

# Remembering 1983: A final look back in Sports, July - December



GIFL playoff action



BMX champ Eastwood



Soccer Falcon Tim Davis



Oldtimer Ron Ellis



Pro racer John Cornwell

## The thrill of victory, the agony of defeat -- in 1983

**JULY**  
Kim Harnois, a 17-year-old disabled swimmer from Georgetown, made headlines in July when she set three Canadian records at the Ontario Games for the Physically Disabled in Brampton. Her gold medal performances in the 100 and 200 meter freestyle events, and the 100 meter backstroke, earned her a spot with the provincial team that would compete at the Canadian Games, in Sudbury the following month.

Professional motorcycle racer Jon Cornwell was also making news, as he prepared to grab a possible \$43,000 in purse money at the Canadian Half-Mile Championships, in Flamboro.

Cornwell, a four-year pro at the age of 21, was scheduled to race in three classes. As it turned out, he was plagued by engine problems, and managed a pair of fourths.

**AUGUST**  
Georgetown Industrial Hockey League president Don Fendley and timekeeper-statistician Ron Copland announced to The Herald they would be giving up their positions after nine years with the league. With the disbanding of defending champions Akers-Clark, the existence of the league is threatened.

It was the Acton Curling Club winning the 3rd annual Powderpuff Softball Tournament. The Burgundy Brewers of the local league made it as far as the consolation finals, where they lost 8-4 to Sam Stone of Bramalea.

The Jr. 'B' baseball Eagles closed out their regular season in disappointing fashion, dropping a doubleheader to Welland. However, the birds advanced to the OBA championship tourney by dumping Thorold in the qualifying round.

The Glen Specters finished second overall

in the 10-team Inter County Fastball League. They drew Hillsburgh in the opening round of the playoffs.

Finally, GDHS Grade 13 student Doug Gillespie, 17, wrote school and government officials in a desperate bid to keep wrestling alive in Georgetown.

"Georgetown without wrestling is like Montreal without hockey," Gillespie told The Herald.

**SEPTEMBER**  
The Jr. 'B' Eagles kicked off September in fine fashion, coming within a whisker of winning an OBA crown at the championship tournament in St. Catharines.

The locals made the final with a miracle rally in the semi-final game, scoring seven runs in their half of the last inning to eliminate a 9-3 deficit and upset Listowel 10-9. They failed, 8-7 to host St. Catharines in the final, leaving Paul Gulatini stranded on third base in their final at bat.

The Glen Specters were in the playoffs and winning, winning three of four games against Hillsburgh to qualify for the league semi-finals against Fergus. The Glen men then grabbed the opener of that series, before dropping three consecutive decisions to be ousted.

Twelve divisional champions were crowned as the Georgetown Youth Soccer Club held its 'Cup Day'.

Mary Jones hit a two-run homer to spark Mostly Golden to an 11-7 victory over the Knight Riders in the Powderpuff Softball championship game.

The Park Lincolns defeated the SOBs, 12-9, to win the annual Choice

Air Slo-Pitch Tournament.

Finally, Tim Tolton reports that the M and M Pro Sports will face the regular-season champion Greeks in the GFFL championship game.

**OCTOBER**  
The Greeks opened October by rolling to an easy 37-13 victory over the M and M Pro Sports in the GFFL final.

The Georgetown Raiders played their first ever Senior 'A' hockey game, dropping a 6-4 count to the defending Allan Cup champion Cambridge Hornets. Meanwhile, the Gems dropped their season opener, 7-2, to the Streetsville Derbys.

Allison's Cornhuskers won the GIFL title, taking the best-of-seven final from the M and M Pro Sports in five games.

Rose Radyk, the proprietor of the Georgetown Bowl, was honored by the Bowling Proprietors Association of Ontario, and the Five-pin Bowlers Association. They gave her a special commemorative plaque at their 'Builders of the Bowling

Industry's awards dinner in Mississauga.

Georgetown motorcycle racer Mike Doucette is listed in 14th spot in the race for the White Memorial Trophy, the top Canadian Motorcycle Association award.

The Orion NHL Oldtimers were in town for an exhibition game against the senior Raiders. The Oldtimers featured former stars such as Ron Ellis, Keith McCreary, Andy Bathgate, Rene Robert, Syl Apps, Dave Burrows and Rod Selling.

The Centennial Chargers dominated their Halton cross-country finals, winning all four divisional crowns. They were paced by the performance of 11-year-old Bob Donker, who ran to a first-place finish against a field of 13 and 14-year-olds.

**NOVEMBER**  
The weather was turning cold, but Eric Hopkins wasn't. The GDHS Rebel runner won his junior race at the Peel-Halton finals.

The Rebels were sizzling a week later at the OFSAA finals at the

London Ski Club. They won both the midget

boys and girls crowns, and were ranked second overall in the province among the 32 schools that competed.

Still on the high school scene, new teacher Gord Phillips had agreed to take on coaching the wrestling team. Phillips, 26, a former football and track coach, would be joined by former Rebels Kevin Brown and Bill Fournier, in their roles as assistant coaches.

Sixteen-year-old Leah Smeaton represented the Georgetown Figure Skating Club at the Central Ontario sectional competition in Owen Sound. She competed as a novice girl, in her fourth trip to the sectionals.

Meanwhile, Gemini coach Jules Russiani fielded 'goon hockey' charges levelled against him by Oakville Blades

GM Murray Walker, calling the accusations "out and out lies."

The North Halton Golf and Country Club announced they will host 18 links for the Ontario Curling Association junior men's play-downs, the weekend of December 16-18. The rink of skip Glen Farrow, Andy Hicks, Jim Teetzel and Jim Grant will represent North Halton.

Finally, Ontario Supreme Court Justice Mr. John O'Driscoll granted an injunction allowing Georgetown's Craig Chandler, 14, to compete for the MTHL Young National bantams.

**DECEMBER**  
The GDHS junior Rebels swept to the championship at the Acton basketball tournament, topping Milton 68-48 in the final. Dean Marks led all the Georgetown scorers with 22 points. The GDHS swim Rebs

were back in form, dominating the McMaster University meet. The Rebs outshone 500 swimmers from 21 schools, placing swimmers in the top-3 of almost every one of the 26 events.

The Centennial Chargers girls volleyball team captured their third consecutive Halton championship. They defeated crosstown rivals Holy Cross in the finals, 15-8, 15-4.

Figure skater Darren Kemp, 17, finished second overall as a Novice man at the Eastern Divisional finals at the Thornhill Community Center. Kemp will compete at the national finals, January 9 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Finally, Georgetown resident Gary Morrow has been drafted by the Toronto Blizzard of the North American Soccer League.

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R.C. Austin, P.Eng.  
Town Engineer

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