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Georgetown native reaches 1,000 game mark

**Lewis achieves NHL officiating milestone**

By DAN RALPH  
 Herald Sports Editor  
**PHILADELPHIA**—Georgetown's Bryan Lewis has joined a very select group of National Hockey League (NHL) officials.  
 Wednesday in Montreal the 43-year-old became only the third man ever to officiate 1,000 NHL games (Bruce Hood and Ron Wicks have achieved that milestone). Lewis was honored at The Forum prior to the start of the Montreal Canadiens-Winnipeg Jets game and was accompanied at centre ice by his family.  
 Lewis was presented with a soapstone carving prior to the game while his wife Elaine was given a bouquet of roses. After at the hotel, the gifts continued to come as champagne and a cheese tray awaited the Lewis' return. Among the many congratulatory telegrams Lewis received was one from Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council president Dave Kentner.  
 "I knew the league had something planned, but it was really a lot bigger than I thought it would be," Lewis said from Philadelphia Friday where he was scheduled to referee the Flyers-Islanders game that night. "It really didn't hit me until I walked into the officials' room (before the game) and saw the gifts and champagne. I was somewhat taken back to see all the

media coverage because it was so different from what I'm accustomed to."  
 Lewis began his professional officiating career in 1967, working in the minor leagues. However Lewis' first ever pro game was in the NHL when he worked as a linesman in

Pittsburgh. Lewis' first NHL assignment as a referee came on Jan. 6, 1970 when he handled the Montreal-L.A. Kings game in Montreal. Ironically Lewis' first playoff game was also played in Montreal.  
 "When I first started I wouldn't have thought that I'd still be here 19

years later," Lewis said. "The history of this business isn't one of longevity. "When you consider the great officials who have come and gone, I'm thrilled," Lewis said.  
 Another thrill for Lewis was having his mother present in Montreal Wednesday. That marked the first

time Mrs. Lewis had seen her son at work.  
 "That was a thrill," Lewis said. "I was happy as heck that she was there."  
 Also, Lewis had a brief chance to talk with fellow Georgetown native and Jets' goalie Brian Hayward. Hayward was dressed for the game, but that night backed up Dan Bouchard.  
 "We spoke and said this was a long way from the John St. rink," Lewis said. "It was nice that another person from Georgetown was there."

"I still have a cast, but I can operate with it. The biggest inconvenience is travelling because I can't use both hands to carry luggage," he said.  
 Having reached the 1,000 milestone, Lewis will return to the normal activities of an NHL official.  
 "Now I'll take it one game at a time. I'll approach the games like I did the first 999."  
 "My goal now is to complete 20 years of officiating with the NHL," he said. "If I should come around, that's a bonus. If I could put in 20, then Bryan Lewis would be a very happy individual."



HONORED OFFICIAL—Georgetown native Bryan Lewis (in official's sweater) was honored last week after reaching a very select milestone. Lewis officiated in his 1,000th National Hockey League game, one of only three to ever do so. Here, members of his family who made the trip to Montreal pose for this photo. Members include: daughter Alyson, 7, son Duane, 13, wife Elaine, Lewis, daughter Janelle, 15, mother Peg Lewis, mother-in-law Doris Pallett and father-in-law Howard Pallett. (Photo submitted)

In all his years as an official, Lewis can find only one drawback to his job. When hockey season starts Lewis finds himself on the road a lot, leaving wife Elaine home to manage things.  
 "The hardest part is walking out the door and saying I'll be back in 10 days or so," Lewis said. "My greatest fear is someday realizing I have three kids and that I've missed their growing up."  
 "But that's the beauty of living in a small town. People know when I'm not home and bang they come over and help. It's the total cooperation of so many people," he said.

Lewis was to have been honored in December for the 1,000 accomplishment, but was sidelined with a broken wrist. It has just been recently that he returned to action.

"Even though the NHL sometimes could stand for 'No Home Life', it's a great way of life and I've met a lot of great people. It's hard for me to knock something that's treated me so well," Lewis said.  
 Having had just the one night to celebrate the occasion with his family and get an understanding of what he's accomplished, Lewis said after returning home he'll likely appreciate the congratulatory wishes of people like John Ferguson (GM Winnipeg), Jacques Demers (coach St. Louis Blues) et al a lot more.  
 "The toughest part," Lewis said with a chuckle, "will be writing all those thank-you notes."



**Heritage guest list**

A number of high profile individuals in both the hockey and public limelight have confirmed their presence at the 1986 Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council award banquet.  
 Among the names of those who will be in attendance is the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario Lincoln M. Alexander. Mr. Alexander was recently installed as Ontario's twenty-fourth Lieutenant Governor on September 20, 1985.

The hockey personalities who will be in Georgetown include King Clancy, Bucko MacDonald, Ontario Hockey League president Dave Branch, Ontario Hockey Association president Brent Ladds, Hockey Hall of Fame curator Lefty Reid and representing the original Hockey Hall of Fame in Kingston will be Doug Nichols.  
 Also on hand will be the Easter Seal Timmy who is Victor Tavares of Toronto.

The Heritage dinner and award presentation will take place March 10 at Holy Cross and those in attendance will be honoring this year's award recipient, Longtime Minor hockey sponsor Walter Bianchi has been selected as the 1986 Heritage Award winner. Bianchi has been a sponsor for the Sunny Acre Farms major midgets hockey team.  
 Tickets are still on sale for \$25 per person and can be purchased from Kentners' Catering (877-1113) as well as any executive member of both the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders Senior "A" hockey team or Georgetown Gemini Junior "B" hockey team. As well, the tickets can be obtained from a Raider or Gemini booster club.

**Coaches' call**

The Georgetown Minor Hockey Association is looking for all those coaches who through the years have been involved with the Sunny Acre Farms major midgets hockey team. Those individuals are asked to contact president Wayne Pries at 878-8592.

**Raiders back into swing after having week rest**

Although little has happened in the way of player signings, having had the past week off has proven beneficial for the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders.

Team coach-general manager Gil Eyre said the past week has resulted in a couple of players being able to fully commit themselves to playing hockey the remainder of the year. For others, the time off has given them a chance to re-charge the batteries and get set for a build-up for the playoffs.

"We've got to gear up, get everyone together and take a run at it in the playoffs," Eyre said. "That's what it's all about."

Eyre said now defenceman Jim File will be available for the remaining games. His night school courses have been completed. As well, the time off has given goaltender Dave Tataryn a chance to rest a groin-area injury and Eyre said Tataryn should be ready to play this week. Mauro Difolco has played the past month.

"Dave might play both games this week (Thursday in Brantford and Friday against Petrolia)," Eyre said. "He hasn't played in six games and we've got to get him some game action."

However, Eyre said he still has some decisions to make in the near future. Presently he still has four cards left in which to sign new players. The decision will be as to what players join the club here on in.

For example, former Raider goaltender Jim Lockhurst was out to practice last week, and was expected at Monday's session. While a lot of Senior "A" teams have three netminders signed, Eyre said he has to evaluate whether or not the Raiders can afford such a luxury.

Eyre also said former Raider Darren Lowe has been approached about joining the team once University of Toronto Varsity Blues are eliminated from the college hockey scene. Lowe has also added if he didn't play for Georgetown he wouldn't play for any other Senior "A" team.

As well, Eyre has until Jan. 25 to sign players on affiliate cards and decisions must be made concerning that soon.

"Like I said at the beginning of the year the league is very close," Eyre said. "Right now we can finish anywhere from second to fifth. We control our own destiny."

NOTES—Defenceman Joe Pannicia will likely sit out his 10-game suspension with the Raiders. He is in their plans for the playoffs. Also out to practice last week was Dominic Miele, a right-

winger who played junior in Niagara Falls and spent some time in the American league.

**Geminis play well in week's contests**

Although Georgetown Geminis have won but one of their last four hockey games, coach Jules Russiani is happy with how the club is playing these days.

**Anniversary puck lineups**

Georgetown Geminis of the Central Ontario Junior "B" Hockey League will hold a special anniversary contest prior to the start of a regularly scheduled contest next Friday (Jan. 31).

Members of the first official Gemini team will take on a team made up of players who toiled for the green and white the next eight seasons. The contest will be played at 6:30 p.m. as this year's team will then take to the ice and host Streetsville after starting at 8:30 p.m. The games will be played at the Alcott Arena.

The roster for the 1975-76 team will include: Rick Becker, Bill Kirby, Doug Barnes, Terry Turner, Craig Fleming, Chris Milne, Joe South, Larry Peterson, Doug Pembleton, Bill Allison, Charlie Knoepfl, Bob Fotheringham, Kent Kentner, Dale Mazinec, Ian Symes, Kevin Reeks, Rick Tomkinson, Ken Croth, and Blake Shortill.

The 1977-84 Gemini team will be made up of: Tony Gianni, Bob Davey, Ed Dwyer, Herb Kowley, Brad McMeekin, Bruce McCandless, Steve Crossman, Brad Miller, Riv Kennedy, Mark Hamilton, Bob McCandless, Bob Allison, Marty Power, Bill Taylor, Bill Bathgate, Chris Peavoy, Mike McMenemy and Greg Thompson.

All former members of the Gemini hockey club are invited out to the evening to share memories and get re-acquainted with former teammates.

Paul Robinson will coach the Geminis' first year team while Tom Daily will coach the other squad.



**Attracting a crowd**  
 Georgetown District High School junior girls volleyball player Teri Korzack (2) here attracts a pair of Loyola defenders on this play. The Rebels kept their perfect record intact with a pair of wins last week. Tuesday (in this game) Georgetown beat Loyola while Thursday the team defeated White Oaks. See stories on B8. (Herald photo by Dan Ralph)

points with two games in hand.  
 The knowledge of having made the playoffs allows the Geminis an opportunity of gearing their play to the post-season activities.  
 "We're starting to develop our mental attitude towards the playoffs," Russiani said. "We'll be more defensive in our approach."  
 Having had a week off, the Geminis now face a lot of action as the season winds down. Friday the team travels to Milton, then returns home for an encounter with Burlington. Sunday afternoon Georgetown is on the road to Nobleton.

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