

Volleyball Rebels Halton champions

BURLINGTON — After having had the Halton title taken away from them last year, the Georgetown District High School senior girls volleyball team re-captured the championship in an impressive way.

The Rebels featured a balanced attack early, then had Joanne Bingham show her dominance in defeating Oakville-Trafalgar in the Halton final. Georgetown won the best-of-five championship in three straight games Tuesday at General Brock Vocational School in Burlington.

In the first contest Jody Barwell, Allison Irvine, Tara Burroughs and Bingham all contributed their spiking prowess with Lisa Mason and Chris Harris setting well as the Rebels won 15-11. But the turning point in the series came in the second game.

Georgetown started off the second much the same way they did the first one with consistent team play. The Rebels led 8-0 and appeared well on their way to a romp.

But O-T rallied back and scored nine straight points to take the lead. Georgetown came back to take an 11-9 advantage but the Devils scored four straight points to lead 13-11.

Lisa Mason served for Georgetown and put the Rebels up 14-13, thanks in part to Bingham. With the Devils leading 13-12 Bingham blocked O-T's Kristen Campbell twice at the net to anchor the comeback. Then Bingham served the winning point.

The Rebels then coasted to an impressive 15-0 win in the third game as Bingham dominated play from start to finish with lowering spikes on good sets from Harris. Surprisingly, O-T's Pam Bovey was named the Most Valuable Player in the championship.

That selection raised Rebels' coach Grant Clatworthy's eyebrows a little.

"If she made more of a contribution than Joanne did, then I missed it," Clatworthy said.

The Rebels' coach said he saw plenty to make him happy with the victory. Clatworthy said his players were able to maintain their composure despite a noisy crowd.

"Our psychological toughness impressed me," he said. "O-T tried to serve and the pressure got to them."

Clatworthy couldn't offer a reason why his club allowed the Devils a chance to get back into the match in the second game.

"We started to back-pedal and in our timeout I asked the kids why they were doing the back-peddling because we were the team in the lead," he said. "We were fortunate to pull it off."

"But I think the kids felt they had something to prove in the third game. They wanted it really bad."

Clatworthy said winning a title that the Rebels had held the four years previous to last year was also a nice feeling.

"Last year we lost to Aldershot by two points and they ended up winning it," he said. "I think this was special for Jody and Joanne because they're graduating this year."

Senior girls squad bound for OFSAA

The Georgetown District High School senior girls volleyball team easily qualified for the Ontario "AA" championships Thursday.

Georgetown defeated Mayfield 3-0 (15-5, 15-4, 15-6) at the Georgetown gym to capture the Peel-Halton "AA" title. The championship qualifies the Rebels for the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association (OFSAA) "AA" tournament slated for Brockville Thursday and Friday.

Last week the Rebels didn't have to rely solely on Joanne Bingham to net the Peel-Halton win. Jody Barwell, Allison Irvine and Tara Burroughs all contributed on offence with Bingham and all four were effective on defence.

Also, setters Chris Harris and Lisa Mason were able to provide the spikers with good sets, and the Rebels weren't in trouble the entire match. The only blotch on the Rebels came in the second game when they had difficulty at one time keeping the ball in play off the serve.

"We were able to turn it on in spots," Rebels' coach Grant Clatworthy said after. "I've always found after winning the Halton title it's a challenge to try and get up for the Peel-Halton."

The Rebels defeated Oakville-Trafalgar Tuesday to win the Halton title in Burlington.

In the third game Clatworthy substituted Shanna Long in for Mason, and was pleased with Long's play.

"It was nice to see her come off the bench and play well," Clatworthy said. "She made some nice defensive plays."

As for his team's goal at the provincial meet, Clatworthy is optimistic.

"Looking at it realistic we could make the playoffs and get a medal if we play as well as we're capable of," he said. "The key will be our other players playing at a peak level with Joanne. If they can we'll have a strong team."

A total of 16 teams qualify for the all-Ontario event.

Puck coach saw a lot of positive elements

Although the Georgetown District High School hockey team didn't enjoy a banner season in terms of its win-loss record, coach Neil Cotton saw a lot to be pleased about during the course of the year.

Cotton, who worked with Dab Law in coaching the Rebels said once his club got a few games under its belt and started working as a team the Rebels were competitive. Also Cotton pointed out his team members were always well behaved on and off the ice.

"If you look at our games there were a reasonable number of one-goal contests," Cotton said. "The win-loss column (3-13-1) doesn't really show that. We beat the third place team, tied the second place club and lost to the top team

(Oakville-Trafalgar) by a goal. "Also I never left the arena ever feeling embarrassed by being associated with this group of boys," Cotton added.

Cotton said he was pleased with the play of goaltenders George Kent and Gary Butwell. He added the pair played better as the season went on.

"I think they were a little nervous early, but as the year went on they got more confidence," Cotton said. "If they both return next year that will give us some experience back there."

"I was pleased too with Jay Anderson. As a captain he always gave a good effort win or lose. Also Dan Lewis did well as a 15-year-old playing against 17-year-olds. Never once did he show he was intimidated and I think he picked up a lot required to play defence," Cotton said.

This year the Rebels hosted their first-ever tournament, and narrowly missed out in the final. Cotton said there are plans being made to make next year's event a bigger one.

Also, Cotton plans to have his team play in more tournaments next year," he said. "They're not published well, and you hear of them mostly by word of mouth."

As for future goals Cotton said the first one will be making the league playoffs.

"After that anything can happen," he said.

Billets required

Billets are needed for the Bantam tournament being put on by the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association this month.

Teams from Hearst and LeVack will need accommodation from Mar. 11-13. If you are interested in helping out, please call Wayne Pries at 877-8592 or Darlene Knight at 877-4606.

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Gymnasts compete

Four members of the Halton Hills Jills gymnastics club took part in a competition this weekend held in Milton.

Darby Erler took part in the second of three meets for Argo "C" competitors. Erler scored an 8.16 in the vault, 8.33 for bars, 8.06 on beam and 7.85 on floor. There were a total of 34 competitors.

The Novice "C" competitors took part in their first meet with three Jills competing. Tasha Hoogendam had a fifth on the bars (8.7) and had scores of 6.4 (vault), 7.4 (beam) and 7.55 (floor). Kelly Gidden (6.9 on vault, 7.6 on bars, and beam and 7.85 on floor), and Marcy MacInnes (6.43 on vault, 7.4 on bars, 7.9 on beam and 7.55 on floor) also took part.

Application for golfers

Students who like golf are invited to apply for one of 21 Canadian Golf Foundation Scholarships, each worth up to \$4,000, being offered by the Canadian Golf Foundation and Royal LePage.

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Zone champs

The Georgetown bantam boys team of (left to right) Jason Perritt, David Rivard, Joey Rubichaud, Scott Hobbs, coach Gord Lane and Brady Chandler were crowned Zone champions at the zone bowling event held recently. (Herald photo)

Flyers end on bad note

The North Halton major novice Flyers played their last regular season game against Dundas Saturday and missed ending on a winning note, losing 5-2.

The Flyers had three absent players for the game which put pressure on the team, especially playing an aggressive Dundas squad. A total of 15 minor penalties were assessed in the encounter.

The first period was scoreless but Dundas opened up a three-goal lead by the end of the second frame. Early in the third Duane Erler passed to Gavin Glaser who powered himself past the opposition defence to notch the Flyers' first goal. North Halton closed the gap to one when Erler, on a well-executed passing play, set up Stephen Onoprijenko. The Flyers had their chances to tie the game but late in the period closed the door with two goals.

Sunday North Halton entered the playoffs travelling to Oakville for

the first game of their series. Plagued with injuries and the flu the Flyers had to dig deep if they hoped to prevail. It didn't take long for the locals to demonstrate the quality of the team they are. Going right to the attack early in the first Erler opened the scoring with Onoprijenko and Mark Aldridge assisting. Erler again scored assisted by the defensive duo of Mike Kotsos and Glaser. The Flyers notched number three before the end of the period on a fine effort by David Bouskill with Erler assisting.

Blaine McCauley maintained the momentum for the Flyers scoring early in the second on assists from Onoprijenko and Glaser. Oakville came back with two quick goals but Glaser's breakaway goal closed the scoring for the period. The Flyers dominated the third with Glaser scoring his second goal on assists from McCauley and Onoprijenko to secure a 6-2 win.

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TWO AGAINST ONE-Georgetown's Jenni Irwin looks on as a teammate battles two Nelson players at the net. The two teams met last week in the Halton junior girls volleyball championship with Nelson winning 3-0. The loss was the first all year for the Georgetown squad.

First loss of year comes at bad time

BURLINGTON — The Georgetown District High School junior girls volleyball team couldn't have picked a more inopportune time to come up flat.

The Rebels dropped their first loss of the year to Nelson High School in the best of five Halton championship contest. The event was held Tuesday evening at General Brock Vocational School in Burlington.

The Rebels started out on a positive note, overcoming a first-game 4-0 deficit and led 5-4 before Nelson came back to take the match 15-8. However, Nelson dominated the second contest 15-2, then took a 15-3 third game decision to claim the championship.

Georgetown had difficulty handling the Nelson serves, particularly those of Tracey Roberts. Throughout the match the Rebels

also had difficulty mounting a consistent attack.

"We just couldn't get it together," said Georgetown coach Shirley White after the game. "If we played as well today as we did in the semi-finals (against Aldershot) we could have given them more of a game but that's the way it goes. I thought Nelson played well."

White also echoed the timing of the Rebels' first bad game of the season couldn't have been worse.

"It's too bad we had to have this kind of match now," she said. "But I guess 10-1 is a pretty good season."

However, White and her team can look positively to next season. A sound nucleus will be returning in the hunt for the Halton title.

"We will have eight girls returning," White said. "That's going to be an excellent base for next year."

Runner's notebook

Many years ago a friend here in Georgetown started taking an interest in the Georgetown Track Club activities. It started in '81 when two people were in Ottawa to run the National Capital Marathon. They had just entered their room at the Chateau Laurier when Alan called to wish them well. That call left the two with a pleasant and warm feeling that persisted throughout the run. The practice became a ritual after a few years.

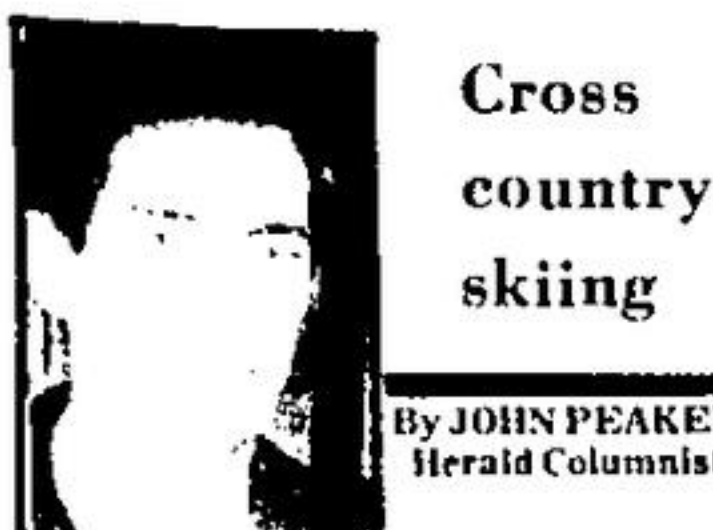
In 1984 the club entered the Jasper to Banff relay. As we entered our tiny hotel in Jasper, Alta., the phone was ringing. We were tired and had been driving all day. There was a lot to do in preparation and no time in which to do it. How Alan found us we'll never know. In fact we don't ask anymore, we just expect the call. Two years ago one of the members ran in the New York City Marathon. As he got out of the bathtub the night before the race to answer the hotel phone he wondered who could be calling. You'd think we would have learned. Again Alan called to wish him well. It's hard to describe how much the calls mean. It makes one think maybe others do really care how you perform. It's a nice feeling.

Last year in Ottawa six of us went out the night before the race to an Italian restaurant to load up on pasta and garlic bread. As we began the waiter approached our table and asked for a member. There was an important call from Toronto. As he went to the phone he wondered who was sick or dying in his family. He completely forgot about Alan. "Guess who?" the caller said. He'd found us again.

Two years ago Alan finally caught the bug. He entered the Mayor's Road Race, his first running event. We recognized that satisfied look on his face after the race. We also heard him mutter something about being able to do better.

Alan has entered many races over the last year and has consistently improved his times. He is getting fitter, thinner and healthier. Somehow we'll likely not get any more phone calls from Alan. He has decided to run in Ottawa with us this year, and maybe he can be convinced to run in Jasper to Banff relay. If there are any callers out there who enjoy giving encouragement, there's a spot opening up.

RUNNING SHORTS
Three entries have been sent to the Jasper-to-Banff relay. If all accepted, 51 runners will be heading west from Georgetown. Upcoming events include the Guelph 15 km run on Good Friday, the Boston to Branford 1/2 marathon on Apr. 20, the Around the Bay race (30 km) in Hamilton Mar. 22 and of course the Ottawa Marathon on May 11.



Cross country skiing

By JOHN PEAKER
Herald Columnist

During the past decade, the wax manufacturers, through thousands of hours of research and dedication, have derived new waxes designed to save fractions of seconds. As competition became keener and keener, those fractions of a second became the difference between winning the gold or winning the silver. The straight blue wax wasn't good enough anymore, so a second blue wax was invented for snow temperatures between 0 degrees and 22 degrees Fahrenheit. It is called Blue Extra. Then came another blue with a green mix called Blue Special for temperatures between 21 degrees Fahrenheit and 25 degrees Fahrenheit. There is a Special Green designed to cover temperatures between 5 degrees Fahrenheit and 14 degrees Fahrenheit, extra blue with a violet mix in it for temperatures ranging from 28 degrees Fahrenheit and 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

Confused, bewildered and perplexed? I know how you feel because I went through it.

Actually though, most tourers and citizen racers find, that through experimentation, most of the extra and special waxes are ideal for local conditions, wherever that might be. As far as I am personally concerned, in many cases they work better than the straight blues, greens, etc.

If you are skiing in other areas within your own country where humidity levels etc. may vary substantially, it is wise to carry a few waxes from several manufacturers such as Rode, Vola, Toko and Fall Line.

In foreign countries, my policy would be to do as the foreigners do. My logic here, if there is any logic to my thinking, is that the manufacturers, through on-snow trials and tribulations have developed specific waxes for specific snow conditions. They, above anyone else should know what waxes to use for their own climate.

If there is one thing that I have learned about waxing over the years, it is that practical experience is the best teacher. I'll never forget my first cross-country race, when I was told that a particular wax was the only one to use. I took the advice and lived to regret it. Each step forward, was followed by three steps backwards. I was being passed with ease by pre-teen skiers as if I was standing still. I vowed from that day on that I would "do my own thing" when it came to waxing and I have stood by that philosophy ever since.

At the writing of this book, I see the art of waxing becoming even more complicated as the manufacturers scramble for increased market share. On the other hand, the same manufacturers are also aiming a great percentage of their research thrust at developing the perfect two wax system for weekend skiers - the average tourer.

Who knows, maybe one day, one wax will be invented with chemical properties that will adjust to every conceivable snow condition. Sounds like a dream doesn't it: it will probably happen, but not in my lifetime.

I have, by design, avoided giving you complicated wax charts, dotted with asterisks that indicate numerous snow conditions where several waxes could be used. As far as I am concerned, it is an exercise in futility and a ploy by the manufacturers to buy every product that they have on the market. I have however, assembled a list of waxes according to their hardness in the hope that it will prove to be a helpful guide in selecting the wax or waxes of the day.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that even perfect waxing will not transform you from a mediocre skier into an expert. That transformation only comes about through hours and hours of dedicated practice in technique along with specific emphasis on conditioning and training.

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