kangaroo strengths are their offensive

power: "they can be devastating."

The team is a forechecking hard-skating and physical team, but they can skate and actually prefer that type of game, the sports editor says.

Against the Winnipeg North End Flyers, the Flyers

tried to get physical with Quesnel, but the tactic didn't work, O'Rourke says.

With a spectacular offence, the right people in goal, the only weakness is a sometimes inconsistent defence, but even they have been good lately, O'Rourke says.

### Thanks, Brian

Brian Coe, a Georgetown resident, has been dropping by the Herald with some excellent sketches of Raider players in an effort to increase the awareness of Georgetown's Hardy Cup finalists.

These drawings seen in the sports section of the Herald were done by Brian and this paper greatly appreciates his work that has added to our coverage.

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>QUESNEL KANGAROOS</b> | <b>GEORGETOWN RAIDERS</b> |
| 1. Leroy Keuger (Goal)   | 35. Wayne Wood            |
| 35. Danny Mussell (Goal) | 4. Doug Dragasewich       |
| 2. Robert Latman         | 2. John Winder            |
| 3. Gary Gassoff          | 3. Jack Smith             |
| 4. Gary Plamondon        | 5. Steve Lyon "C"         |
| 6. Leonard Dies          | 6. John Cook              |
| 7. Ken Gassoff           | 7. Bill Hamilton "A"      |
| 8. Brad Gassoff          | 8. Gary Landry            |
| 9. William Muir          | 9. Scott McKenzie         |
| 10. Wayne Holmes         | 10. Peter Sturgeon        |
| 11. Donald Festerling    | 11. Juri Kudrasovs        |
| 12. Bill Roach           | 12. Steve Wicklum         |
| 14. Rod Dyck             | 14. Joe Ens               |
| 16. Ken Price            | 15. Gary McFadyen         |
| 17. Terry Shaw           | 17. Doug Fry              |
| 18. Ronald Halvorsen     | 18. Ron Twiss             |
| 19. Jim Marsh            | 19. Gary Ford             |
| 21. Brian Festerling     | 20. Rick Kessell "A"      |
| 22. Wes Peterson         | 21. John Saunders         |
| Richard Marsh — Coach    | 23. Les Smith             |
| Kenneth Cris — Manager   | 27. Ray Tonelli           |
| Velimir Bakic — Trainer  | Manager — Don Fendley     |
|                          | Coach — Gerry Inglis      |

**'Good netminding is good'**

It might have been a little frustrating shooting on Cap Pele netminder in the Eastern Canadian final series, but that's good hockey, says Gary McFadyen, Georgetown native and forward who scored the winning goal in the last game of the series.

The team has scored goals all year, sometimes against excellent goaltending, and they knew the goals would come, he says.

The Raiders thought they could beat Cap Pele after the first game because they out-shot and outplayed them, McFadyen says.

It's unfortunate that centre Rick Kessell was hurt because of the way he controls the face-offs and the power play. "You hate to see anyone get hurt because it's not necessary."

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**CELEBRITY SIGNATURE**  
 Ernie John Pearce, 7, was watching his brother Andy play in the Timmy Tyke tournament when he found himself beside Harold Ballard and Tom Watts, coach of the Winnipeg Jets. Never one to let the opportunity to slip from his grasp, Ernie John got their autographs on his Greps hat. The hat to the right contains signatures from an auto race in the U.S. he attended recently.

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