

Giveaways hurt Geminis

Burlington wins 7-1/

The Georgetown Gemini scored just once in two games last week against Oakville and Burlington. Mike Doucette saved the local Junior B club from being blanked in the back to back encounters.

Thursday the Oakville Blades showed the form that won them the league championships last year by crushing the Geminis 8-0. Back at home Sunday the Georgetown team were outnumbered because of penalties and took a 7-1 trouncing.

New Gemini coach Jules Russiani said giveaways hurt the team when the players were passing, showing a lack of concentration.

When the club was down 4-0 Georgetown took too many penalties which spoiled their chances of staying in the game, he said.

The Gemini coach thought the team should have been winning after the first period.

The local green and gold did look strong in the opening period, allowing only one Burlington goal with 3:01 left in the period. A short handed effort by the Cougars caught goaltender Wayne Cowley between his pads.

In the last skating first period the Geminis moved the puck well out of their own zone and stayed with Burlington

step for step.

BACK PASS

In the second period a Gemini backpass was intercepted deep in Georgetown's territory that gave Burlington a chance to increase their lead to 2-0.

Thirty seconds later a screen shot from the blue-line beat Georgetown's Cowley. Although replaced near the end of the period by counterpart Mike Steer, coach Russiani said Cowley played a solid game in net for the Gems.

A breakaway drive by Burlington on a power play forced Cowley to make an excellent save, but the uncleared rebound made easy pickings for the Cougar following on the play for a 4-0 score.

It became increasingly evident the Geminis were having trouble coming out of their own end and they gave passes away to Burlington.

Another breakaway on a power play forced Cowley to flop, but the Burlington player Urban Jakobsson hoisted the puck over him.

FLOOD GATES

Burlington's captain Peter Flood made it 6-0 on a slap shot outside the slot with 2:57 left in the period on a power play.

In the third period Mike Doucette received a penalty after the first minute. As soon as Doucette finished his time in the box, Gemini Greg Robertson went off for slashing.



The Georgetown Junior B Geminis stayed with the Burlington Cougars in the first period Sunday, but penalties cost them in a 7-1 trouncing. In recent losses to Oakville and Burlington it has become

more and more evident the team needs a consistent goal scorer. Forward Riv Kennedy is still out with an injury but veteran Bob Dean has returned to the team.

(Herald photo)

when Mike Doucette scored on a slap shot from inside the blue-line.

GEM NOTES: The Oakville and Burlington games were similar because the Gems played well in the first part of the game, general manager Bob Webster said.

However, in the Oakville game the team let down in the first 10 minutes. Jay Barwell (injury) and Bob Dean (prior commitments) were out of the lineup



MIKE DOUCETTE
Sunday but Greg Robertson and Mike Stone filled

in. The general manager feels the team can gell, but he is beginning to wonder if practising once per week is enough when the other Junior B teams are practising twice per week. He said two practices per week is something the Geminis might have to look into for next year.

The Geminis still have two import cards left and the team is still looking. Webster said he is working on consolidating

connections for next year's team. Meanwhile coach Russiani said he is working on a couple of prospects with the obvious players being goal scorers.

The coach said the Geminis worked hard in the first period against Burlington and he thought the team should have been winning up to that point.

Russiani said the team has to work on its direction and discipline right away.

Sports beat



By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Sports Editor

A warhorse returns to the fray

In the best traditions of a John Wayne western, Jules Russiani, the veteran warhorse, has re-entered the combative fray of Junior B hockey.

The Georgetown Geminis, left unprotected without a top gun, called on the man they knew could help clean up their town and protect it from goal scoring prima donnas from Oakville, Burlington and the surrounding wastelands.

The townsfolk running the Gemini show chose their man carefully. When the 1981-2 season ended and it became known Jules declined to marshal another year, the Geminis were interested in his services.

Jules said no to both Acton and Georgetown stating his health and work commitments as reasons.

As a veteran coach in rep hockey for 10 years, Jules coached the Streetsville Major Bantams to the Silverstick championships and the Tri-County championships.

SILVERSTICK

With the Streetsville Major Midget he coached the team to the Silverstick and All-Ontario championship.

Jules was offered coaching jobs other than in Acton and Georgetown in the Central Junior B league but he chose the Acton Sabres.

In two years he guided the club to playoff contention both years. In the 1980-1 season he was coach of the year. At one point in the season the Sabres boasted a 17 game win streak.

Why did Jules join the Gemini flagship? Without a doubt the Geminis needed Russiani more than Russiani needed them.

Still active as a Junior B fan this season, Jules knew the plight of the Georgetown club and their predicament - that reason, coupled with his own desire to get back into competitive hockey adds some speculative light as to why he chose the job.

BOWLING CANCELLED

Jules was getting ready to go bowling Tuesday night when he received a call from Gemini president Bob "Zeke" McCandless. Russiani went down to the arena to talk things over that night and agreed to finish the season for the green and gold.

Bob Smuders left the impression with a number of insiders outside the Gemini cone of silence that he was having some trouble coaching, but the official line will deny it.

Russiani packs with him a unique knowledge of communicating with young hockey players and the ability to systematically plan his team's offensive and defensive potential against warring clubs. His forte is his game plan.

When Glen Murray, former Acton Sabre and now Georgetown Raider, was under Russiani, the coach developed Murray into the league's Most Valuable Player by keeping him out of the penalty box and showing him the value of working towards a team effort.

SABRE DEN

The Geminis are not lacking in players like Murray that might benefit from the ways and means of the former Acton coach. Gone are the days when Sabre players would be called upon for a meeting in Russiani's "Sabre Den".

But one wouldn't be surprised if any Gemini players who don't toe the straight and narrow might find themselves in similar circumstances.

From a recruiting point of view, Russiani has also proved his worthiness by doing something the Gemini executive members weren't able to do: sign Bob Dean.

Through his hockey connections Russiani was able to help Dave McGilroy with a scholarship and be made it possible for Glen Murray to try out for a professional hockey club in the United States.

The league heavyweights didn't take long to find out about Russiani's intention to re-entering Junior B hockey. Wednesday night Burlington's Phil Cameron phoned Jules about player transactions while Thursday morning Streetsville's Stan Kalapaca was interested in sending a high scoring forward to the Geminis. Kalapaca normally feuds with many of his hockey peers, but he was offering Pete Dwyer, a deal player (who two years ago was Streetsville's third highest scorer).

GOOD TALENT

Russiani is not inheriting a totally weak team. "There's some real good talent on the team, but it just hasn't been brought out," the new head coach says.

The strength is the team's defence and if the club can get some consistent goal scoring they'll be tough to beat, Russiani says.

With 22 games remaining in the schedule the question now becomes: "does he have time enough to mold a playoff contender?"

Through the reduction in the league teams, every Junior B club in the Central League makes the playoffs which can only help the Georgetown Geminis. The real season doesn't start until the opening playoff game - the past is just exhibition play.

There is some irony in Russiani accepting a Georgetown coaching position. When he climbed aboard the Gemini wagon both Acton and Georgetown were wallowing in the cellar positions of the league.

STRONGER TEAM

Russiani last year was a proponent of an Acton-Gemini merger at the end of the 1981-2 season to help build a stronger team.

Without the feeble efforts of the Dixie Beelives who left the league, and the improvement of Barrie and Milton, Georgetown and Acton have been left alone in the bottom of the standings this year.

If Georgetown and Acton lose badly at the gate and in the standings this year, a merger may be one step closer to a possibly next spring or summer.

If Russiani can pull the wallowing Geminis from the depths of their embarrassing season, he defeats an argument for merging Georgetown with Acton.

Regardless, the Gemini couldn't have made a better choice in asking Jules Russiani to help them salvage the season. The team needed an experienced warhorse.



It's basketball season for the GDHS boys teams. While M.M. Robinson defeated the Georgetown girls 35-42 in the semi-finals, the senior boys just started their season with a consolation tournament crown in Klng City Saturday. (Photo by Harold Branch)

Raiders blow barn door wide open

Georgetown avenge Durham loss with 13-3 victory

Experience provided the stability and youth put the points on the scoreboard in the Raider's 13-3 win over the Durham Huskies Friday night in Georgetown.

The Chrysler Raiders avenged their 7-4 loss to the Huskies two weeks

ago in Durham by displaying an aggressive style.

General manager Don Fendley says experience added to the club in the past month has helped stabilize the club and given players like Guy Cormier and Tim Turner the chance to put points

on the scoreboard for their team.

Cormier finished the night with a hat trick as did Bruce Ellison while Tim Turner collected a five point night with one



goal and four assists.

Dundas Senior A veteran Gord Cullen has helped out on defence and the difference is noticeable, Fendley says. Team unity seems to be a factor in recent wins, the general manager says. On and off the ice the Raiders are looking more like a team he says.

Brad Miller earned the GM's praise with another good game in net, stopping 31 shots while his Durham counterpart de-

flected 53 shots.

The Raiders led 5-2 after the first period, then blew the barn door open with five consecutive unanswered goals in the second period to humiliate the Huskies.

It was Doug Fry who started things off for Georgetown with a goal from Doug Brown and Tim Turner.

Then Bruce Ellison added another for the Raiders from Ron Twiss. Mike Desten scored at the mid-way mark assisted by Fry to give Georgetown a 3-2 lead.

In the remaining five minutes of the period Ellison scored from Scott McKenzie and Ron Twiss. Then Guy Cormier scored from Mike Desten and Tim Turner.

In the second period Cormier came back with his second goal of the night from Tim Turner and Barry Trood.

With nine minutes left in the period Glen Murray hustled for a goal from Doug Fry while Gary McFadyen hit between the pipes to give the Raiders a 8-2 lead. Murray and Fry assisted on McFadyen's goal.

On a power play Bruce Ellison scored his hat trick thanks to passes from Turner and Gerry Schaeffer. With 36 seconds before intermission, Doug Brown scored from Ron Twiss and Scott McKenzie.

Don Fendley complimented the work of players like Doug Brown and Barry Trood who gave good efforts and are steadily improving.

In the third period Tim Turner notched a goal from Glen Murray and Doug Fry. Then Guy Cormier completed his hat trick assisted by Scott McKenzie and Gerry Schaeffer.

The final goal of the game came on the power play by Raider John Saunders assisted by Ron Twiss and Doug Brown.

The team played well as a unit, according to GM Fendley. He is looking over goaltending prospects to back up Georgetown native Brad Miller.

One hopeful is Jeff Wilson who has experience in the Central League but is only 22 years old.

Racquet club win completely

The Georgetown Racquet Club's 'D' team continued its fine showing last week in the Toronto and District Squash League by winning all of its matches.

Andy Deruchie, Tom Kankainen, Paul Duval won by 3-0 scores; Jim Morwick won 3-1 and Roger Newman won the closest match 3-2.

The 'C' team lost 5-0 to a strong Trillium club. The 'B' team had a bye last week.

The annual Squash Dance was held at Holy Cross church last Saturday night. Diane and Vic Andrews headed the committee that made this event so successful.

Gemini profile

Peter juggles homework with hockey

Defenceman Peter Haller didn't play Junior B hockey last year although he was his team's captain and one of the best players on the ice the year before.

With the Sunny Acre Farm Mid-gets, co-coach Gary McFadyen remembers Haller because, "more than half the time he was the best player on the ice," McFadyen says.

Peter decided not to try out with the Geminis last year because of the

time commitment and he wanted to keep up with his studies. Instead, he played hockey for his Milton High School team.

Haller lives half-way between Milton and Georgetown but because of the school bus route he goes to school in Milton. The 18-year-old grade thirteen student wants to go to university to study engineering.

With math his best subject, Peter has attained an 80 per cent average,

but to be assured a spot in an engineering faculty he must average between 82 and 86 per cent he says.

Peter would like to go to an American university on a hockey scholarship but he says school is his top priority. The 5' 8" 150 pound defenceman finds it hard to play Milton Steamers because many of his high school friends are on the team.

He has two goals and four assists thus far in the season. In minor hockey, which he played in Georgetown, Peter

was a four town MVP and a rep MVP in one tournament.

Looking back, his greatest moment was winning the Silverstick championship as a Midget.



PETER HALLER

Sponge puck for 'Canford'

Sponge hockey is making another absorbing effort to squeeze more participants into their tournament style type of modified ice hockey.

Led by Frank Robertson, Halton Hills could become the first expansion area to compete in Winnipeg's heralded "Canford Cup", Robertson says.

He is hoping to send a team to the second annual World Sponge Hockey championships in Winnipeg.

About 3,000 sponge hockey players are represented in the Winnipeg Hockey League, but the sport hasn't caught on out East yet, Robertson says.

Last winter a number of sponge hockey

tournaments were held on an outdoor ice rink behind Norval Junction. The location will be the same for the 1983 season which will start whenever the weather makes the ice usable.

Sponge hockey players wear soft-soled shoes and use regular hockey sticks on a regulation size ice hockey rink.

The puck is of the same size and shape of a regular hockey puck, but it is of a soft composition and is known as a sponge puck.

Helmets and shoulder pads are optional. Physical contact is not allowed.

Anyone wishing to form a team is welcome to do so. Those interested can call Frank Robertson at 877-6718 at night and 877-5570 during the day.