


**NOTICE:**  
**GEORGETOWN HONDA**



**SALE**

203 Guelph St. (Hwy 7) 873-1818  
 Phone for Details 846-0913


# Sports

## and Recreation

**YOUNG'S**  
 PHARMACY LTD.

**HOURS:**  
 Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.  
 Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

**the HERALD**  
**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**



Bill Andrews of the Acton Redmen midget boys basketball team accounted for over half of his team's total offensive output as he hooped 28 points in leading AHS to a dramatic 47-46 win over White Oaks Wildcats last week.

If you know of someone deserving "Athlete of the Week" recognition, call the Herald at 877-2201.

### Bob Tost to receive Hockey Heritage award

# "Mr. Jr. B" gets the nod

By PAUL SVOBODA  
 Herald Sports Editor

Bob Tost will tell you he wasn't a very good hockey player.

"That's one of the reasons I wanted to get involved in hockey," says the Georgetown native. "I just wanted to be involved in the game."

And involved he became.

Now, after 30 years of involvement with almost every level of hockey in Georgetown, Robert "Bob" Tost is being honored for his outstanding contributions to the local puck scene.

On Mar. 6 at Holy Cross Auditorium the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council will present its 1989 GHHC award to Bob Tost.



Looking back

The scrapbooks provide 30 years of hockey memories in Georgetown but among the most favorite for Bob Tost and his wife Marlene are those documenting the origin of the Jr. B Gemini in 1975. Bob, original GM of the fledgling Jr. B program and involved with the Gems for 10 years, will be honored on Mar. 6 as recipient of the 1989 Georgetown Hockey Heritage Award. (Herald photo)

players and washed the towels. Bob's two daughters, Elaine and Diane, both worked at Alcott Arena during home games, and son Glenn was playing minor hockey at the time.

"We got into a fair amount of debt but the merchants were great to us and at that time a lot of groups were out looking for support," recounted Tost. "We were the third guy to go knocking on people's doors. You'd have the GMHA, the Raiders and then us. But while there might've been a lot of feet-shuffling and head-scratching, the people always came through."

"It must've been hell being a business on Main Street in those days," Bob laughed.

The Gems averaged about 200 fans a game at spanking new Alcott Arena and the first coach was Paul Robinson, a star player on Georgetown's OHA Jr. C championship squad in 1968.

"He worked 24 hours," said Tost. "He was from the Gerry Inglis school of coaching (Inglis coached the Jr. C champion Raiders) and I remember he'd pull some good stunts when we were on the road. We'd take the home team's end of the ice and we'd even take their box. Once in the playoffs against Dixie we told them we were going to move our part of the series to the old Memorial Arena. We thought we'd throw a screw into them. There was no glass around the sideboards and the fans could really go crazy in there. Dixie said if we moved from Alcott they wouldn't come up."

After one particularly sorry effort at home, Robinson kept the Gems on the ice after the loss and put the players through a full practice session. "The players' girlfriends were up in the stands yelling at him," Tost chuckled.

"It was certainly the most exciting time I spent in the game," he says. "There was no security."

"We were \$3,000 in debt after our first year but we made it all up in our seventh year when we went to the league finals and lost to Streetsville," he said.

"We thought we did a good job." So do the members of the GHHC.

## Raiders extend streak

Although they didn't need it, the Georgetown Raiders got a little help from their "friends" last weekend.

Raiders took care of their own business by winning both games in a two-match home stand while two other Central Ontario Jr. B league west division clubs helped the Raider cause as well.

Georgetown knocked off first-place Etobicoke Capitals 4-3 on Saturday and coupled with a 7-5 win over Mimico Monarchs on Friday the four points were enough to lift the Raiders back into third spot in the seven-team group, two points up on Streetsville Derbys (34-32).



Meanwhile, Oakville Blades helped the Raiders by edging second-place Burlington Cougars 4-3 on Sunday after Mimico also did Georgetown a favor by upsetting Streetsville 4-2 on Saturday.

"It was a good weekend," said Raider coach Peter Sturgeon. "We got a good effort from everyone. I thought the defence played really well and our forwards were coming back to help out. Two wins next weekend could put us into a position for second place."

Raiders host Streetsville on Friday, a club they definitely have to stay ahead of to pose as serious contenders for second spot.

The two recent wins extended Georgetown's current unbeaten streak to six games, just three shy of the nine-game string they put together before Christmas.

**RAIDERS 4, ETOBICOKE 3**  
 Don Cruise, Travis Cole, Brian Gendron and Chris Lee scored for the Raiders who outscored the west's leaders 3-1 in the first period and 1-0 in the second.

Etobicoke scored two third period markers but Georgetown refused to let the Capitals get any closer than 4-3.

Chuck Loreto, now leading Raider scorers with 72 points, pick-

Continued on Page 16

"It seems funny," said Tost, relaxing at his Byron Street home last week. "Once you're out of the game you think you're forgotten. It's quite an honor."

Tost's association with hockey in Georgetown is definitely not soon to be forgotten. And it's also fitting that the acknowledged, "Mr. Junior 'B' Hockey of Georgetown" should receive the town's highest hockey accolade in 1989.

Last summer the current junior "B" executive voted to retire the Gemini nickname and green and gold colors which had adorned Georgetown's Central Ontario Jr. B league teams since the club was organized in 1975.

Tost was one of the founding fathers of the Gemini flagship which marked Georgetown's return to junior "B" hockey after an absence of about 10 years. Prior to that Georgetown had briefly iced a junior "B" squad in the OHA known as the Beavers.

"It was exciting," said Tost, smiling at the fond recollection of that first unforgettable year.

"We started with nothing. We didn't even have a skate lace. Sometimes we wouldn't know where our next dime was coming from."

After seven years as Gemini GM, Tost would serve as vice-president and president of the club, leaving the organization after 10 years in 1985.

Tost's involvement in hockey

started much earlier, however, when the Gemini was still a future not yet realized in Georgetown.

After playing house league and industrial hockey in Georgetown during his youth, Tost joined the Saturday morning hockey league - forerunner of today's house leagues - as a coach. He spent 12 years behind the bench in bantam hockey before joining the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association's support group in 1966.

While Tost enjoyed every minute of his minor hockey days - he says he gets a kick out of seeing some of his tyke players now grown up with their own children - he readily admits the halcyon days of the early Gemini were his most exciting times in hockey.

"Everything was brand new to us," he said. "We had a good first year, making the second round of the playoffs, and the crowds were excellent. Everyone was hyped up

about seeing the new team."

Georgetown's juvenile entry had gone to the OMHA finals the two previous seasons, losing both times to London, and Tost said there was plenty of local talent available with which to stock a junior squad.

"We only used four import cards that first year," he said.

It was a tough sell, competing against Georgetown's perennial senior-intermediate powerhouse, the Raiders, but Tost said the town came out for both teams.


"We played under the shadow of the Raiders, who were a very hot team," he recalled. "We played back-to-back with them and we survived."

Part of that survival-meant complete commitment to the organization by virtually all members. "It was a 12-month job," said Tost.

The Gemini became a family affair for several people, including the Tosts. Bob's wife Marlene cut the between period oranges for the

## Tost remembers "wild and wooly" Gemini days

**Paul's Call**



Paul Svoboda  
 Herald Sports Editor

It's guys like Bob Tost who make the hockey world go 'round.

After nearly 20 years in the minor hockey system, Bob jumped and landed, with both feet, into a fledgling new Jr. B kettle in 1975 known as the Georgetown Gemini.

Over 140 people in town responded to a name-the-team contest and Bob admits to being a tad bit sad when the Gem moniker and green and gold colors disappeared last summer.

"We didn't need to hear this malarky about the Gemini name not meaning anything," he said

last week while reflecting on his 10-year hitch with the Jr. B's. "There's no championship banners hanging from the rafters but there might not be any for a while yet."

While there were certainly some lean years, Bob and the early Gemini executive guided the squad to the Central Ontario league finals in 1982 and despite losing the series to Streetsville the Gems managed to pay off their debts.

Among Bob's cherished memories are those involving streaking hockey players and scouting goose chases that took him and coach Paul Robinson, "from here to Timbuktu."

Rookie initiation one season saw Gemini newcomers streak nude from the Beer Store to another location on Guelph Street. "They had to touch at least one other store window on the way," grinned Tost. "Then there was a car

waiting to pick them up."

A scouting foray to Stroud left Tost out in the cold during another season. "We wanted to sign this kid from Stroud Jr. C's and their organization was so mad they wouldn't even let us into their rink," said Tost. "We eventually got him, though."

While strapped to pick his all-time Gemini lineup, Bob recalls each season had its outstanding personalities.

"One season Stevenson's Mens Wear donated an article of clothing to every player who scored a hattrick," he recounted. "Why, Larry Peterson practically had an entire wardrobe by the end of the year."

Today, Bob says junior squads need to make the second round of playoffs to make any real profits.

"It's tough for smaller towns like Milton and Georgetown," he says. "The import and territory rules need to be changed so

smaller towns can compete. You've also got to have a strong minor hockey system."

Bob attributes today's drop in minor hockey registration to the myriad activities available to kids now. "When I was growing up we were right back outside on the ice playing after we'd just finished practising at the rink."

He's not much on CAHA coaching certifications - "I know guys with badges up their sleeves who can't coach" - and he thinks the mandatory facemask rule has invited more unnecessary stickwork.

He's not sold on the Penalty Free Sweepstakes - "If I'm coaching a midget rep team and we win the penalty free sweepstakes then we're in last place"

"We had some wild and wooly nights," he mused about those formative Gemini years. "But it was fun."