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Georgetown 2, Sarnia 0

United blazes to Ontario Cup final berth

The Cinderella story continued for Georgetown United Soccer Club last weekend and team coach Sam Inglis hopes the tale holds at least one more chapter for the local squad.

United, pegged as virtual "unknowns" heading into the ongoing Ontario Cup soccer tournament, earned a berth in the championship final by blanking Sarnia Bluewater Blaze 2-0 at Burlington's Sherwood Forest Park last Sunday. United will now face Braga Arsenal of Toronto in the Ontario Cup final on Sept. 17 in Oshawa.

"It's within our reach to win this thing," said an elated Inglis after the semi-final triumph. "It's something that's really unbelievable when you think this team was put together only last April."

Kevin Carlile and Steve Callaghan scored for United as Georgetown recorded its sixth consecutive victory in the provincial senior tournament. United had achieved a spot in the Sunday semi-final with Sarnia after dispatching of Sudbury by a 1-0 count two weeks ago in Georgetown.

On Sunday, United employed the same aggressive counter-attacking style that has proved so successful for the club this season. Carlile broke a 0-0 deadlock at the 23-minute mark of the first half when he carried the ball up the right side of the pitch from his defensive position in the Georgetown backfield and blazed a low hard shot past a diving Bluewater goalkeeper into the left side of the Sarnia net.

"He really got hold of it," said Inglis of Carlile's pin-point shot. "It probably cleared just six inches inside the left post. He really surprised them." Inglis said Carlile caught Sarnia off guard by taking the ball up-field himself from the United backfield. "It was like someone scoring a goal who shouldn't have," said Inglis.

Georgetown held the 1-0 lead for the remainder of the first half with veteran goalkeeper Ray Ellis coming up with a pair of outstanding saves to keep Sarnia off the board. Inglis cited the standout play of central defenders Dean Nelson and Lee Stephens as being tantamount to United's winning effort. "Dean and Lee played a tremendous game," said Inglis.

Georgetown's backfield again stood out in the second half as the United defence repelled several Sarnia attacks. Inglis said Georgetown's "off-side trap" strategy worked to a tee and the count Bluewater as having been called off-side 14 times.

"They couldn't fathom our off-side trap," explained Inglis. "When we beat them on the off-side once I knew we could beat them again."

Georgetown's successful defensive maneuver worked with defenders moving at precise moments to put Sarnia attackers in an off-side position. "As soon as the ball comes to the attacker he is hung out to dry," said Inglis. "Sarnia couldn't figure out how to beat it."

Sarnia, relying on the powerful boot of its goalkeeper to provide good attacking ball, kept up its assault throughout the second half but failed time and again to effectively penetrate the United backline. When Sarnia did on occasion get clear for a shot Ellis was there to make the stop.

Perhaps the toughest save Ellis made was a shot from a former Peel County player, Grant Lee, as being the most prominent Sarnia performer on Sunday. Lee played for Inglis when United was known as Peel County.

Meanwhile, United will face an experienced European-style club when they tangle with Braga Arsenal in the Ontario Cup final on Sept. 17 at Oshawa's Civic Stadium. The Toronto-based team fought hammer and tong with favored Bramalea Thistle on Sunday before emerging victorious from its semi-final with a 3-2 win.

The match was tied at 2-2 after regulation time and the two teams battled through a pair of scoreless overtime periods before Braga earned the win on a shootout.

Inglis says if Georgetown sticks to its game plan an Ontario Cup title is entirely within the realm of possibilities. "It's worked so far for us," he said.

Although he says he was not impressed with Braga on Sunday, Inglis is careful not to tempt the fates with a final game prediction in United's favor. "It's down to one game," he said. "Anything can happen."

The match ended on a rather sour note when a frustrated Bluewater player kicked Tony Rodrigues in the face as full-time was called.

"The Sarnia player showed a lack of discipline on the play," said Inglis. "It was simply frustration. Our guys showed their maturity by not retaliating." Rodrigues was uninjured on the play.

Inglis attributed the Georgetown win to United's strong defensive play and energetic counter-attack factors which have become hallmarks of the team's recent play. "Our backfield really played well," said Inglis. "They gave Sarnia nothing."

Despite Sarnia's constant attack Inglis never believed Georgetown was in trouble of losing. "Even though they were always up in attack they never looked dangerous," said Inglis. "I really didn't think we were going to lose it once I saw what they had."

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SOCCER

was called upon to make in the final 45 minutes came off the boot of his own man. Defender Dean Nelson made a nonchalant pass back to Ellis which almost eluded the stalwart keeper for a Sarnia goal. That play left Inglis wincing. "That was a bit too nonchalant for my liking," he said.

Georgetown wrapped up the win late in the second half with Sarnia caught well up in attack in a desperate attempt to equalize. Steve Callaghan took a perfectly-timed pass from Martin Barron and beat a pair of Sarnia defenders to lob a well-placed shot up and over the outstretched hands of the advancing Bluewater keeper.

"That was the icing on the cake," said Inglis. "It was a cracker of a shot."

Sarnia pressed again with only seven minutes remaining to play but was again repulsed by a constantly-hustling Georgetown side.

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Which way?

A Georgetown United player gets tangled up with a Sarnia defender during a battle for the ball at last Sunday's Ontario Cup semi-final match at Burlington's Arsenal in the tournament championship. (Herald photo)

Club approaches Guelph deal with optimism

New logo unveiled as Raiders open training

The Georgetown Jr. "B" hockey facelift inched one step closer to completion last week with the unveiling of a new club logo.

The executive of the recently renamed Raiders approved of a new

logo designed by local artist Bob Anderson that will adorn the team's spanking new black, red and white uniforms in time for the 1988-89 season.

"We're very, very excited about and pleased with the appearance of the new logo," said club president Dave Kentner last week.

The new logo incorporates a stylized version of the Olympic ice hockey symbol with a red "R" and black "power lines" to give the impression of speed and forward motion. "It's simple and clean," said Kentner of the design.



According to Kentner the logo's power lines emphasize the underlying message of the team's forward progression, a theme which has been boldly highlighted by the name switch from Gemini to Raiders. While the hockey player symbol resembles that formerly used by the now-defunct Raiders intermediate and senior teams, Kentner said the new design is not meant to tie in with the old Raiders logo.

The new crest will accompany the team's new Chicago Blackhawks-style uniforms with white being the predominant color at home and red on the road.

The Raiders executive had welcomed design submissions from the public for a new logo after officially announcing the change in team name and colors in July. Although some verbal suggestions were received by the executive Kentner said no other formal drawings were submitted other than the one designed by Anderson.

Kentner said the old green and gold Gemini jerseys will be made available for purchase at Raider home games during the upcoming season with former players getting first crack at them.

Meanwhile, another new development was in the offing as the Raiders prepared to open their 1988-89 rookie camp last night at Alcott Arena. Jack Handy, Raiders vice-president of hockey operations,

said a limited working agreement with the OHL's Guelph Platers may be hammered out.

"We've been invited to the Guelph camp during the second week of September," Handy told The Herald last week. "There's the possibility there'll be some players available to us." Handy, however, stressed the fact the Raiders would not be tying themselves down to working with only one major junior organization. "They're looking for benefits and so are we," he said.

The Platers will not, however, be playing one of their OHL exhibition games at Alcott Arena as previously proposed. Both Handy and Kentner said the dates being considered would conflict with Raider training camp and would not provide Georgetown fans with an ideal look at finalized OHL rosters.

Instead, Kentner said a "special event" between the Raiders and Guelph is being organized for sometime during the Christmas season.

The new-look Raiders were scheduled to welcome between 60 and 70 skaters to the three-day rookie camp which opened last night (Aug. 23) at Alcott Arena. Raiders general manager Bob Hooper said all the local midget and bantam rep players have been invited to rookie camp, as is customary, and he's hoping three or four of them can make the jump to Jr. B.

Hooper is also pleased with the news that three of last year's Gems will be returning to don the new black and red of Georgetown next season. Chuck Loreto, Travis Cole and Greg Brazeau are slated to hit the ice with the Raiders when the main camp opens on Saturday. "We're pretty happy about that," said Hooper. "They're returnees who were pretty crucial to last year's team."

The recent OHA ruling which allows Georgetown to recruit players from Peel Region without using import cards will likely see about 20 Brampton-area skaters at the Raiders camp, said Hooper. "That deal helps a whole lot," he said. "It leaves some import cards open and we really need that."

As to the possibility of a deal with Guelph, Hooper said the Raiders see some potential in a limited partnership. "We really can't say what it will do," he said. Hooper said Guelph isn't the only OHL team to

express interest in Georgetown. "We've had a couple of high OHL draft choices taken from Georgetown and the major junior teams know we're here," he said.

Raiders kick off their 1988-89 exhibition schedule on home ice on Friday, Sept. 2 when Richmond Hill Dynes visit Georgetown.

Local lawn bowlers first in area competition

Saturday, Aug. 20 saw ideal weather conditions for the Georgetown Lawn Bowling Club's tournament day at the greens located at Edith and William Streets. The milder temperatures brought teams from as far away as Kitchener to compete.

Of the 30 bowlers competing the local threesome of Skip Phil Harris, Vice Sally Coleman and Lead Edna Harris took top honors with three wins followed by the teams

skipped by Len Miller and Don Murray of Kitchener and Georgetown respectively.

Georgetown's next tournament is scheduled for Sept. 10 beginning at 10 a.m.

Anyone wishing to increase their understanding of the sport are welcome to drop by most evenings and weekends as spectators or to receive free instruction in a game that has been around since the days of Sir Francis Drake.



Top golfer

Rick Home (centre) took the low Raiders logo with team president Dave Kentner (left) and golf tournament organizer Wayne Pries. Bill Georgetown Golf and Country Club Ringham (absent) won the low net on Monday with a score of 71. Here Rick displays the newly designed (Herald photo)

Little victories make golfing fun



Paul's call

By PAUL SVOBODA
 Herald Sports Editor

Okay. So the word is out. My golf game stinks.

But there's one thing that I've learned from chasing an elusive white ball around hill and dale a few times each summer. It's the little victories that count in golf.

Arnold Palmer's legend is safe. Jack Nicklaus can breathe a sigh of relief. No, don't take my measurements for the green jacket. For me, a small victory means making it once around 18 holes with the same ball.

That's just what yours truly did on Monday at the annual Georgetown Gemini Golf Tournament. After three years as a golfing neophyte I finally played a round with the same ball. Now the sky is the limit.

I really didn't know what to expect when I lined my trusty orange Slazenger "Fireball" up for my foursome's 11:41 a.m. tee-off. The three other guys in my group looked like they knew what they were doing. I mean, they actually had their own clubs and everything.

After explaining that it was my first time out on the links this summer (it's true) I bashed, or rather, teed off.

I almost had one of my golfmates, Don Curzon, convinced that I almost knew what I was doing. But a couple of nine and 10-shot scores soon revealed me for what I am. A hack.

At any rate, I decided Monday

was the day I'd keep the same ball. And damn it I did. The streak required me to reconstruct a partially dried streambed on the front

nine and I shot more than once from under the low-lying arms of nearby trees. But time and again my trusty orange ball emerged unscathed.

Along the route I found out that Don halls from my hometown of Belleville and another member of our foursome, Neil Nicholson, attended hated Trenton High School during my halcyon grade 13 days.

By the ninth hole I'd thrown caution to the wind when it came to putting. My mini-golf skills were failing me. I decided to drill a long put on number nine and darned if the little orange ball didn't find the hole from 30 feet. Small victories.

All of our games, however, fell apart on the final nine holes. Neil finished at 104, Don won our group title with a serious 81 and the fourth member of our partnership, Mike McGuire, nailed a better-than-recreational 82. My score? Let's just say I wish my I.Q. was that high.

As we trudged back to the clubhouse in search of that oasis-like 19th hole, I pondered my next small victory in this strangely appealing game they call golf.

Around the course with the same tee? Pretty tough. Eighteen holes without once running into the bushes to commute with nature? Not likely. Beating my little brother in a long-drive contest? Hmmmm...

Like I said. Little victories.

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