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**"We're good and we're going to show it," says coach**

# Gym club vaults forward

The Georgetown Raiders Jr. B Hockey Club is not the only local sports organization that has opted for a new look in 1988.

The Halton Hills Gymnastics Club has also sprouted a new profile this year and it's one the local club hopes will soon draw as much fanfare as that of the much-improved Raiders.

"It's a whole new look, straight across the board," says head coach Paula Geniole, herself an integral part of the club's transformation.

At the end of the 1987 season the Georgetown-based gymnastics club, formally known as the Halton Hills

Jills, decided to hire a fulltime coach in the person of Milton native Geniole.

Her arrival signalled a sweep of changes in the club, beginning with the dropping of the name Jills and the official adoption of the name Halton Hills Gymnastics Club Inc.

With the new name also came a new commitment to improving the club, both physically and competitively. Physical changes included the installation of a new tumbling floor, updated uneven bar equipment and renovations which included a completely new paint job for the

Memorial Arena-based club.

Geniole also shed the club's previous navy and green color scheme for a bold new combination of black, pink and royal blue.

"We're good and we're going to show it," says an enthusiastic Geniole.

Competitively, Geniole wants Halton Hills to be able to put its best foot forward in regional, provincial and ultimately, national level competition. "This province is going to be shocked," said Geniole. "We've come very far."

Retton on TV.

"It's tiring, but it's worth it," says Darby, 13, of the training and competition. The Centennial school Grade eight student competes in Tyro B while Tracey and Marcey compete in Tyro C (Tyro A is the highest competitive level).

"Kids at school think it's neat when you can do tricks like cartwheels and the splits," says Marcey. Tracey says the sport requires "a lot of dedication" and Darby agreed, saying, "It teaches you not to quit."

About the only drawback seen in the sport by the trio was dieting. "Keeping your weight down can be tough, especially when you like pizza," quipped Darby.



**Coming to grips**

No, it's not the WWF. Olympic wrestler Keith Smith (top) is just seconds away from pinning opponent Ron Olmstead of Nelson in a 99-pound class battle. (Herald photo)

## Clark takes fifth in meet

Three members of the revamped Halton Hills Gymnastics Club tasted their first competitive action of the 1988 season last weekend in Guelph with a respectable fifth place finish leading the way.

Tracey Clark, 13, placed fifth overall out of 22 gymnasts in the Tyro C competition at the Central Ontario regional meet and her finish was highlighted by a silver medal performance in the vault.

Clark scored an 8.55 in the vault and together with a sixth place finish (8.60) on the beam and fourth (9.05) in the floor exercises

she totalled 34.40 to secure fifth place.

"Tracey had a good showing and with a little luck could've placed in the medal round," said coach Paula Geniole.

Darby Erler, 13, competed for Halton Hills in the Tyro B competition and placed 14th out of 20 athletes. Erler was fifth in vault with an 8.75, eighth on the floor with an 8.90 and ninth on the bars with an 8.30.

Marcey MacInnes, 12, also took part in the event as a Tyro C competitor.

Geniole hopes the trend will continue and that someday the club can move into more roomier confines than those afforded by the Rose Room above Memorial Arena.

"Most gyms have about 10-13,000 square feet to work with," she said. "We've probably got between 5-10,000."

But Geniole will take what she's got for the time being and she's not hesitant in placing the lion's share of the credit for the club's seeming rebirth squarely on the shoulders of some pretty hardworking parent-volunteers.

"All the renovation work has been done by the parents and volunteer assistant coaches," she said. "We've got some great parents."

The club currently welcomes members from age one and a half years to 20 in programs ranging from Kindergarten to Competitive.

Gymnasts are placed in classes according to age and ability with the majority entering in the recreational, or non-competitive, stream. Gymnasts can try out at any time for a spot on the competitive team which currently has eight girls working under Geniole's tutelage, three in competitive and five in pre-competitive.



Tracey Clark (left), Darby Erler (centre) and Marcey MacInnes model the new competitive outfits worn by the Halton Hills Gymnastics Club. (Herald photo)

The club trains from mid-July straight through to the following June with only about two to three weeks off in the summer. The competitive season goes from December to May and gymnasts work hardest during that time span.

"They're in the gym about 13 hours a week," said Geniole.

The club's three competitive gymnasts, Tracey Clark, Marcey MacInnes and Darby Erler, competed in their first regional meet last weekend and will see action in two more before the end of the competitive season.

All three athletes say they were first attracted to the grueling sport by watching the 1980 Olympic exploits of American star Mary-Lou

whole year off to prepare for next season.

Cruise was introduced to a Kent State representative last season but the meeting with Beard was his first formal information session regarding the possibility of receiving a full hockey scholarship.

"It's as good a calibre of hockey as you'll find outside of pro," said Cruise who speculated at a Miami of Ohio game last year. "They get some big crowds as well."

All indications point to Kent State being interested in Cruise and Loreto attending the U.S. college and playing as linemen.

"We're really used to each other after being on the same line for two years," said Cruise. "That would be great if we could go down there and play on the same line," agreed Loreto.

Last season both Loreto and Cruise were scouted by Hamilton College in New York and Loreto is still expecting to hear from Merrimack College near Boston.

Loreto had 31 goals and 42 assists for Georgetown last season while Cruise potted 15 goals and 25 assists. The 18-year-olds both attend GDHS.

Meanwhile, another 18-year-old who will graduate from Grade 13 at Georgetown next spring, Todd King, was met by a scout representing Plattsburgh State.

"He sounded pretty sincere when he asked me if I was in-

# Raider trio wooed by U.S. college hounds

A pair of Georgetown Raiders could become Flashes next year and a third member of the Jr. B squad could be stopping pucks in upstate New York.

Chuck Loreto, Don Cruise and Todd King were contacted by officials from a pair of American university hockey teams at the conclusion of last week's heavily-scouted Henry Carr Jr. B Tournament at the Weston Lions Arena.

Loreto and Cruise, linemen for the past two seasons, met Bill Beard, an assistant coach from the Kent State University Flashes, while netminder King was contacted by a scout from Plattsburgh State University in New York. All three Raider players may be offered hockey scholarships to the respective schools next season.

"It was pretty exciting at the tournament, there were scouts everywhere," said Cruise. "Mr. Beard asked us questions about our grades and gave us a basic idea of the Kent State program. He talked to my parents and said he'd be back to scout Chuck and me later in the season."

Kent State, playing Division I hockey out of Kent, Ohio, ran into a bit of notoriety this season when the entire hockey program was barred from competition for one year after senior players were charged with breaking the state's anti-hazing laws.

rested in a scholarship," said King of the Plattsburgh agent. "I'm really interested in obtaining one, that's one of the main reasons I came back to Georgetown this season."

Plattsburgh was a top club in Division II last year and plays a competitive program against some of the east coast's toughest U.S. collegiate teams.

Last year King, a former member of the Oakville Blades, received a letter from Lake Superior State University which subsequently went on to capture the NCAA title last season. "I guess I should've replied," he quipped.

King also heard from New York's Hamilton College, "but nothing came about."

Both King and Loreto are interested in studying business at the post-secondary level while Cruise hopes for a career in law.



Chuck Loreto



Todd King



Don Cruise

Senior players were suspended after being caught serving alcohol to rookie players during an illegal initiation party.

"Mr. Beard said it was something they (the coaches) had no control over," said Cruise. "They're basically taking this

# Maple Leaf bashing becomes way of life

employees and were given carte blanche to run the team the best way they saw fit?

Boring.

No, no, no. It's much more interesting to have things at Maple Leaf Gardens just the way they are.

Sure, Conn Smythe must be rolling over - continuously - in his grave, but at least things are never dull at Hal's House.

Of course, things could still be fun and interesting if the Leafs won. But would any more fans be able to come to the Gardens? Why, the old rink is filled to capacity on most nights as it is.

And again, what of the Toronto media. Who would receive the wrath of their scorn if not for Gerry McNamara, John Brophy, or (has it started already?) Gord Stellick?

Why even the Argos, losers in an "eastern" division CFL (final) they were supposed to win, and the Blue Jays, a disaster last summer, have taken the hint and have started to be just plain bad.

They too have figured out that Toronto fans will keep coming out to the games - except for the Argos - and that the media types love a controversy.

But what if the Leafs tried winning. Just for fun.

Nah...

LATE CALLS: Ex-Georgetown Gemini blueliner Adam Bennett could be excused for feeling a little bit nervous these days. When Sudbury Wolves traded sophomore defenceman John Uniak a couple of weeks ago he became the fourth consecutive first round midget draft pick of the Wolves to be dealt in the past four years. Bennett was the first round choice, second overall, of Sudbury last summer.

ture the championship final with a win over the Detroit Jr. Red Wings.

In game two, lack of scoring again hurt Georgetown as Buffalo dumped the Raiders 4-1.

Against Orillia on Saturday, Shannon Storr (powerplay), Kevin Dance and Chris Lee did the scoring for Georgetown with Brent Presswood (2), Kelly Foster and Mark Pries assisting. Georgetown trailed 2-1 after the first period and 4-2 after 40 minutes.

Curtis Green faced 23 shots while the Raiders fired the same amount at the Orillia cage.

On Friday against Buffalo, Don Cruise scored the lone Raider marker from Chuck Loreto and Trent Cull. "Don had an excellent tournament, he really played well," said Anderson.

Todd King faced 35 Buffalo shots while Georgetown tested the stateside goaltender 21 times.

Against Bramalea on Thursday, King made 24 saves while Bramalea was tested only 16 times.

RAIDER RAMBLINGS: It's not uncommon for scouts to outnumber fans at the annual Henry Carr event and this year's tournament was no exception. Three underage members of the Raiders, defencemen Trent Cull and Rod Pasma and forward Bryan Gendron, were reportedly scouted by the OHL's central combine.

Raiders returned to league action last night in Streetsville. They visit Milton on Friday before hosting Burlington on Saturday.

Proceeds from the 11-km jog will go to the Halton Hills United Way.

# Raiders lack production in three tournament losses

"We seemed to have no luck around the net," said assistant coach Jay Anderson. "We just couldn't put anything in."

A lack of offence would appear almost foreign to this year's Raiders. The club has scored 121 goals in 21 league games so far, second only to Burlington in the western division with 138.

"We should've won all our games, but we didn't seem to be scoring," said goaltender Todd King. "I was pretty nervous, I thought I could've played better."

But what may have provided the Raiders with a shot of confidence was their performance against eastern division-leading Orillia. Georgetown met their Central league eastern rivals in both teams' final pool game and Orillia managed to eke out a 4-3 win.

"They didn't look like a first place team," said Anderson. "We can beat them."

Georgetown opened the tournament on the short end of a 3-0 score to the Metro Jr. loop's Bramalea Blues who eventually went on to cap-

# Egg Nog Jog hits streets on Sunday

Joggers of all ages, shapes and descriptions will hit the streets of Terra Cotta this Sunday for the annual Egg Nog Jog.

The run, sponsored by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority and

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