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PLAYING THE FIELD

DAN RALPH
Herald Sports Editor

More deals possible with Jays

As far as Jim Ridley is concerned, the Toronto Blue Jays are not through making player deals just yet.

Recently the American League East team traded team MVP Dave Collins and infielder Alfredo Griffin to Oakland A's for reliever Bill Caudill. Ridley said he was not surprised the trade itself happened, but he was taken by the players involved.

"I knew trades were coming because of the problems with the bullpen, but I was surprised Dave Collins was involved."

"I think it will be a good trade if something more happens. I would say between now and spring training something will happen."

While Ridley was surprised Collins was involved, he said he thought Alfredo Griffin or Damaso Garcia would not be with the club this season.

"It was 50-50 as to who it would be," he said. "Griffin is a steady influence while Garcia has a good bat if he can stay healthy."

But the Stewartrtown Public School teacher and Blue Jays scout said the trade will help Oakland. The A's lost speedster Ricky Henderson this year when he was traded to New York Yankees, and Ridley feels Collins can help compensate for that loss.

"I feel that today the home run is a valuable commodity, but I would put more value on having men on base who can scare people. A healthy Damaso Garcia and Dave Collins can do that."

"I don't think Oakland is losing much speed with Collins."

The departure of Griffin will open the door for youngster Tony Fernandez, who for the past two years has played in the shadow of Griffin. A regular spot in the infield will now be his at spring training.

The fact that he will have a spot almost assured will help Fernandez, Ridley said.

While the Jays have apparently solved their problems in the bullpen with the acquisition of Caudill, they do have a problem with the designated hitter position. Last year Cliff Johnson was the man Toronto relied upon for right-handed power from the DH position.

However, he and the Jays could not agree on a contract, so Johnson, who was a free agent, signed a contract with Texas Rangers.

"If he is healthy, Fernandez can make all the plays in the infield," Ridley said. "I think this will only do things to help him going into spring training being number one, and knowing the only way he will lose his spot is if he does not play well."



JIM RIDLEY

"We do need right-handed power," Ridley said. "I don't think we saw the same Willie Mays Aikens last year that we've seen in years gone by. He's playing winter ball, and from what I hear he is doing well."

To compound that fact is Toronto was planning to have Collins play the DH role this year, but that was all washed up with the trade with Oakland.

For a while Toronto was in the running for relief ace Bruce Sutter, who became a free agent after his contract with St. Louis Cardinals expired. Sutter eventually signed a multi-million dollar contract with Atlanta Braves. Last year Toronto narrowly missed out in signing former New York Yankee ace Goose Gossage, who is now a San Diego Padre. One reason American players are hesitant in coming to Canada is the weather.

But that situation could be remedied, Ridley said.

"I think a dome stadium is important because players don't want to go out in the middle of April and play in a bit of a blizzard. Toronto had the highest bid with Gossage, but he did not want to play in the cold weather. Last year San Diego went to the World Series with Gossage."

So now Toronto is left with the possibility of starting this coming season without three of last year's starting players.

"It certainly hurts when you lose three front line players like that, but I know Pat Gillick (Jays GM and V.P.) is not happy with the pitching situation. Right now we have a large quota of pitchers."

There was talk Toronto could solve last year's horrendous bullpen limitations by making starter Dave Stieb a reliever. Ridley feels that was a figment of the Toronto media's imagination, and will not happen.

"It is a delicate thing to do," he said. "You've got to give a reliever time to toughen up his arm."

"The question is can Stieb go out and throw 30-35 pitches every third day. It is not an easy thing to do."

"I don't think the Toronto organization thought about doing that for very long, if they did, it was for about five minutes."

Katsilieris star in loss

Jim Katsilieris was the star for Royal City Novice "A" team as they lost 7-2 to Milton.

He scored both goals unassisted. Milton never let the Georgetown team get started as they scored four goals and never looked back.

Santa came to the dressing room after the game and provided some cheer and the loss was soon forgotten.

Lose to Collingwood in overtime
Raider win streak halted

COLLINGWOOD -- Georgetown Chrysler Raiders had their four-game win streak halted Sunday as Collingwood Shipbuilders took a 4-3 overtime win here.

Raiders general manager-coach Gil Eyre said his club did everything but put the puck in the net in the overtime period.

"We were all over them like a blanket,"

Eyre said. "That's two games they have stolen from us this year."

The other game in question was another Collingwood overtime win two weeks ago by a 9-8 score. Former Raider Guy Cormier netted that winning tally.

Eyre said Sunday's winning goal came on Collingwood's first and only shot of the period.

"(Defenceman) Pat Richard took a shot and it hit a Collingwood player's skate. One of their players (Don Zeggil) took the loose puck on a breakaway and scored."

Zeggil had two goals for the Shipbuilders on the night while Larry Coe and Chris Bass had the other. For the Raiders Tim Ampleford, Paul Gallagher and John

McIntyre had the goals.

Sunday's game was the first of the year for former Toronto Maple Leaf Fred Boimistruk. Eyre said the latest Raider acquisition played well despite leaving the game in the third period after getting involved in a fight with Collingwood's Myles McCauley.

"It's one thing to lose when you play bad, but

when you totally dominate and still lose, you know it will not last," Eyre said.

The loss tarnished a fine effort Friday night in Dundas. Georgetown faced Jim Lockhurst, who started the year with Georgetown, but was given his release about eight weeks ago. The visiting team put three goals behind Lock-

hurst, who was then lifted from the game in the beginning of the second period and replaced by Rod Sachs.

Russ Elliot had three goals for the winners, including what turned out to be the winner. Tom Gibson had a pair while Peter Sturgeon had the others.

Eyre had words of praise for goaltender Dave Tataryn.

"He really played well, which is a positive thing. He's starting to be sharp which is also a big plus."

The Raiders travel to Woodstock tonight, and will entertain the Gems here Friday.

NOTES--Still no news as to who the Raiders will find as their second goalie. But Eyre said it is something he is working on.



Vaughn Raiders netminder Martin Foest (1) runs into his own goal after making a save off a Georgetown Gemini shot. Foest was scrambling around off balance when he ran into the goal. Vaughn defeated Georgetown 7-3 Saturday at the Alcott Arena in Central Ontario Junior "B" action. Teammate Brad Dalton looks on.

(Herald photo by Dan Ralph)

Shorthanded goals key to Geminis 7-3 defeat

By DAN RALPH
Herald Sports Editor

In recent weeks, the Georgetown Geminis' power play was one of their more potent weapons. However, it backfired against them Saturday night.

Vaughn Raiders netted four shorthanded tallies in their 7-3 defeat of the Geminis at the Alcott Arena. Friday night Streetsville was at the Alcott, and left with a 1-3 win.

The weekend action still leaves Georgetown in eighth spot with a record of eight wins, 14 losses and three ties.

The Geminis dominated Saturday's game for the first two periods, but could only manage a 3-3 tie after two periods. Georgetown went ahead of Vaughn 2-0, and held the edge up until the final two minutes of the first period when the visitors netted a pair of shorthanded goals.

Vaughn then scored another shorthanded goal in the second period before the Geminis tied the game. However, the Raiders struck for four goals in the third to ice the win.

John Hodgson, Brian Demone and Wayne Morrow had the Geminis' goals Saturday while Demone, Morrow and Kent Falby scored Friday.

Team general manager Bob Webster said behind the bench Saturday night as coach Jules Russiani had a previous commitment. He said he has noticed a lack of intensity by his players.

"We don't seem hungry enough," he said. "I don't see any intensity."

Had the Geminis been able to connect on some of their chances early in the game, it could have been a different game, and Webster said not being able to take ad-

vantage of, scoring chances is something that has hurt the club all year.

"The difference in the Streetsville game was their goaltending. We outshot them in that game (43-40). They also finished off their plays," Webster said.

"That has been a problem for us all year (finishing off scoring chances). We can't seem to finish them off," he said.

Webster took some of the blame for Vaughn's shorthanded success Saturday.

"They did not let the fact that they were shorthanded faze them. They were just hungry."

"But it could have had something to do with the coaching. I'm not that familiar with everything and I thought I had good people out there," he said.

Geminis goaltender Chris Sparrow was steady in goal, and Webster said he could not fault the Vaughn goals on a lack of effort from Sparrow.

However Friday Sparrow was lifted from the game in the second period when Streetsville erupted for five goals after grabbing a 2-1 lead after the first. Mike McNiven came in, but was taken from the game in the third period in favor of Sparrow when the visitors scored seven times.

The schedule will not help the Geminis this week either. They travel to Mimico tonight, and will be on the road Friday before returning home Saturday for a game against Nobleton.

"December is a tough month for us because we're playing the top clubs, but I guess when you are in eighth place most are above you," Webster said.

Successful week for atom puck squad

The McNally Construction-Firefighter Atom AA's finished this week's games with three victories, topping Oakville 2-1, Burlington 2-0 and Milton 2-1.

On Saturday the Standard team nets wins

Georgetown Minor Pee Wee A played two league games and one exhibition game during the past week. League games saw action with Streetsville and Brampton, both games being defeated by 3-2 and 9-1 scores respectively, and the exhibition game with Bramalea saw our home boys winning by 3-2 score.

During the Streetsville game Bobby DeZeeuw and Doug Crawford found the net with assists to Mike Oldrieve and DeZeeuw. In Brampton, Oldrieve and DeZeeuw scored the only goal on Saturday during the third period. Georgetown boys played a good third period but Brampton got a big lead during the first and second periods.

Exhibition plays were scored against Bramalea by Crawford, DeZeeuw and Robert Walker with assists to Mark McIntyre, Peter Lee and Crawford and winning the game 3-2.

Atoms travelled to Oakville where the home squad surprised an overconfident Georgetown team by giving them a "run for their money". Having easily defeated Oakville every time out,

Georgetown came out somewhat flat and let Oakville take the lead early in the second. Trailing 1-0 at the start of the third, Georgetown realized they had a tough hockey game on their hands and began to hustle. One minute into the third, Chris Barrow and Jake Mashiner set up Greg Dobbin who beat the Oakville goalie to tie the game. Georgetown continued to press until finally Dobbin counted again for the winner with help from Chris Barrow and Tim Presswood.

Burlington came to town on Tuesday and Georgetown took the lead eight seconds into the first when defenceman Chris Barrow who started the game in an unfamiliar centreman spot, snatched the puck on the opening faceoff, raced in and neatly backhanded a shot into

Burlington's net. Burlington proceeded to give Georgetown its typical rough, tight checking game but couldn't beat out Georgetown's David Frost who was hot behind the pipes. The score remained at 1-0 until early in the third when Greg Dobbin set up Scott McGuigan who popped in the clinching second goal.

Thursday's game was the toughest of the week against a hot Milton team who have moved up from fifth to within one point of first in Tri County. In a fast, end-to-end game with shots on goal tied at 15-15, Georgetown's goalie Marc St. Pierre was truly outstanding. St. Pierre stopped Milton's efforts at every turn, allowing his team to go for the win. Georgetown grabbed an early lead less than a minute into

the first when Chris Barrow set up Brent Wasylenko who connected with a high, corner shot. Late in the second with Georgetown's goalie totally screened, Milton counted for the

tying goal but Georgetown refused to let their arch rivals have the game. With less than two minutes to play Ryan Pells and Tim Presswood set up Greg Dobbin

who raced in and backhanded the winner past the Milton goaltender.

The Atoms currently stand tied for top spot in their Tri County division.



DIVING ACROBATICS

About 200 people attended the Christmas Water Show held Friday at the Acton Indoor Pool. Various demonstrations were held, including one on diving as this youngster shows fine form in his backward attempt.

(Herald photo)

Local squash teams record victories

Georgetown teams had a successful week in squash competitions.

Georgetown met Ajax in Ladies Day League play, and came away with a 4-0 decision for the win. Pat Harris and Linda Yardley both won their matches 3-0 while Wendy Cotton and Diane Andrews scored 3-1 wins.

The Ladies "C" league team also defeated their rivals this week,

defeating York University there. Diane Andrews, Christine Kogan, Pat Harris and Jan Cook won their games 3-0 while Wendy Cotton was defeated 3-1.

The Men's "D" League team was also victorious this week, defeating Supreme of Mississauga 5-0. Erwin Schandlmeier, Ken Thorn, Brian Day and John McNally all won

their games 3-0 while Murray Jans won his match 3-1.

However, in Men's "B" League play Georgetown went to defeat at the hands of Park Avenue of Toronto +1. Dave Street and John Collier won their games 3-0 while Dave Steen and Murray Jans lost tough 3-2 decisions. Neil Cotton was defeated 1-0.

Beaumont nets five in non-contact win

Brian Beaumont had five goals and three assists to pace Jaycees to an impressive 12-0 victory over Halton Hills Radiator on Georgetown Men's Non-Contact Hockey League play.

Al Keed had two goals and two assists for the winners while Paul Martin and Gary Walsh had one goal and three assists. Single goals went to Tim Fleming, Bill Stansill and Len

Day. Goaltender Gary Brown recorded the winners' shutout.

In other league action, goals were abundant as Acton ReMax defeated Nick Martina Motors 9-6.

Dave Sutherland had three goals and an assist for the winners while Hob Evans had a goal and three assists. Single goals went to Doug Anderson, Dick Spear, Gary Lumbers, Todd McIntyre and Chris Rowsell.

Senior girls undefeated in puck play

Georgetown Senior Girls Hockey team Order of the Royal Purple ran their season record to 10 wins and a tie to stay in first place in league standings.

In their last four games the home team has won three games and tied the other. They defeated Burlington 7-0, Oakville teams 4-2 and 5-0 while recording a 1-1 tie.

Dale Wolfe had three goals in the first win while Leah Benham had a pair and singles went to Pam Anderson and Micky Richmond. Assists went to Deenan Jones, Martie Dunning, Carolyn Grady and Dianne Taylor. Goaltie Joan Osborne stopped 27 shots for the shutout.

Georgetown trailed Oakville 1-0 until the second when Grady connected from Jones and Anderson to even the score.

In their next two games Georgetown played outstanding hockey both offensively and defensively. Lisa Allen had eight points in those games while Dunning, Wolfe, Anderson and Lauree Sears had two points. Singles went to Jodi Peebles, Dena Vanderhout and Sharon Anderson.

Rob Spiteri had two goals and an assist for Nick Martina while Mike Milton had two goals. Singles went to Shawn Coffey and Brian King.

In the final game North Star Cleaners defeated Exchange House 5-3.

Mark Lindauer had two goals while singles went to Terry Moustard, Nole Stoyles and Serge Mazzarato.

Gary Frerichs had two goals for Exchange House while Daryl Weir had the other.

STANDINGS

	W	L	T	Pts
Acton ReMax	6	1	7	13
North Star Cleaners	5	2	12	10
Exchange House	5	3	10	10
Nick Martina Motors	2	6	4	4
Jaycees	2	8	4	4
Halton Radiator	2	8	4	4