theHERALD Sportsweek SECTION A, THE HERALD, Tuesday, December 30, 1986

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Hopkins continues to shine

Georgetown's Erik Hopkins has continued to shine in cross-country circles, this time at the collegiate Revel in the United States.

Hopkins, a freshman runner at East Tennessee State University. who is on a full scholarship, finished seventh overall in the Southern Conference championships and second amongst freshmen. What makes the former Georgetown District High School runner's accomplishment even more noteworthy is the District championship event is an open one with runners of all ages taking part. That means the 20-year-old Hopkins was up against many older and more experienced athletes.

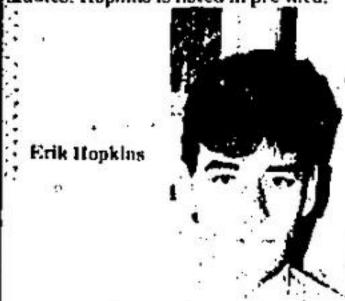
I llowever the East Tennessee team lost its Southern championship for the first time in eight years, finishing third behind victor Marshall University and runner-up Appalachian State. But defending the title this year was a tall order for the Tennessee squad as only six runners trather than the normal nine) took part. Of those six, three were freshmen, two others were sophomores with the final athlete be-Ing a junior runner,

and just too young," Hopkins said from his Georgetown home last week, relaxing on his Christmas break.

- The already-depleted Tennessee Icam saw its ranks further dwindle down to just three runners at the Regional championships due to infuries. Again competing against older and more experienced runners Hopkins finished 90th overall in the 300-runner field. The Regional event is the final step before going to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships.

As a first-year runner Hopkins found initially the burden of being a student-athlete a heavy one. Each day the Tennessee runners were taken out in a van on an eight-mile ride, dropped off then required to run back. After that, the athletes either had to lift weights or do interval (speed) work.

In addition to the daily practice routine was travelling to different competitions on the weekends. In total the practice and competition demands leave little time for doing one's school work, but Hopkins has managed to attain a 3.0 grade (top being 4.0) in his general sciences studies. Hopkins is listed in pre-med.



The shock of being away from home for the first time hasn't been too bad for the Georgetown native. The only real adjustment Hopkins had to make was the daily routine of eating cafeteria food, which was monotonous after a little while. In the New Year Hopkins will be able to do his own shopping and thus select the foods of his own choice.

"A big difference I found there was injuries," Hopkins said. "At home (in high school) when I was injured I wouldn't go see the doctor for a few weeks. But there you get im-mediate attention. If you've got a hang nail you get treatment for it."

At Tennessee all the cross-country

runners live together in the same dorm and pretty much do everything together as a unit. What makes life for the sixtet easier is that all do get along which could be seen as somewhat of an accomplishment. The team is made up of three Irishmen, two Americans and a lone Canadian (Hopkins). In fact Hopkins said he is amazed at the number of International runners who are in the United States competing at the collegiate level.

But that's not to suggest all of Hopkins' opponents this year have been total strangers. Throughout the past season Hopkins met up with rivals he faced while at Georgetown District High School, including a meet in Kentucky where former Rebel teammate Mike Wood (who is with University of Western Ontario) took part.

Cross-country is now over, but that doesn't mean Hopkins is through running. Unlike athletes on football, hockey and basketball scholarships, cross-country runners take part in the track program at their school. Later this month Hopkins will take part in an indoor event in Tennessee, which will kick off the track year for him. However the prospect of running both track and cross-country isn't a worrisome one for Hopkins. While at GDHS he did both with no real difficulty. In track Hopkins will run relays as well as on events ranging from 1,500 metres to 10,000 metres.

Hopkins nas no regrets about his decision to attend school in the United States. The move South has faught him a lot and has also brought with it a certain amount of

discipline. · "There are days when I'd get back from classes at noon and decide to go for a sleep. Even if you don't feel like it you have to get up for 2:30 p.m. and go out to the van for the run. You've got a purpose down there: you've got to run."

Darryl Sly tames The Bear

Collingwood coach wins first Pricebeaters Night game

By DAN RALPH Herald Sports Editor

Barry Whitworth's Pricebeaters Night winning streak has been

halted at five, courtesy of longtime rival Darryl Sly. Sly's Collingwood Shipbuilders Senior "A" (Intermediate "A" level now) club defeated the Georgetown

in the yearly classic. The Pricebeaters Night concept was originally drafted up six years ago when both Collingwood and Georgetown Chrysler Raiders were in the Intermediate "A" ranks. The game had sponsor Whitworth the Raiders coach against rival Sly. Throughout the years the two teams

from the Ontario Semor "A" Hockey League the Pricebeaters Night game was put in jeopardy as only Collingwood continued with the adult hockey (Intermediate with Creemore, Owen Sound, Durhain, Shelburne), as Whitworth became the sponsor of the Geminj franchise. However, rather than lorgo with tradition it was decided the junior Gemini would tangle with the older but more seasoned Intermediate

Gemini would keep its sponsor's perfect record intact. Georgetown got a pair of goals from Joe Washkurak with singles from Warren Heart and Todd Cull to lead 4-3 after the first period. Two of the Shipbuilders goals could be termed fortunate as on the first one goalie Mike McNiven made the first save but lost sight of the puck and Collingwood's Doug Kerr tapped home the loose puck. On the second one Larry Coe's shot went off Gemini defenceman Craig Chantler's stick past McNiven. But there was no doubt on the Shipbuilders' third tally as veteran Tom Colley got behind the Gemini defence and rifled a shot

just inside the post. Brad Demone and Wally Petrie added early second period goals to put the Gemini up 6-3, but that's when Collingwood slipped it into high gear. Refore the second period was over the Shipbuilders had a 9-7 advantage and rounded out the final frame with four more goals for the win.

There were a number of noticeable elements to Saturday's game. The Shipbuilders moved the puck well, executing sharp accurate and crisp passes both in their end and on the attack. The biggest downfall in the Gemini's game was the lack of consistency in moving the puck out of their own zone.

Thelan all had two goals each. Singles went to Coe, Don Zeggil. John Matthews, Bill Switzer and Ed

After the game Gemini coach Whitworth put the loss into perspective, adding if the local club learned anything from the game that the defeat had served its purpose.

"I think this was good for the kids," he said. "Unfortunately I think Tom Colley mesmerized them a little bit but I think they learned a few things."

As for suffering his first Pricebeaters Night loss, Whitworth too took the defeat with a degree of humility. "This is really traumatic," he said

with a laugh. "But it's no problem because Darryl is my friend." For his part Sly said the victory

was long overdue. Sly also added he didn't think the first Pricebeaters Night win wasn't tainted by the fact that his Shipbuilders team was much older than the Gemini.

"Actually if he (Whitworth) had his team going they should have beat us with all those young legs," Sly sald.

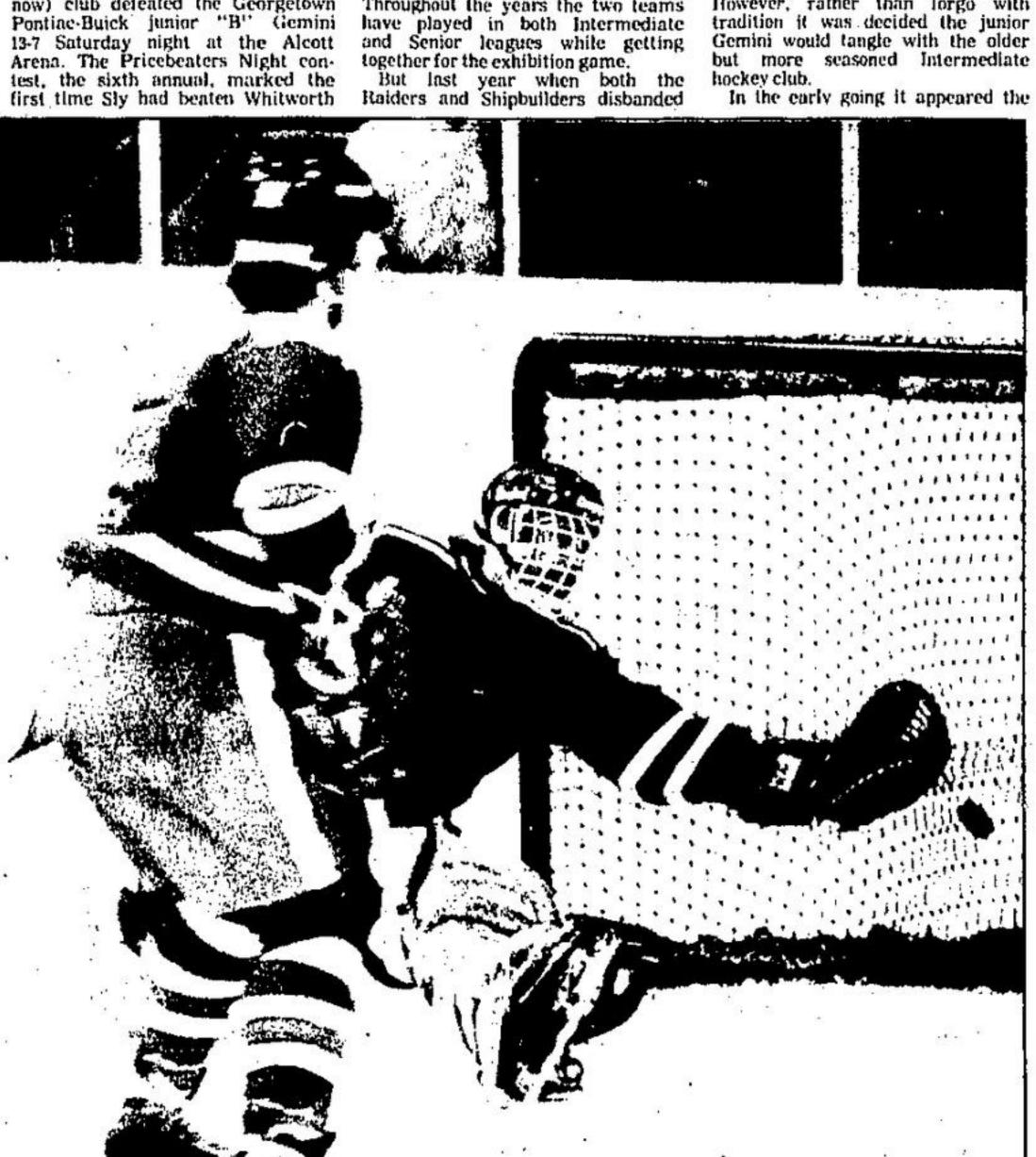
"This is the first time I've seen Junior "B" hockey and I thought it might have been a bit quicker," Sly added. "Georgetown has some pretty good hockey players but I think experience was a big difference."

Sly won't have long to relish the win. The two teams will meet once again this time in Collingwood on Jan. 18 (Sunday afternoon) and Whitworth is auxious to resume his

"My record will be 6-1 then," he



BEAR HUG-Georgetown Pontiac-Buick Gemini team sponsor Barry Whitworth clowns around with Collingwood Shipbuilders' coach Darryl Sly after Saturday's Pricebeaters Night game. The annual contest was won for the first time by Sly and the Collingwood team by a 13-7 score. (Herald photo)



ONE THAT GOT AWAY-Collingwood Shiphuilders' goalie Wayne Belanger can only watch as the puck slips away from his glove and into the net, with fellow teammate Tom Colley (in foreground) watching helplessly.

The Senior "A" Shiphuilders took on Georgetown Pontiac-Buick Gemini in the annual Pricebeaters Night contest Saturday at the Alcott Arena. The visiting squadwon the game 13-7. (Herald photo by Dan Ralph)

Midget tournament set to begin

Once again some of the top midget hockey teams in the area will be in Georgetown early in January to take part in the 21st Annual Georgetown Minor Hockey Association Midget Tournament.

Tournament play begins Tuesday evening at the Alcott Arena with three games, Included in the teams taking to the ice on Tuesday will be Georgelown's Sunny Acre Farms major midgets.

To date 15 teams have committed themselves for the tournament and GMHA president Wayne Pries said a 16th team will be found before the

opening puck is dropped.

In addition to Georgetown, some of the centres sending representatives for this year's event include Stratford, Richmond Hill, Dundas and Waterloo. Tri-County league squads from Milton and Brampton will also be in the tournament.

As in past years, fans will be given the choice of paying to attend on a game-per-game basis or pay a flat rate for access to all the tournament contests. A tournament pass will be worth \$8 while admission to each contest will be \$2.

Teams will be compeling for the Town of Halton Hills Centennial trophy, symbolic of the tournament championship. Also individual prizes will be handed out to the tournament Most Valuable Player, Top Goaltender and Most Sportsmanlike Player.

There won't be an official opening ceremony when tournament play

opens Tuesday. Rother something will be held Sunday evening in between the consolation and championship contests.

Central Scouting has already said it will send someone to view the tournament, It's also expected that some Ontario Hockey League clubs will

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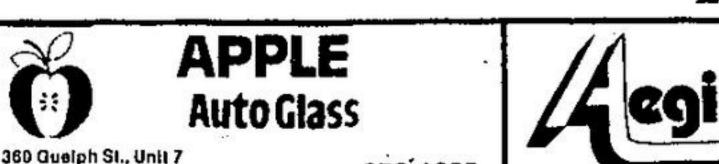
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send scouts too.

ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

KYLA DREVER

The Halton Hills Herald's Athlete of the Month for December is Kyla Drever. Kyla finished 17th in the World Artistic Roller Skating Championships held in Bogota, Columbia. The Herald wishes to congratulate Kyla on her achievement as well as being named its Athlete of the Month.



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