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GOING DOWN?

Who says the Swedes don't like body contact? Don't try and tell that to this Labelmaster forward, who got crunched on this play in front of Munksund goalie Per Lidman. (Herald photo by Gerry Timbers)

Swedes lose 6-3

The Georgetown Labelmaster minor midgets combined the best of European and Canadian hockey to hand a touring team from Munksund, Sweden, a 6-3 whipping, before a full house at Gordon Alcott Arena Thursday night.

The locals fell behind 10 minutes into the match when Daniel Pettersson, named the most-valuable-player for the Swedes after the match, beat Georgetown goalie Steve Tucker with a well-placed wrist shot.

The locals took control after that goal, though, with good old-fashioned Canadian hustle in the Swedish end of the rink. The relentless forechecking paid off exactly one minute later, when Heath Lockhurst beat Per Lidman in the Munksund goal to even the count at 1-1.

Mark Pries slammed home a pass from Brian Doherty seconds later to give the locals the lead. Georgetown never trailed after that.

Georgetown led the match, 4-3, after two complete periods, then added a pair of unanswered goals in the final session to make it a 6-3 final.

Mike Teetzel, Jim Bick, Pries and Doherty scored for Georgetown. Doherty, who had a goal and three assists on the night, was named the Labelmaster MVP.

After the game, Georgetown coach Les Ryan said that his team had planned to slow down the Swedes with a physical, checking game.

"They're known not to like the contact, that's their biggest problem," Ryan said. "They have excellent skills. If they learn to use body contact, they will be an excellent club."

Georgetown Minor Hockey Association president Ian Ward was

bearing after the game, about the final score, and about how the entire evening had run without a snag.

Ward heaped praise on GMHA executives Wayne Pries and Jim Bray, who orchestrated and supervised every moment of the Swedish delegation spent in Georgetown.

The stay included a pre-game meal for the players, coaches and families of both clubs, pre-game ceremonies, the traditional exchange of gifts, and a post-game reception.

"I'm proud of Wayne and Jim, and our players, for the great hospitality we showed them," Ward said. "They'll leave Georgetown with many good memories."

The Swedes left town with a load of merchandise, including Georgetown hockey sweaters, pins, flags, posters and Tee-shirts to commemorate their stay here.

Ward also announced that the GMHA executive will begin investigating the possibility of sending a local club on a European tour within the next three years.

Liftechers win

By R.A. DUBY
Herald correspondent

A concerted team effort spirited Georgetown's Liftech major atoms to a 2-1 victory over a strong defensive Milton team this week. Coaches Dave Parent and Clint Guest credit the effort put forth by every player for the win.

The fast-paced game saw Georgetown continually take the play to Milton, only to be stopped by a hard-hitting defence.

Goalkeeper Jason Morey made several key saves throughout the game and held the Milton shooters to one goal. In the second period Jake Foulstrup managed to break through the Milton defence and tie the game. Late in the period, Doug Crawford came up with the winning goal, assisted by Brad DUBY.

In the third period Milton fought desperately to tie the game but were frustrated by Craig Juby and Bob Dezeew who managed to break up Milton plays at centre ice. Late in the period, Georgetown was forced to kill off penalties as Milton continued to keep the pressure on. Pulling their goaltender with less than one minute to play, Milton still couldn't overcome the team effort exhibited by Georgetown.

Chance to bowl

Openings are now available at the Georgetown Bowl in the ladies afternoon league, the evening mixed league, and the young adult league. New bowlers are welcome.

Open public bowling is on weekdays after 9 p.m., except Thursdays (after 7 p.m.), Saturdays (after 1 p.m.) and Sundays (from 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., and after 9 p.m.).

For more information, contact the Georgetown Bowl at 877-9922.

Cougars roar

Leslie Durham connected for 12 points to lead the Cougars to a 40-35 victory over the Mustangs in Georgetown Ladies Basketball League action Wednesday night at Centennial School.

Daiga Zelek hit for seven points for the winners, while June Nicholson and Carolyn Heron both netted six points.

Hermania Henderson paced the Mustang shooters with nine points. Wendy Forsyth, Corinne Bulman and Lynn Cartwright all downed six points in a losing cause.

In other action, the Trojans downed the Capricorns, 55-32. Janice Gagne and Lorraine Brown paced the winning side with 12 points apiece. Joy Thompson added 10 more to the winning total.

Janet McKay was the top Capricorn shooter with 14 points. Pat Nessit connected for six points.

Squash success

It was a good week for Georgetown in the Men's Inter-Club Squash 'D' League, as they swept a pair of matches.

Tuesday they hosted Brampton Golf and Country Club, and the locals won all five match-ups.

Murray Jans, John McNally and Kevin Sandifer were all perfect, winning their games 3-0. Ken Thorn and Brian Day were both 3-1 winners.

Thursday the locals hosted Markvale of Mississauga, taking a 4-1 team decision.

Thorn paced the winners, sweeping his match 3-0. Roger Newman won handily, 3-1, while Day and Sandifer all won 3-2 squeakers.

Rob Allison was upset, 2-3.

Video atoms tie

In Tri-County Hockey League action Saturday afternoon, Georgetown H and H Video minor atoms tied Brampton 1-1.

Georgetown's Jake Mashinter scored in the third period, assisted by Steve and Jeff Wright. Brampton came back to tie it up with only three minutes remaining. Georgetown goalie Marc St. Pierre was outstanding, handling 22 shots against him.

Novice tourney

By IRENE McCAULEY
Herald correspondent

The Georgetown novice "AA" Chrysler's competed in the Milton Beaver Christmas Hockey Tournament.

Their first game against Milton ended in a 4-0 defeat.

Their next game against Galt ended in a 1-1 tie with Greg MacLeish scoring on a perfect pass from Troy Schirk. The boys skated and checked for three periods and with a few less goalposts the game could have been ours.

Amherst, N.Y., were their next rivals and with a super effort from the whole team, it was a 1-1 tie until the third period.

Greg MacLeish banged home a rebound from a shot by Blaine McCauley.

This was the team's first tournament and they played super.

Majors narrowly miss title

By GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

The Georgetown Sunny Acres midgets bowed 3-2 to Galt in a thrilling championship match, as the 18th annual GMHA Midget Hockey Tournament drew to a close Sunday night at Gordon Alcott Arena.

The Sunny Acres crew came within a whisker of being the first Georgetown team to win the tourney in 15 years, but they fell to the same club that defeated them in last year's consolation round finals. The score was 6-4 that time around.

The locals opened the tourney Tuesday night with a miracle 3-2 win over Richmond Hill, in what has to be the finest

game played at Gordon Alcott Arena this winter. They moved on with a convincing 5-1 thrashing of Preston Thursday night, then qualified for the final by doubling the Mississauga Black Hawks, 4-2, Saturday night.

An excellent defensive club, Galt allowed just four goals against in four tournament games. They beat Orangeville 6-2 in their opener, before registering shutout victories over Simcoe (7-0) and Hamilton (5-0).

Galt goaltender Chris Davidson won a trophy as the best puck-stopper at the tourney.

It appeared it was going to be Georgetown's day in the first period, when Scott Earley and Marc Bertrand scored unassisted goals to give the locals a 2-0 lead.

Steve McKellar beat Georgetown goalie Mike Lorito with just six seconds left on the first-period clock to cut the margin to 2-1. Shawn Walsh scored in both the second and third periods to give Galt the decision.

"I'm tremendously disappointed for the kids, because they have really pulled together to become winners," Georgetown coach Fin Arnold said. "They gave a tremendous effort, and have nothing to hang their heads about. They just ran into a hot goaltender."

Center Wayne Morrow fired two goals to pace the locals into the final, as Georgetown topped Mississauga 4-2. Morrow was named the tourney MVP following the final against Galt.

Steve Turner and Glen Leslie added single markers for Georgetown.

Brent Smith was the scoring hero in Georgetown's 5-1 win over Preston. The big winger fired a hat-trick, to go with singles from Morrow and Todd Cull.

The best game of the entire tourney had to be the opening game win over Richmond Hill, in which Leslie and Morrow scored 27 seconds apart in the final minute of play to give Georgetown a 3-2 decision.

Jay Anderson also scored for Georgetown.

In Sunday's other action, Markham outscored Owen Sound, 5-3, to win the consolation title.

Markham lost their opener, 5-3, to Oshawa, but rallied back with victories over Milton and Richmond Hill.



There was some great action at the 18th annual GMHA Midget Hockey Tournament last week, beginning with the ceremonial puck-drop (top) on Tuesday. Former hockey great "King" Clancy was on hand for the opening face-off, between Georgetown's Keith Hieger (right) and Richmond Hill captain Angelo DeAngelis. The Sunny Acres midgets advanced to the final against Galt (bottom), where they lost 3-2. Todd Cull and Kevin Barclay are pictured here in championship game action. Georgetown's Wayne Morrow was named the tourney's MVP (left center) while Galt captain Mike Smith accepted the championship trophy from Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller. (Herald photos by Gerry Timbers)

PLAYING THE FIELD

GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

Swedes find Hockey Town

Hockey is a universal language, and we speak it better in Georgetown than anywhere else in the world.

That was never more evident than it was Thursday, when Hockey Town, Canada, hosted a touring bantam-aged hockey club from Munksund, Sweden. We rolled out the proverbial red carpet for our Scandinavian guests, providing everything necessary to make their brief stay in this community a memorable one.

Well, almost everything. This is Hockey Town, and we don't take a back seat to anyone once the action starts. Our Labelmaster minor midgets may have been perfectly hospitable at the pre-game meal and ceremonies, but they turned downright businesslike in handing their guests a 6-3 whipping on the ice.

Granted, this was the fifth setback in six games for the Swedes. Georgetown had provided the most impressive opposition his boys had faced.

"The Georgetown boys were strong in the body. They played very good hockey - almost European," Jonsson said through interpreter Bjorn Brumann. "We have had Canadian teams come to our city before, so we know how they play. I was surprised, but Georgetown did not play as physical as I expected. Their skills were better than I expected."

STIG JONSSON

"I learned that you have to play the body much more, and shoot much more often. We also have to go after rebounds, the way the Georgetown players do."

Jonsson, a 52-year-old school teacher, is not to be taken lightly as a hockey coach. His team is currently unbeaten in 70 games, a streak that has lasted three seasons now. In 30 league matches last year, his team scored 365 times, while allowing 42 goals against. Those numbers speak for themselves.

Munksund, for those of us who aren't geography majors, is a northern community of about 40,000. The team that played here competes in a nine-team city league.

Despite his successes on the home front, though, Jonsson says he learned many valuable lessons as a coach on his swing through Ontario. He expects his charges will cross the Atlantic a vastly improved band of shiny players.

"I learned that you have to play the body much more, and shoot much more often," Jonsson told the press after the game. "We also have to go after rebounds, the way the Georgetown players do."

Like any hockey coach, Jonsson is a competitor. The match had no sooner become history when he promised reporters his club would easily win a return match, on home ice.

"We would beat them if they came over to Sweden," Jonsson grinned. We have good skating players, and there would be more skating on our ice. Our players had trouble adjusting to the smaller ice surfaces here."

Jonsson also raised some other valid excuses for his team's inability to win here. For starters, his lads are only 14, bantam-aged. They face off against older minor and major midget teams on this tour.

The coach also brought up his team's busy schedule. A few too many late nights, combined with the extensive travelling between communities, makes for a tired roster.

He wasn't complaining, however. Just defending his troops, as any hockey coach would do.

"Next week we would come again, if we could," he said. "Canada is a very beautiful country, and the people are very nice."

"The atmosphere in the arenas before the game is tremendous. We have been overwhelmed by all the gifts we have received, and by your hospitality."

Even if we did whip you, 6-3. Right Stig?