

Hoping it will help his racing

Peaker trying new ski technique



By DAN RALPH
Herald Sports Editor
John Peaker is trying something different this year in his preparation for the upcoming cross-country ski season.
The 45-year-old Georgetown resident has taken up roller skiing in his training program, which he says, is supposed to help one's skiing. Roller skiing is done with skis that have small wheels attached to them to allow the participant to ski on pavement during the summer months.
"This is the first time I've tried the roller skis," Peaker said. "It will be interesting to see

how it goes. I've heard it does work."
Peaker and his 18-year-old son Kevin both ski in long distance events, however Kevin does enter some shorter events. But for the older Peaker, the longer events are more to his liking.
"I find the sprint events very difficult. They seem to take a lot out of you."
"Both Kevin and I like the endurance test of the longer races," Peaker said. "We like to set a steady pace and set a goal."
Peaker and his son

have been involved in cross-country racing for about nine years. Prior to that, the older Peaker was involved in four facets of skiing.
Back in the 1950s and early 1960s, Peaker was competing in an event that combined cross-country skiing, slalom, downhill and ski jumping. Back then in that competition, all events were done with the same pair of skis. A special ski for cross-country and the other events had not been developed.
When the opportunity presents itself, Peaker and his son team up to compete in father-son

many reasons why he enjoys the sport.
"I would suspect it is because of my love for the outdoors. When you are out there, you are in harmony with nature."
"The elements may be severe at times, but once you get warmed up and get going, you don't really notice," he said.
Peaker has won an award of excellence for his time at a Kawartha race held near Peterborough two years ago in the 46-and-over class. That year Kevin finished second in his class as both races were 75-kilometers long.
Along the way Peaker

has also won some races held in the Barrie area. He said he has learned a few tactical moves in his 30 years of skiing experience.
"Training and proper pacing are the important factors. It's knowing when to slow down, when to speed up and not getting caught up in a pace you cannot maintain," he said.
Waxing one's skis is also important, but Peaker said each racer has his own way of doing this.
"What works for one person might not work for the other. There are basic rules that begin-

ers can use, but most racers have their own methods," he said.
Cross-country skiing is one sport Peaker will participate in so long as his health dictates that he can.
"I will likely slow down competitively, but I will go on as long as I'm able to. I love the sport," he said.
Peaker's son will be attending Sheridan College this fall. Last year at Georgetown District High School, he finished second at the Peel-Halton championships and qualified for the Ontario championships. In a field of over 200 he finished 52nd.

Guelph hands Meteors second soccer loss

The Georgetown IGA Meteors lost their second league game of the season by 3-1 when they visited Guelph last week for an important soccer

game. The visitors had little opportunity to settle and apply their game plan, as Guelph surged forward right from the kickoff. With confusion

reigning, the home team's early pressure resulted in a morale-boosting opening goal. Nonetheless, the Meteors gradually came to

dominate play as Brian Daugherty and Paul St. Pierre assumed control in midfield. Despite the territorial advantage, forwards Nicky Varriehlo and Steve Alchin had few clear opportunities to shoot as they were closely marked by the disciplined Guelph rearguard. As often happens, the team under pressure engineered a breakaway. However, when the ball was forced by Jimmy English in goal, Bob Donker was in perfect position to clear the ball out of danger.

With a few minutes remaining in the first half, Guelph scored the psychologically valuable second goal. A well-taken corner eluded the Meteor defenders and was headed home with cool precision.
Out of necessity, Georgetown began the second half by applying themselves with energy, with Rich Sowery, Doug Raymond and Andre Thibault working hard to reduce the deficit. Just as the flurry of frenetic activity was dying down,

Robbie Lockhurst secured the ball and slotted a cunning through pass to Mike Melville; he ran on to sweep the ball past the Guelph goalkeeper.
The goal resulted in a further flurry of activity from the Meteors, but neither John Placido nor Richard Herrera could create the equalizer. With desperation creeping in to their play, the Georgetown players pressed forward. Inevitably, the home team broke efficiently out of defence and shot the ball past a stranded Sandy

Jobin-Bevens; with only a few minutes remaining, that ended the scoring.
On reflection, it appears that the Guelph squad showed more spirit and cohesion and so deserved to win. The Meteors, despite dominating play for periods, lacked the finishing power displayed in previous games. Perhaps the playoffs, to be held in Georgetown at the end of the month, will provide the Meteors an opportunity to defeat Guelph at last.

Georgettes come up short in playoff bid

Georgetown Armstrong Insurance Georgettes finished their Halton Ladies Softball League regular schedule up with a bang, but found themselves out of a possible playoff berth.
Georgetown defeated Eden Mills 10-8 and Acton 8-3, but finished fifth in league final standings with a record of nine wins and 15 losses. The same Acton team Georgetown defeated will qualify for the league playoffs by virtue of their fourth place finish overall.
Georgetown will now play a single round-robin tournament style playoff with Orangeville and

Glen Williams in the consolation final for the league title.
In their win over Eden Mills, Cindy Halonen pitched the win, and helped her own cause with three hits. Eden Mills jumped out to an early 4-0 first inning lead before the Georgettes rallied back for five runs in the second inning and added another five runs in the fifth inning.
Eden Mills added another run in the third inning and finished off their scoring with three more in the fourth inning.
Janet MacKay had three hits in four appearances at the plate for the

winners while Jennifer Reynolds added two hits, including a triple in four plate appearances. Joan Hansen also had two hits in four tries.
Against the Acton squad, Beth Haines was the winning pitcher. Once again Janet MacKay and Jennifer Reynolds led the hot bats for the Georgetown team.
MacKay had four hits in five trips to home plate while Reynolds chipped in with three hits of her own. Mary McGugan also had three hits for the victorious Georgette squad while Bonnie Penney added a pair of hits to the Georgetown cause.

John Peaker, 45, shows how he uses a ski with wheels on it to help him prepare for the winter cross-country ski season. Peaker is using the skis for the first time, and he says he has been told that they do improve one's skiing. Peaker and his son Kevin are involved in long-distance racing. (Herald photo)

Kennedy wins windy tennis event

Knowing how to play in windy conditions proved to be a valuable asset for Rory Kennedy.
The Georgetown youth used slice shots while playing with the wind, and hit harder balls while playing against it in the final of the Halton Region Junior Closed Singles Tennis Championships held August 27-31 in Milton.
Kennedy defeated Mark Luscombe of Burlington 6-3, 6-1 in the final to win the tournament. In all, Kennedy won five games en route to his win.
Kennedy said knowing how to deal with the wind was the key to the win. "I knew how to play in the wind while he didn't. Luscombe hit the ball

hard all the time, and as a result it went out a lot of the time," he said.
In the first set, Kennedy stormed out to an early 5-1 advantage, but allowed his opponent an opportunity of getting back into the game by dropping the next two games. However, before any more damage could be done, the Georgetown player won the final game of the set.
In the second set, Kennedy had the match in complete control.
The tournament attracted over 100 competitors from Georgetown, Oakville, Burlington, Acton and Milton. Male and female competitors took part in under-18, under-16, under-14 categories.



Georgetown's Rory Kennedy proudly displays the hardware he won at the Halton Region Junior Closed Tennis Championship played in Milton last week. Kennedy won the under-16 class, defeating a Burlington player 6-3, 6-1 in the final.

Atom Girls start playoff

Atom Girls soccer league play ended recently with the teams finishing in the following order.

Challengers finished on top of league standings with 23 points, and were followed by Thunderbirds, who finished in second position with 11 points. Third position went to Blizzard, who finished the year with seven points and fourth spot went to Blue Thunder with five points.

There is one game yet to be made up due to a rainout, but the standings will not be altered whatever the outcome.
Atom Girls Cup play began last week with Blizzard edging Thunderbirds 1-0. Charla Rutherford scored the lone goal of the game. The second game saw Challengers defeat Blue Thunder 4-0. Lisa Vogt was the big gun for the winners netting three goals with Melanie Booth scoring the other.
Challengers lost their first game this week as they were to defeat at the hands of Thunderbirds 1-0. Andrea McNeilly had the only goal of the game.
The second game saw Blizzard maintain the lead in the Cup race by virtue of their 1-0 win over Blue Thunder. Melissa Dobbins had the

winner for Blizzard, in a game that saw equal number of scoring chances for both teams.

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