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Juniors, seniors Halton volleyball champs

Rebels drive in final spike



VICTORIOUS COACHES - Georgetown District High School junior boys volleyball coach Bob McKay (above) shows some of the strain during his team's Halton final with Nelson. The juniors won their final 2-0. Senior coach Grant Clatworthy (below) is carried high by his players after the seniors beat Perdue 3-1 in their championship. For the first time ever both teams won Halton finals in the same year. (Herald photos by Dan Ralph)

Volleyball history was made at the Georgetown District High School gym Wednesday afternoon.

For the first time ever both boys teams won Halton titles the same year. Ironically the historic accomplishment occurred on the same day in the same building.

The senior squad dropped its first game to Perdue (15-10), but came back in impressive fashion to win the next three (15-10, 15-1, 15-8) and the title. The junior squad won its championship with a three-game sweep (15-2, 15-11, 15-9) over Nelson.

An enthusiastic crowd of over 500 spectators watched the senior match, which senior coach Grant Clatworthy said might have accounted for his club's opening game loss.

"I think we were thinking about the crowd in the first game," Clatworthy said after the title win, his second as coach. "Perdue took two buses to their semi final against Nelson so they were used to it (big crowd). But once we got control of the game I think the crowd lost its effect."

"But it was nice to see (big crowd). The people were well behaved and this is what high school sports is all about," he said.

The Rebels made a change after their opening loss which paid big dividends. Clatworthy switched captain Jon Hammer and Graham Shepherd in the lineup, which pitted Shepherd against Perdue's top hitter. Shepherd was more than equal to the task and effectively shut down Perdue's offence with block after block.

In fact Georgetown's second win (15-1) was Shepherd's game. He made several key defensive blocks and appropriately served the game's winning point.

"Graham Shepherd was by far the best blocker today on both sides," Clatworthy said. "Winning the third game 15-1 was the clincher. It's tough to come back after something like that."

Clatworthy said his club's ability to get the ball to a number of hitters was also important in the win. He

added setter Pat Braun did just that.

"Volleyball revolves around if the setter can get the ball to the hitters in different situations. The setter is an important player and can determine the flow of the game."

"We passed the ball consistently in the third and fourth game. We were able to key on their big hitter and they couldn't key on us," he said.

Georgetown now advances to the Peel-Halton final and will host Mayfield Wednesday at 3 p.m. The winner advances to the OFSAA "AA" tournament being held in Etobicoke the following week.

"I'm confident," Clatworthy said. "Both didn't qualify for their league playoffs and I'll be surprised if a better team comes in than the one we played today."

For the junior club however, the season ended with Wednesday's championship win. No junior Peel-Halton or OFSAA event is offered.

"It is disappointing," said winning coach Bob McKay. "It's not anticlimactic for me but is for the boys. Now

they're fired up and really want to play."

The Halton title win was the second ever for the juniors but the first since 1978. It meant a lot of McKay as it was his first volleyball championship.

"For a guy who doesn't know much about the game it's a nice feeling," he said. "This is the first time both have won Halton championships and it's really something."

"What we did was take the net away from them," he said. "We were going to hit right through them because they were too disciplined to tip against."

McKay was also surprised the championship only went the minimum three games.

"I was very surprised," he said. "But I guess that makes it nicer."

With the junior title, McKay and his squad end the season with a near-perfect mark.

In the Halton league we were 11-0 (including playoffs) and won 30 games while losing just four. I didn't realize that," McKay said.



Bobby Hull here to watch sons play
Golden Jet flies into Georgetown

There was an unexpected surprise for fans at Friday's Georgetown-Flamboro Senior "A" hockey game.

The Golden Jet Bobby Hull was in attendance at the Alcott Arena. The former Chicago Black Hawk and Winnipeg Jet was there watching sons Balke and Bobby Jr., who toil with the Flamboro squad.

Hull had to be pleased as Blake had the winning goal in Flamboro's 5-2 win. Bobby Jr. had an assist.

Hull said he was impressed with the calibre of hockey at the senior level.

"It is good hockey. I remember the Senior I used to watch the players were in their upper 20s and early 30s. But today the players are so young it's like glorified junior. I guess senior hockey is following the trend of the National Hockey League," Hull said.

Friday's game was the first time Hull had been out to see his boys play in the past couple of years. He said now when he watches his sons play hockey,

he looks on as both a fan and parent.

"I enjoy any brand of hockey where the players go all out and really hustle," he said. "I'm not really that critical of the boys as I was when they were kids. Now as long as they're out there enjoying themselves and helping their teammates, that's all that matters."

Hull, 46, doesn't play much competitive hockey these days. He still lives in Chicago, and is busy representing a pair of companies. One is in Mississauga and it produces an ointment that keeps flies away from farm animals, and the other is based in Chicago and it produces grocery bags. Hull also still raises cattle.

"Now that's my kind of hockey," Hull jokingly said of the pickup game following the Senior "A" contest. "You play with rubber sticks, have beer on the bench and there's no forechecking."

It was small wonder that the many times when he was recognized Hull

was asked for an autograph. Hull said he still enjoys signing the autographs and chatting with hockey fans.

"If the people stopped asking for the autographs I'd know they would have forgotten," he said. "If after playing hockey for 23 years the people had forgotten I'd think what I've done was all for nothing. No, I don't mind the autographs."

As for his sons, both have differing answers about the pressure involved in playing hockey as Bobby Hull's sons.

"It always does (put pressure on you)," said Bobby Jr. "Most of the pressure I put on myself though. Tonight I didn't play well, partly because I was too nervous because dad was here."

Bobby Jr. said for the most part the senior players don't treat him any different.

"There are a few who want to take a round out of me, but they're all good hockey players here, and I've got to play with them," he said.

But the pressure no longer exists.

for Blake.

"It used to, though," he said. "But now if someone in the stands yells something to me it helps me because it makes me get mad and play a little harder."

Blake said his teammates make playing hockey a lot easier.

"One reason I play is because I want to. But the second reason is to be with these guys. They're the best bunch I've ever been associated with and are very supportive. They don't expect any more from me than they would from the average Joe off the street," he said.

For the first time ever both Hull brothers are playing on the same team, which is something new for both players.

"It is," said Bobby Jr. "We've always competed against one another like other brothers, but now I want to do the best I can in front of him and he wants to do his best in front of me. He inspires me to play better," he said.

Tataryn plays with broken nose but Raiders don't rally in loss

By DAN RALPH
 Herald Sports Editor

Even an inspiring performance by goaltender Dave Tataryn couldn't motivate Georgetown Chrysler Raiders Friday night.

Tataryn was hit in the face with a slapshot in the second period but finished the game despite having a broken nose. However the Raiders dropped a 5-2 decision to Flamboro Motts Clamatoes at the Alcott Arena.

The Raiders were leading 2-1 when Tataryn was hit. After the game Tataryn said his decision to remain in the game was partly based on motivating his teammates.

"We had the lead, and I thought I was playing fairly well," Tataryn said. "I was trying to play on that (motivation) but it didn't work."

Right after the hit Tataryn had trouble with his face mask, which came loose twice. The first time Flamboro was called off side, but on the second occasion the visitors scored the tying tally when Mike North came from behind the Raider goal and tucked it behind Tataryn.

"I didn't even see where the puck was," Tataryn said. "I thought it was frozen against the boards."

But the veteran netminder managed to keep his sense of humor about the incident.

"There's an old saying that a bruise lasts a couple of weeks but a goal lasts a lifetime so I decided to risk the couple of weeks. Right now I feel like a Roman. It's (nose) Roman all

over my face," Tataryn said. "I guess I can't get my nose all out of joint now."

Tataryn said the broken nose incident affected him in the third period.

"I felt tired, not physically tired. I think it was due to all the blood I lost."

The Flamboro squad put the game out of reach in the third period with two goals in 18 seconds. On both scores Flamboro players were left alone in front.

"The defence didn't play well," said Raiders' coach-general manager G.H. Eyre. "That's been a major concern for me."

"I think we have a good nucleus, but we're mixing someone withumph who will rock people. We need toughness."

Eyre said Friday his wingers weren't going into the corners and digging for the puck. Regulars Russ Elliot and Paul Gallagher missed the game, which Eyre said didn't help.

"Paul has held the hot hand for us, and when things haven't been going well Russ would run at people and make things happen," Eyre said. "But you can't expect Elliott to be the only tough winger along the boards."

Winger Blake Hull's goal early in the final frame proved to be the winner. Hull said the tally wasn't anything special.

"The goal was all due to my linemates who did all the work. I ended up in front and slid the puck under the goalie. It wasn't pretty but they all count," he said.

North had two goals for Flamboro as Blake Hull, Bob Peace had singles. Derek Booth and Dave Chapman had the Georgetown goals.



The Golden Jet Bobby Hull (centre) with sons Bobby Jr. (left) and Blake.

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