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PLAYING THE FIELD

GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

Hornets sting GM Kentner

Dave Kentner, the man who pulls the strings for the Georgetown Raiders, is making no bones about it. His charges were whipped every which way imaginable last Sunday in Cambridge.

In case you missed it, the Raiders took a lesson from the finest amateur hockey club this side of Moscow, to the tune of 9-3. Kentner admits he became concerned when the defending Allan Cup champs pinned the Georgetown crew in their own end of the rink for the first five minutes of the match.

To sum it up, the Cambridge team accomplished just what they had in mind. They slapped the collective faces of those upstarts from Georgetown. They beat the Raiders on the ice, in the dressing room, and at the executive level. That's what is most painful for Kentner to admit.

Since Black Sunday, Kentner has spent considerable time reassuring the Raider faithful that some of the wheels are still on the wagon. The rest of the time has been spent on the phone, recruiting players to fill the eight Raider cards and five affiliate cards he has left. More than 50 such calls, he estimates, and a nifty \$700 tab from Ma Bell.

The problem, as the GM sees it, is that the Raiders haven't risen to the challenge of Senior 'A' hockey. Many of the players can't or won't make the personal commitment necessary, such as showing up for both weekly practices. Some of them are just plain out of shape.



DAVE KENTNER

"We have changed our standards. As it is, we can't allow another month to go by for our players to get in shape. Cambridge has shown us how wide the gap really is."

Kentner realizes he has only himself to blame for the current crisis. He permitted a philosophy to be carried over from the old days, when the Raiders were the kings of the Intermediate hockey hill, that just doesn't cut it at this level.

Historically, the Raiders get down to brass tacks after Christmas. They sign players in October that are unavailable for duty until the new year. They airlift in replacements to strengthen a weak defence, or bolster a puny attack.

"We've been forced to reconsider for next year, our present philosophy of expecting less than a total commitment until Christmas," Kentner said. "We have changed our standards. As it is, we can't allow another month to go by for our players to get in shape. Cambridge has shown us how wide the gap really is."

Every dark cloud has a silver lining, however, and if ever a man could find something beneficial in a 9-3 whipping, it is Kentner.

"Something magical happened on Sunday," Kentner said. "Saunders, Twiss, Gibb, Juri...you could see it. They have the eye of the tiger again."

All you Rocky Balboa fans know what he's alluding to. The Raider organization is not accustomed to failure. The players are winners, and they have been humiliated. More importantly, coach Gerry Inglis is humiliated. And angry.

In a nutshell, that means play-time is over, and the big boys are ready to get down to business. That's the business of beating the Cambridge Hornets, February 17 in Cambridge. The two clubs close out the regular schedule here a week later.

"This is fantastic, what it's all about," Kentner said, expanding on his silver-lining theme. "I'll actually get to be a GM this year. I'm going to make a contribution."

Translated, that means the airlift is already underway. New players will be on the scene shortly. Old ones that won't or can't devote themselves to the Raider cause will be ushered out. It won't stop until February 10, when the league asks for final rosters.

"We were rolling along on our laurels, but now Cambridge has awakened the sleeping giant," Kentner said. "But it won't change overnight."

It doesn't have to. You've got until February, Dave.

Purple victory

By SUE DUNNING
Herald correspondent

The Georgetown senior girls hockey team, Order of the Royal Purple, continue to dominate their league as they retain first place with a 6-0 record.

Sunday night the locals met Milton in a thrilling 4-2 victory as the opponents tried to upset Georgetown's undefeated streak. Milton jumped to a 1-0 lead at the 4:46 mark of the first period and the score held into the middle frame.

On the first shift of the second period Lisa Allen, assisted by Debby Osborne tied up the score, but Milton retaliated 10 seconds later to take the lead once again.

The Georgetown team then rallied from a 2-1 deficit with three third-period goals to defeat the second place Milton team.

Martie Dunning and Diane Taylor drew assists as Osborne beat the Milton netminder, tying the score at 2-2.

Denean Jones tallied two more unanswered goals, one of which was into an empty net as Milton put on pressure with an extra attacker. Dunning, Jodi Peebles and Sherry Geneau drew assists on the play. Goaltender Joan Gilmer once again played a fine strong game for Georgetown.

Ready to move up the Central Junior 'B' ladder
Gems look good to Burlington

By GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

The Georgetown Gemini are finally beginning to resemble the club that advanced to the Central Ontario Junior 'B' Hockey League finals last season.

The Gems turned in big effort in trimming the Burlington Cougars, 3-1, Saturday night at Gordon Alcott Arena,

for their third win in the past four games. After a slow start, the local juniors have improved their mark to seven wins in 19 games, and their improved play could combine with a soft spot in their schedule to produce a solid winning streak.

After sweeping a pair of games last weekend, the Gems took it on the

ch in Tuesday night in Streetsville, 6-0. Instead of wasting time licking their wounds, however, the Gems turned in one of their best performances of the season in declaring the Cougars Saturday night.

The Gem turnaround seems to be hinging on the steady and improving play of defenders Chris Peavoy and Dave

Doucette. Peavoy's aggressive, physical style is meshing perfectly with Doucette's unheralded yet efficient approach, and the results were evident Saturday.

Doucette opened the scoring in Saturday night's contest, at the 17:51 mark of the first period. Peavoy and Gerry Milne were credited with assists on the play.

Frank Gladiator, a major thorn for the Gemini during the semi-finals last year, continued to hold his hot hand as he counted an unassisted goal three minutes into the second period to pull the Cougars even.

Gem center Riv Kennedy duplicated

Gladiator's feat six minutes later, though, as he counted what turned out to be the winning goal. Bob Davey tallied an insurance marker midway through the final stanza, from Bill Bathgate and Doucette.

Wayne Cowley turned in a solid performance in the Georgetown goal, turning back all but one

of 33 Burlington shots. The Gems fired 36 pucks at the Burlington netminder.

"We're getting back to our system now, and the boys are executing very well," coach Jules Russiani says. "Dave Doucette is playing just excellent hockey, and he really goes unnoticed out there."

The loss in Streetsville Tuesday night really fit the pattern of most Georgetown-Derby games over the past two seasons. The Gems played the leaders even through 40 minutes of hockey, then let the game get away when they let down for a couple of shifts.

Despite manufacturing some good goal-scoring chances, the inability to capitalize hurt the Gems once again.

The Gems are looking at a chance to go on a tear, though. They host Oakville in what promises to be a tough game at Gordon Alcott Arena on Saturday night, then welcome Mimico for a rare Tuesday-night home game.

The locals are in Milton on a week Friday, before hosting Thornhill the following night. Then it's Milton, Acton and Burlington, before the Gems step in against the red-hot Derbys again.



Georgetown Gemini winger Kent Falby (7) positions himself in front of the Burlington goal in anticipation of a pass from center Riv Kennedy. The Gems downed the visiting Cougars, 3-1, Saturday night at Gordon Alcott Arena. (Herald photo by Chris Aagaard)

Raiders tame the Tiger

The Georgetown Raiders dumped the Dundas-Hamilton Tigers, 6-2, in a rather uneventful Ontario Senior 'A' Hockey League game at Gordon Alcott Arena Friday night.

The Raiders fell behind 2-0 to their guests, then pumped in three goals in the final six minutes of the open-

ing session to take a 3-2 lead in to the dressing room.

They upped the count to 4-2 when Doug Fry counted the lone goal of the middle frame, then salted it away with a pair in the third frame.

Raider general manager Dave Kentner admitted it was good to get back into the win-

column after losing 9-3 to Cambridge last week, but he also said his team's performance and the play of Dundas-Hamilton left him shaking his head.

"Can anyone tell me how we could beat Dundas so easily with a good, solid team effort, after they take a couple of games from Petrolia

and Cambridge?" Kentner complained. "It's unbelievable."

Hard working center Fry was the catalyst for the Raider win, with a hattrick. He scored his first of the night, from John Gibb and John Saunders, after the home side had dropped behind 2-0.

Eighteen seconds

later, Tim Ampleford connected from Juri Kudrasovs, and Kelly Kavic as the Raiders pulled even. Then, with just three seconds remaining on the first-period clock, Kavic scored from Ampleford. That late goal turned out to be the winner.

Gibb and Fry counted for Georgetown in the third period. In the Raider goal, Doug Dragasevich responded from the two early Tiger goals to blank the visitors the rest of the way, handling 22 of 24 shots in the process. Georgetown shooters blasted a total of 48 shots at Dundas-Hamilton goalie Bob Ferguson.

The Raiders see their next action at Gordon Alcott Arena Friday night, when they host Petrolia Squires. Game time is 8:30 p.m.

Chantler back in MTHL

Craig Chantler's on-again off-again season with the Young National bantams of the MTHL is on again, thanks to a ruling by an Ontario Supreme Court judge last week.

Mr. Justice John O'Driscoll granted an injunction that permitted Chantler, 14, to compete in the MTHL. The former Georgetown resident had missed three games over the past two weeks after the Ontario Minor Hockey Association had obtained a court order that forced the MTHL to suspend Chantler.

The OMHA wanted to prevent Chantler and Wayne Holmes of Orangeville from playing with

the Young Nationals because they believe the boys moved to North York this fall for the sole purpose of playing hockey. That's not permissible under Canadian Amateur Hockey Association rules.

The CAHA forced the MTHL, which had been allowing Chantler and Holmes to play as North York residents, to suspend the players. Chantler moved from his Greystone Crescent residence in the fall to a North York residence under a joint custody order of the Family Division of the Provincial Court. He now attends Victoria Park high school.

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North Halton rink preparing to host OCA junior playdowns in December

By GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

It's been a long time since a local rink made it past the Ontario Curling Association zone playdowns to regional or provincial play. But if there was ever going to be a year for it, this is it.

The North Halton Golf and Curling Club will host as many as 16 rinks at the OCA junior men's Zone IX playdowns the weekend of December

16-18, and that fact alone is an ace-in-the-hole for the local rink of Glen Farrow, Andy Hicks, Jim Teetzel and Jim Grant.

Coach Barry Campbell feels the home rink holds a tremendous advantage in OCA play. He also says the local foursome have the right combination of talent to sweep right into the next round.

"I feel confident they can win," Campbell said last week at the North Halton club. "They have good shooters at every position, and they are all good, strong sweepers."

"They lack a little in experience, no question about that, but they make up for it with enthusiasm and desire."

The foursome will be skipped by Farrow, who

at 17, is the only member returning from the previous year's crew. That team came within a single end of upsetting eventual zone champs Chinguacousy to advance to the regionals.

Farrow sees this year's rink as a little stronger than that crew. He also feels more pressure as skip, after playing second last

year.

"I know some of the key players and the strengths of some of the teams," Farrow said. "I also know what strategy they used last year."

"We are stronger this year because all the guys are pretty well on-the-gun with their shots. It will help a lot playing in our own rink, too."

Farrow's team defeated Bill Sanford's rink and Scott Hunter's rink in an intra-club playoff to win the right to represent North Halton this year. The winners are all members of the 28-curler house league at the club.

The North Halton rink will now compete in a series of exhibition matches with Brampton and Chinguacousy rinks in an effort to prepare for the upcoming playdowns. They will be on the ice at their own club virtually every day honing their games.

"We'll be curling five days a week from now until the playoffs," vice Andy Hicks, a three-year curling veteran said. "We'll be here at night, and during our lunch hours on school days."

"We're going all-out to win."



The North Halton Golf and Curling Club may have a winning combination in their junior men's rink. (Left to right) Vice Andy Hicks, skip Glen Farrow, second Jim Teetzel and lead Jim Grant will compete at the Ontario Curling Association Zone IX playdowns, which will be hosted by North Halton December 16-18. (Herald photo)

Sports in brief

Cougars declawed

Janice Gagne exploded for 22 points to lead the Trojans to a 76-25 demolition of the Cougars in Georgetown Ladies Basketball League action last Wednesday night at Centennial School.

Anita Stankus added 18 points to the Trojan margin, and Sue Tesar hit for 16 points.

Sandra Couzens put some bite into the Cougar attack with 11 points, and Leslie Durham contributed five points.

In other league action, the Capricorns slipped past the Mustangs, 39-31.

Sylvia Oprica paced the Caps with 10 points, and Meredith MacLaren chipped in seven points.

Corinne Buisman was high scorer for the Mustangs with 14. Wendy Forsyth downed another eight points.

Roxys roll

Georgetown were the visitors to Milton Arena in Tri-County Hockey League action this past week as the Roxy minor atoms outshot Milton 16-11 and outscored them 5-4.

Though tired from their tournament in Buffalo and missing a few players, the team dug in and came up with the victory.

Goals were scored by Greg Dobbin (2), Ryan Ward and Shawn Pearson. Tim Presswood's goal, the winner was scored while Georgetown was killing a penalty.

Much-deserved assists by Ryan Pells, Stephen Leoni, Gord Buchan, Scott McGuigan and Greg Dobbin. Netminder Kevin McMurray was credited with the win.

Rebs dominate

By KAREN PAYNE
Herald correspondent

The Georgetown District High School wrestling Rebels hosted Humberview Secondary School of Bolton last Wednesday.

Georgetown won 17 of 19 matches.

"The boys did very well," said coach Gord Phillips. "It's still too early to predict the outcome of the season. I'll know better on December 10 when we play Bishop Ryan of Hamilton."

Bishop Ryan are the Ontario champions. When Georgetown competes in that meet they will be playing the 12 top Ontario schools. That should give them a pretty good idea of where they stand.

Bob Sweezy and Doug Gillespie each won their matches on Wednesday. Sweezy had his opponent pinned in under 10 seconds.

Seniors ousted

The Georgetown District High School senior girls basketball team were defeated in the Halton semi-finals on Tuesday.

They went to M.M. Robinson of Burlington for their final game of the season. The final score was 32-31 for the host team.

"We should have won," explained coach Smye. "We had control throughout most of the game and the final quarter was tense as you can see from the final score. We didn't have the offence to come out victorious."

"We had an excellent season this year. Next year we'll have a lot of the seniors back and some excellent juniors moving up."

Bants fight hard

The Georgetown M and M Pro Sports major bantams got goals from four different players and a strong performance from goaltender Mike Chuby in a hard-fought 4-3 win over Streetsville in Tri-County hockey action on the weekend.

Terry Dixon, Chuck Peebles, Rory Kennedy and Rob Cooper all found the range for the locals. Tim Bennett had a pair of assists, with Jeff Amato, Mark Zebedee, Dixon and goaltender Chuby all earning single helpers.