Rebels sweep to sixth Halton swim title

By GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

The Georgetown District High School swimming Rebels continued to dominate swimming in Ontario, winning the Halton championship for the sixth consecutive year Wednesday at the Etobicoke Olympium.

Rebel swimmers amassed 843 team points to capture the Halton title, 232 points ahead of second-place Q.E. Park. Cross-town rivals, the Acton Redmen, made it a great day for Halton Hills, as they accumulated 364 points and a fourth-place team standing.

Both Georgetown and Acton will go on to the Peel-Halton finals, today at the Olympium.

Winning the Haltons is becoming old hat for Georgetown coach Tom Adams, and it showed in his post-meet comments.

"It was a good meet for us," he said. "All our kids performed well.

The Rebels topped both the junior and senior competitions. The junior Rebs earned 346 points, good enough to edge out Q.E. Park at 335. The senior Rebels ran away and hid, with 497 points, almost double the 276 points earned by the Q.E. Park seniors.

Rebel swimmers accumulated eight individual firsts, 17 seconds, and 12 thirds. Four Georgetown relay teams swam to firsts, setting new Halton records along the way.

Six times Georgetown swimmers finished one-two in races, and twice Rebel swimmers were first and third.

The senior girls medley relay team of Karen Pepper, Ana Piquerias, Erin McIntyre and Kathy Harris started the finals off on the right foot when they blazed to victory in record time. The boys senior medley team - John Millington, Glen Farrow, Don Elson and Christian Book - followed that performance by taking another first.

Kathy Harris, Jenni Lusby, Sheila MacDonald and Debbie Newman set a new Halton mark in the senior girls 4 x 200 meter freestyle relay.

Diedrik Millenaar, Jon Morwick, Carber Goodlet and Christian Book duplicated that feat in the senior boys 4 x 200 meter freestyle relay.

Sue Masson was the individual star of the day for Georgetown, setting two new Halton records while winning three events. She set new standards in the senior girls 100 meter freestyle and 100 meter backstroke, and won the 50 meter freestyle.

Sheila MacDonald (senior girls 200 meter freestyle), Karen Pepper (senior girls 100 meter individual medley), Jason Dodokin (junior boys 50 meter butterfly), Rick Walterson (senior boys 100 meter freestyle) and John Millington (senior boys 100 meter backstroke) were the other individual winners for Georgetown.

Redmen finish fourth

The Acton Redmen swimmers surprised everybody by finishing fourth at the Halton finals last Thursday at the Etobicoke Olympium.

Paced by their record-smashing junior girls medley relay team, the small Acton contingent earned 364 team points to finish behind Georgetown, Q.E. Park and Burlington's Nelson. The Acton juniors were third overall, while the Redmen seniors were fourth best.

By finishing fourth as a team, the Redmen qualified for the Peel-Halton meet, held this week at the Olympium.

Carolyn Sewell, Kirsten Jarvis, Heather Quinn and Melanie Johnston set the pace for Acton when they won the junior medley relay.

Next in line were Jack Minaber, Scott Nowlan, Mike Bowers and Kenny Bowers, who combined to win the junior boys 4 x 200 freestyle relay.

Junior Carolyn Sewell also had a good day as an individual competitor, taking seconds in the 50 meter freestyle competition and the 100 meter individual medley.

Kirsten Jarvis also won a second in the junior 50 meter butterfly.

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the HERALD
Sportsweek
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PLAYING THE FIELD

GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Sports Editor

Respect is key to success for couples

The couple that plays together, stays together, is how the adage goes. The Shapcotts and the McDermots prove it true every time they step out onto the ice.

The two curling couples are the top mixed rink at the North Halton Golf and Curling Club, representing the locals at the zone and provincial playdowns the past two seasons. They claim the marital factor has worked in their favor, helping them to become a more cohesive unit.

"I think in our case, it's an advantage, but I've seen cases where it has been a distinct disadvantage," says Steve McDermot, a 26-year curling veteran who has made seven appearances in provincial championships. "We've played together so long, we respect each other out there. We're compatible on the ice."

Not hard to believe when you consider that curling helped bring the McDermots together 17 years ago. It seems Steve and Shirley got to know each other curling for the company team, when they both worked for Moore Business Forms in Winnipeg.

Steve, 40, is all business. A serious, competitive curler, he is the skip. He calls the shots.

"I don't curl because I enjoy it," he explains. "Golf is sociable. Curling is only fun when you win."

STEVE MCDERMOT

SHIRLEY MCDERMOT

Shirley can fool you. Behind her pretty face and soft-spoken approach is a slightly less cut-throat competitor. She saves her best, or worst, for those special days when she meets up with teammate Joan Shapcott in regular league play at North Halton.

"I think I enjoy the sport, but I'm also very competitive," Shirley admits. "I'm especially competitive with Joan. When I step out against her, I want to beat her."

She hears you, Shirley. The baby of the team with just six years of curling under her broom, George Shapcott's wife is learning the proverbial ropes quickly.

"Once we come off the ice, we're friends," young Joan says of Shirley. "But we're both out there to win."

If there's one theme all four members of the rink rally around, it's mutual respect. Skip or lead, husband or wife, veteran or rookie, all team members have to respect and support each other. Success in this key area makes the McDermot-Shapcott rink a perennial provincial contender.

"I used to get down on Shirley. If she made a mental error, I had a tendency to react," Steve admits. "Playing skip, though, I have to keep my cool."

"I know Steve so well now, and I have so much confidence in him," Shirley confirms. "Confidence is what you have to have in your skip."

On occasion, curling has provided the McDermots with a special kind of closeness. Their successes certainly mean more, and will hold longer, than anything won for the Gipper.

"It's been a positive experience," Steve says of being his wife's teammate. "We have both shared in some success, and it has been gratifying. Really, that's what it's been all about."

Sounds like a goodbye speech, eh? Well, Steve says that being eliminated at the Zone playdowns this year was especially frustrating for him, especially since he was convinced their rink was one of the best two at the competition and should have easily qualified for the Ontario bonspiel. He says increasing work and family responsibilities may force him to hang up his broom soon.

Shirley, always the faithful wife and teammate, says she will more than likely hang up her tack if hubbie Steve packs it in. Except, of course, for those ladies-league duels with Shapcott.

More likely, though, Shirley just won't let Steve retire.

"As long as we have a chance, I'll talk him into it," she says with a sly smile. "And we've got a few more years left, yet."

Mimico forward Danny Walsh (14) and Georgetown Gemini defender Steve Marcolini (5) watch a high-flying puck heading towards Gem goalie Wayne Cowley, who braces to make the save, during Central Ontario Junior 'B' playoff action last Tuesday night at Gordon Alcott Arena. The Gems lost this game, 8-5, but have battled back to even the series at three games apiece.
(Herald photo by Gerry Timbers)

Series even at three games apiece

Gems battle back in playoffs

The Georgetown Geminis were forced to come up with their two finest efforts of the season to force a seventh and deciding game in their quarter-final playoff round against the Mimico Monarchs, in Central Ontario Junior 'B' hockey action this week.

The Gems were pushed to the brink of elimination when the Monarchs took an 8-5 decision at Gordon Alcott Arena last Tuesday night, and followed that performance up with a 6-5 overtime win the next evening in Mimico.

Facing an early golf season, the Gems responded with two near-perfect efforts, winning 5-2 at home Saturday night, and 6-0 in Mimico Sunday. Sunday's victory was a masterpiece.

All-star goaltender Wayne Cowley set the tone of Sunday's game when he beat Mimico shooter Rob Russell on a first-period penalty shot. Moments later, Mike Monahan and Pat Bates scored as the Gems took control with a 2-0 lead.

Both goals were breakaway efforts, coming just 34 seconds apart. The Monarchs were never in the contest after that.

Bill Bathgate scored on a pretty unassisted effort five minutes into the middle session, as the Gems tightened their stranglehold. Then Kevin Frank took over.

The shifty winger scored three straight goals, including two power play markers, as the locals iced the victory.

Saturday's victory was another no-passengers effort, highlighted by Cowley's outstanding goaltending.

Cowley turned away 32 of 34 Mimico shots, many of which were dangerous, close-in opportunities.

Biv Kennedy sparked the win with a pair of goals and an assist on a power play marker by Bathgate. Bob Dean and Bob Davey counted the other Gemini markers.

Kennedy and Terry West both potted a pair of goals in Georgetown's overtime loss last Wednesday night. Monahan counted the fifth Gem marker.

Tuesday night's loss to Mimico was the low-point of the Gemini season, as they blew 3-1 and 4-3 leads. The Monarchs won it with five third-period goals, including three power play markers and a shorthanded effort.

Bathgate, Mark Hamilton, Gord McArthur, Monahan and Frank scored Gemini goals.

The seventh game of this set was scheduled for last night at Gordon Alcott Arena. The winner will go on to meet the defending champion Streetsville Derbys, who disposed of the Burlington Cougars in five games.

Brian Bell wins Zone

Will bowl in Provincials

Georgetown bantam bowler Brian Bell outrolled 16 other competitors at the Central Ontario Zone bowling finals Sunday in Milton, earning the right to compete at the provincial championships in Scarborough next month.

Bell, 11, of Irwin Crescent, combined scores of 173, 216 and 191 to win the Zone title. His total score of 580 was just a single pin better than the 579 registered by Steve Trotman of April Lanes in Guelph.

Bell had begun his third and final game trailing Trotman by 16 pins. He didn't cinch the zone title until he completed a spare in the 10th frame.

Bell will now compete at the provincials, set for Mar. 11 in Scarborough.

The Georgetown bantam girl, Tracy Weeks, was trailing the leader by only 14 pins after the second game. However, she did not have the same persistance as Bell and did not place. This event was taken by Jackie Woodley, with Angela Dunn of Acton second. The other local singles' contenders - juniors, Julie McCorry and Chris Somers, and seniors Paul Chaplin and Jane Hicks - were never in contention. They were unable to solve the demands of the lanes in Milton.

On Saturday in Guelph, the Georgetown bantam girls were knocking on the door but just failed to make it a third consecutive trip to the provincials. The girls from Avondale managed to hold on even though the locals threw the highest game of the tournament. The Georgetown team failed to overhaul the leaders by only 23 pins, rolling 2510 to 2533. Their

BRIAN BELL

2510 would have been sufficient to win in the previous years. Led by coach Shirley Chaplin, Sarah Gurr, Carol Ferguson, Tracy Ball, Christa Bird and Sharron Lounds were disappointed runners-up after bowling so well over their average.

The junior girls' team coached by Andy Parent were in a neck-to-neck battle for the lead in the third game with Orangeville. While these top teams were in this close battle, on the other side of the lanes the the Village girls came up from behind to defeat them both. The local girls in this fight were Sandra Weeks, Denise Alton, Trina Bassett, Teri Korzack and T.J. Cowbrough.

Three wins have Raiders near second

Three straight wins have the Georgetown Raiders in a position to finish as high as second place in their inaugural Ontario Senior 'A' Hockey League season.

After dumping Barrie 11-6 last Wednesday, the Raiders returned to Gordon Alcott Arena Friday night for their final home game of the season. It was a great night, too, as the Raiders scored three times in the third period to steal a 5-4 decision over the defending Allan Cup champions.

Sunday, the Raiders avenged an earlier loss by taking a 6-4 count in Chatham.

The victories give Georgetown a 23-12-1 won-lost-tied mark, a point worse than second-place Petrolia with two games left on the schedule. Friday night the locals travel to Collingwood for a date with the Shipbuilders, before closing out the regular season Sunday night in Petrolia.

The Raiders got off to a bright start Friday night against the Hornets, as veteran defenceman Steve Lyons scored a pair of goals on shots from the point to stake Georgetown to a 2-0 advantage.

The visitors never let up, though, and when Don Fergus scored his second of the night 20 seconds into the third period to give Cambridge a 4-2 lead, it appeared the defending champions were on the way to a fourth consecutive victory over Georgetown.

Doug Fry connected on the power play, from Lyons and Paul Gallagher, as the Raiders awakened midway through the final session. Less than three minutes later, Tim Ampleford scored from Ron Twiss to tie it up.

Ampleford and Twiss then combined to set up Cam Botting for the winner, with 8:43 to play in regulation time.

Again it was a strong third period that made all the difference as Georgetown dumped Chatham on Sunday.

The teams were tied at 3-3 after 40 minutes, thanks mostly to Raider shooter Gallagher. The team goal scoring leader opened the contest with a natural hattrick, giving him 40 goals on the season.

John Saunders, Ray Tonelli and Gallagher again all found the mark during the Raiders' third-period surge, with center Doug Fry piling up five assists on the night.

Raider goaltender Jim Lockhurst turned away 33 of 37 Chatham shots to backstop the victory.

Georgetown Rebel wrestler Tim Dixon (wearing mask) was in command of this match, against Jim Schornnagel of E.C. Drury School in Milton. Dixon won this match, and went on to capture the 112.5 pound title at the Halton championships, held last Wednesday at Purdue in Oakville.
(Herald photo)

Wrestlers No. 1

The Georgetown wrestling Rebels were the team to beat at the Halton championships last Wednesday at Gordon E. Purdue High School in Oakville.

The Rebs waltzed away with the overall team championship, with 112 team points. That total was more than double the 55 points second-place Nelson High School of Burlington won. There were 83 wrestlers from 13 schools at the Halton meet.

Thirteen Rebel wrestlers finished in the top four of their weight classification to qualify for the Peel-Halton meet, set for today (Wednesday) at Erindale Secondary School in Mississauga. Rebels swept the top two spots in three separate weight categories.

Terry Dixon and Mark Bassett were one-two in the 97-pound division. Tim Dixon and Jeff Knight duplicated that performance in the 112.5 pound competition, while Rick Middaugh and Rick Sedore topped the 127 pound grouping.

Other division winners from Georgetown were Dave Power (119 pounds) and Bob Sweezie (134.5 pounds).

Craig Armstrong topped the rest of the Rebels who qualified for the Peel-Haltons, taking second place in the unlimited category.

Scott Pundsack (119 pounds), Scott Martin (149 pounds), John Crawford (156 pounds) and Dennis Lonbro (unlimited) all qualified for the Peel-Haltons by finishing fourth in their respective divisions.

Local skier to OFSAA

Seventeen-year-old Kevin Peaker became the first Georgetown cross-country skier to qualify for the provincial high school championships when he finished second at the Peel-Halton finals, held last Monday at Medonte Mountain near Barrie.

KEVIN PEAKER

Peaker, a Grade 12 student at Georgetown District High School, finished second in the senior boys competition behind defending OFSAA champion Werner Schnar of Burlington's Lord Elgin High School. Peaker covered the 10-kilometer course in 37 minutes, 18 seconds, about three minutes behind Schnar.

"I was extremely happy. I honestly didn't expect to do that well," Peaker told The Herald. "Now I hope to place at OFSAA."

The provincial competition will be held Thursday and Friday at Horseshoe Valley, again near Barrie.

Glen Edwards, 16, finished 14th at the Peel-Halton race, against a field of 65 competitors. A Grade 11 student at GDHS, Edwards covered the course in 41 minutes, 54 seconds.