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SECTION B, THE HERALD, Wednesday, June 8, 1988 - Page 1

Eastern finals

Provincial berth for twirlers

Deanna Gulgnard of Georgetown has learned that in the world of competitive baton-twirling if you drop your baton you just pick it back up and keep on spinning.

The 12-year-old athlete recently bounced back from a mediocre performance at the Ontario baton team trials to top a second place finish in the Eastern Canadian championships held over the May 24 long weekend.

"Deanna had a remarkable turnaround at the Eastern Canadians," said her coach Darlene King of Burlington. "She did not do a banner job in the provincial team trials but we knew it was a fluke."

Deanna did indeed prove that her sixth place finish at the April 30 provincial baton-twirling event was a fluke as she rebounded in the Eastern Canadian finals to beat four of the five competitors who had topped her in the Ontario.

The silver medal performance allowed Deanna to qualify for the Canadian baton championships to be held at Toronto's Humber College during the first two weeks of July.

After winning a pair of Canadian titles in the 9-11 age group last year for solo baton and solo dance, Deanna will compete this year in the junior women's free-style category, covering girls aged 12 to 14.

King is realistic about Deanna's chances in this her first year in the older age group. "At this age and level we doubt she'll make the top three," said King. "But we think she can make the last cut and then she'll be well on her way from there."

The top three finishers in the Canadian championships will advance to the world baton finals in



Deanna Gulgnard

Tokyo.

Deanna is one of two Georgetown athletes coached by King at her Batons East gym in Burlington who have qualified for this year's Canadian Ontario baton team. Susan Thibodeau has also enjoyed much success in the sport this season.

Andrea Chisholm and Carla Jackson round out the Georgetown contingent who receive their tutelage from King. Carla has joined Susan on the Eastern Canadian team and both will be accompanying Deanna to the national finals.

Meanwhile, King is working hard to establish the sport in Ontario and hopes to dispell the traditional stereo-typing associated with baton-twirlers.

"We're not majorettes and we don't lead cheers at football games," says King. "The typical stereotype of baton-twirlers leading parades is ancient - it's a premier sport and we train athletes."

In fact, some of King's students train upwards of 15 hours a week, incorporating gymnastic movements with balance and a keen sense of hand-eye coordination.

King started coaching baton when she opened Batons West in B.C. in 1978. After marrying and moving to Burlington in 1984 she opened her Batons East outfit and has been training local twirlers ever since. The team convenes in Georgetown on Saturdays at GDHS and King is looking for more athletes from the Halton Hills area.

"The sport has had a tough image to crack," said King. "Especially for boys. But it's getting more and more recognition."



Jumping to conclusions

Thomas Arnold of Park Public School puts everything young athletes from Park took advantage of the sunny into this long jump effort during the school's field day weather to match their skills in track and field events, competition at the Fairgrounds on June 1. Budding (Herald photo by Brian MacLeod)

OFSAA champion

It's gold for Paul

Dave Paul is the best high school steeplechase runner in Ontario and he now has the gold medal to prove it.

The GDHS athlete brought home a gold medal in the open boys' 2000-metre steeplechase after turning in a sparkling time of five minutes, 48.69 seconds at the OFSAA championships last weekend in Etobicoke. The Ontario title win capped a series of strong runs for Paul who had earlier taken the southern Ontario regional, GHAC and Halton crowns in the steeplechase.

Meanwhile, another group of Rebel athletes managed to garner medallions in the ultra-competitive high school games. The junior girls' 4 x 100 team of Anna Toone, Michele Thompson, Lisa

Carter and Tara Burroughs took third place in their event. The four-some ran a 50.8 heat and topped that mark with a 50.5 in the final on Saturday to win the bronze.

"It was a fantastic performance," said Rebel co-coach Karen Cosgrove of the GDHS outfit. In all, the school sent 24 athletes to the championship event.

A good indicator of the level of competition traditionally featured at the OFSAA championships is the fact Rebel 1500-metre runner Megan Lusby was able to set a new Georgetown record for her event and not make the Ontario medal round. Lusby turned in a fine 5:05.67 in the midjet girls' 1500-metre to nonetheless earn a spot in the Rebel record book.

The Rebels' 4 x 400 open boys' team of Glenn Mulder, Rick Lane, Mike Dyer and Yanne Letardec also found their place in GDHS history despite placing eighth in OFSAA. The squad's inclusion in the final marked the first time GDHS had ever placed a boys' 4 x 400 team in the provincial championship heat.

Other strong performances came from Yanne Letardec in the senior boys' 800-metre event (sixth) and Sheri Nairn who ran her best time of the year (10:50) in placing 11th in the junior girls' 3000-metre run.

The 24-strong GDHS contingent to OFSAA this year was the largest the school has ever sent to the annual provincial track and field championships.



Bronze medalists

Ontario bronze medalists at the OFSAA track and field finals in Etobicoke on June 3-4 were the GDHS Rebel junior girls' 4 x 100

team including (left to right) Anna Toone, Lisa Carter, Tara Burroughs and Michele Thompson.



Champ

Dave Paul of GDHS stands tall after claiming the gold medal in the open boys' 2000-metre steeplechase.

Early leads Rams back on track

Scott Early fired five goals to help lead the Acton Rams back onto the winning track as they tripped the Hamilton Wildcats 8-5 in Hamilton on May 31.

The win pushed Acton's current record to three wins, two losses and a tie with both losses being handed to the Rams in the aftermath of a home-and-home series with Niagara Warriors two weeks ago.

Fred Allen added a pair of goals for Acton and Jim Clarke had a single in the 8-5 win. Clarke added four assists, Paul Wilson and goalie Steve Young had a pair each and single helpers went to Kevin Marcoux and Scott Early.

Acton held a slim 3-2 lead after the first period but outscored Hamilton 4-1 in the second frame to command a 7-3 score heading into the final stanza.

Though the home side outscored Acton in the final 20 minutes they could do no better than 2-1 and Rams claimed two points in the GHLL standings.

Hamilton, unlike Niagara, was unable to use a manpower advantage to put a dent in the Acton game plan. The Wildcats dressed 15 players to a mere seven for Acton but the experienced Rams managed to negate Hamilton's lineup strength.

Acton's Jim Clarke and Hamilton's Steve Prokop were sent to the showers with 10 minutes remaining in the third period after the pair engaged in a stick-swinging duel following a goal by Prokop.

The Wildcat player took exception to a hit as he scored and responded by hitting Clarke with his stick. Rams' spokesman Wayne Young said the two players exchanged highfives before referees quelled the confrontation. Both players received misconduct penalties.

Rams were back in action last night with a visit to Burlington. They host Niagara tomorrow (Thursday, June 9) at the Acton Arena with an 8:30 p.m. starting time.

Hoosiers winless

The Halton Hills Pee Wee Girls Softball team is finding the competition a little tough as their inaugural season gets under way. The team, made up of young ladies from Georgetown, Acton and Glen Williams are 0-2 thus far but have gained valuable lessons in top-level softball.

The team lost its opening exhibition game to Ontario bronze medalist Chinguacousy 18-3 as the coaches worked to get all players some playing time. The opening league game saw The Hoosiers fall 21-4 to Brampton. The team was missing a number of players on a school trip but still tried their best. Kelly Ambrose was the leading hitter with two home runs in these games, with Tammy Richard and Shannon Morris also pitching in with some timely hits.

Last week, Cawthra Park (number five in Ontario last year) visited Prospect Park and the Hoosiers played a much better game. Although they lost 13-4, the team played better defence, had a few timely hits, and had fine pitching from Shannon Morris. The Hoosiers left the bases loaded twice and they could've really used those runs. Stacey Colonassi, Shannon Morris, Tammy Richard and Tracy Hagan had the RBIs.

Tennis

Mayor's Race

Runners will "take their marks" this Sunday at the Gordon Alcott Arena as they compete for top honors in the Tenth Annual Mayor's Road Race.

The starter's pistol will sound at 8:15 a.m. as Halton Hills residents will have the opportunity to take part in the five kilometre course. Or, if they feel particularly energetic, they can also enter the 10 kilometre event, which is open to anyone.

Registrations are being accepted at the Recreation and Parks Department Office on James Street or at the Acton Indoor Pool until 3 p.m. on June 6 and at Gordon Alcott Arena on Race Day.

A number of awards and trophies will be available for competitors to win in each event and every participant to finish the course will be presented with a certificate.

The Georgetown Fruit Market is providing oranges for the runners, while Wm. Neilson Ltd. will contribute juice and coffee creamers and Cross-Way Donuts has agreed to supply donuts for the light breakfast following the race.

Minor Lacrosse

Richard Raju had a hattrick and Jon Rutledge scored a pair of goals as the Blues beat the Orange 6-3 in Acton tyke lacrosse action on June 1.

SPORTS

Blue Fins win B2
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 Scoreboard B2

SPORTS

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