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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Brendan Louth, 6, led all Smurf bowlers in Georgetown Bowl YBC action last weekend with a 351 (150) score.

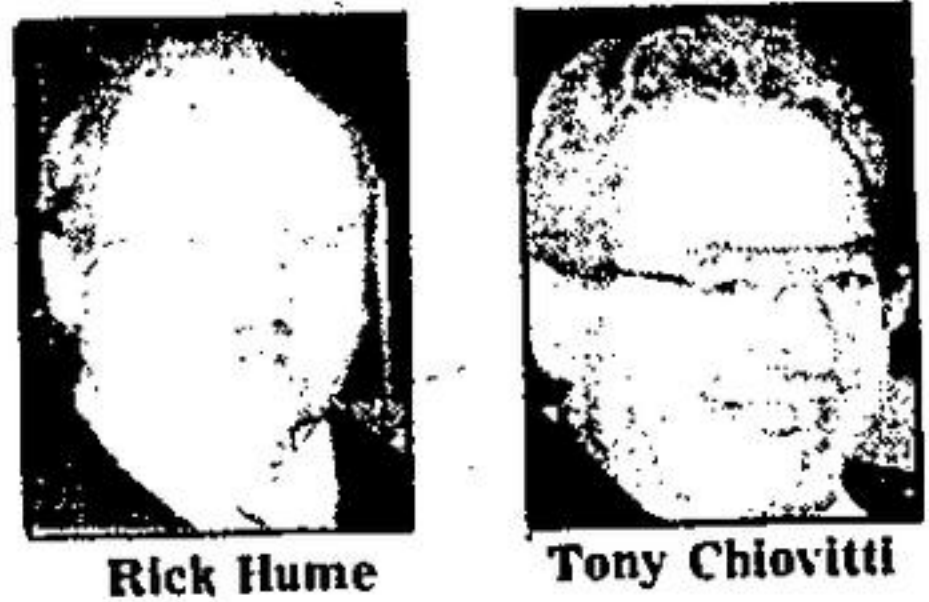
Brendan is a student at Harrison School and he is enjoying his first year of bowling in the YBC league.

GMHA coaches, players to try luck at camp

By PAUL SVOBODA
 Herald Sports Editor

The hockey season may be over for the Georgetown M and M Pro Sports Bantams but that doesn't mean team coaches Rick Hume and Tony Chiovitti aren't still busy.

The Georgetown coaching duo, who along with Brian James guided the fortunes of the local OMHA playdown participants, have been selected to coach at the Ontario Under-17 Team regional training camp in Kitchener on Apr. 21-23.



Hume and Chiovitti were approached recently by the OMHA and were asked to join six other coaches who will put 68 hopefuls through their paces at the Kitchener camp.

Fifteen players (one goaltender, five defencemen and nine forwards) will be selected at the conclusion of the weekend camp, one of six such camps that will be operating on Apr. 21-23 across the province. The 15 players chosen from each of the six regional training sessions will advance to a second regional camp for further roster trimmings until the final Ontario team is selected after a main camp in June.

The final product, the Ontario Under-17 Team, will participate in an annual tournament in Quebec next December.

"We'll help run the practices and we'll coach two games (the camp will be split into four teams for intra-squad games), then we'll sit down with the seven evaluators," explained Hume of the roles he and Chiovitti will assume.

The Kitchener regional camp will include players from a broad area including Georgetown, Milton, Chinguacousy, Orangeville, Brampton, Brantford and Stratford. "It's a big blend of kids," said Hume.

Among the 68 hopefuls, who'll skate this weekend in Kitchener are four Georgetown players. Rob

Lang, Adam Hagen, Trevor Elinesky and Dwayne Lewis will be trying to earn a spot on the regional roster and Hume feels the locals have a good shot at sticking.

"It's wide open for everybody," said Hume. "Everybody should have a good chance."

The weekend camp's schedule calls for registration on Friday after which time the four squads will break off for their initial practices. Two games will be played on Saturday and one on Sunday, after which the coaches and evaluators will decide who advances to the next round of regional tryouts.

OMHA Referee-in-Chief Rick Morpew will deliver a lecture to the 68 players on rules and regulations, and other off-ice classroom sessions will include discussion on drugs in sports, nutrition and conditioning.

Hume says the on-ice work is top notch with heavy emphasis on the fundamentals of the game and each player's performance during practice drills will be as heavily scrutinized as their game play. Skills such as skating, turning ability, giving and receiving a pass will be evaluated, said Hume.

But while the Under-17 Team has a strong history of promoting top level players, even the odd future star has failed to make the regional camp grade. Brampton native Andrew Cassells, now a star with the OHL's Ottawa 67's and a first-round pick of the Montreal Canadiens, was cut when he attended an Under-17 camp.



Board sailor

The streets were filled with skateboarders this weekend as temperatures rose and the sun shone. Grant Cox of Georgetown District High School was one of the many skateboarders on Guelph Street sharpening their skills for this summer's action. (Herald photo)

Rebels are "bad"

The mixed doubles tandem of Bill Tutt and Julie Purvis led the way as the GDHS Rebels badminton team was an overwhelming winner at the Halton Closed tournament in Georgetown last Friday.

Tutt and Purvis captured top spot in their category as Georgetown's combined team outscored its nearest opponent by a whopping 21 points in winning the overall title. GDHS totalled 32 points at the conclusion of the day-long event with E.C. Drury of Milton finishing second with 11 points and Acton Redmen taking third with 10.

Fourteen country high schools participated in the competition. Georgetown was well represented in the medal round of every division on Friday with three second place finishes and two thirds to go along with the mixed doubles first.

Melanie Jans took second in ladies singles play, Mark Shepherd and Steve Robinson teamed up for silver in men's doubles and the duo of Kelly Cotton and Kim Barr were second place finishers in ladies' doubles.

Dave Harris took bronze in men's-singles play, and the Shanna Long-Owen Jones partnership earned third in mixed doubles. Cindy Kallo rounded out the Rebels' excellent showing by placing fourth in ladies' singles.

Dave Thorpe was tops for Acton Redmen as he nailed down second in men's singles play and the team of Troy Foster and Scott Williams took third in men's doubles.

Next on deck for the local badminton teams is the Halton Open championship, set for this Friday at GDHS.

Saxon leads Villa to semi-finals

A strong team effort and the solid goalkeeping of Tony Saxon has given Acton Villa a berth in the final four championship playoff round of the Milton Indoor Soccer League.

SOCCER

Saxon posted the shutout and his Acton teammates put forth a spirited show as Villa blanked Halton Outdoors 3-0 in MISL quarter-final playoff action on

Apr. 16 at E.C. Drury High School. The win puts Acton in the final four in one of two semi-final contests on Apr. 23.


Paul Nolan, Dave Entwistle and Colin Lewis provided the goals for Acton in their win over Outdoors, a club they had split with (1-1) during regular season play.

Villa will go head-to-head with the Duchess of Oakville squad in one league semi-final while Fearman's meets the Optimists in the other. The two winners will square off for the MISL playoff championship which will also be played on Apr. 23.

Game time for Acton's semi-final encounter is 11:30 a.m.

Season over but Raiders still playing games

Paul's Call



Paul Svoboda
 Herald Sports Editor

It's been almost two months since the Georgetown Raiders were eliminated from the Central Ontario Jr. B Hockey League playoffs, but the club is still playing games.

Board room games.

Bob Hooper is the team's general manager. Peter Sturgeon is the coach. President Dave Kentner wants Hooper to be vice-president of hockey operations - a position currently held by Jack Handy - but Hooper has offered to come back only as GM. Sturgeon hadn't made a commitment for

next season - yet - and it was apparent he was waiting to see what Hooper's future looked like before announcing his own decision.

Confused? Join the crowd. Dave Kentner assured me on Monday that although it might've appeared so, the team actually wasn't in disarray.

"Jack's not returning as VP, the job was offered to Bob and he turned it down," Kentner said on Monday following a Saturday skull session with Hooper. "Bob has offered to come back as GM. He came in and laid down his ground rules and has given me the conditions under which he will participate in our program."

Kentner did say the situation was, "in limbo right now," but he added that now the matter would be discussed with the club's executive and a decision would probably be forthcoming on May 9.

Kentner wants to follow proper team protocol for naming a VP, who in turn will name a GM and coach. But if the guy he wanted for VP doesn't want the job, does that mean Kentner is back at square one?

Hooper has offered to come back as GM. He's a hands-on operator. A personality more suited to a GM. He believes in the program he and Sturgeon have instituted and has indicated that program will proceed if the club endorses it.

"I honestly don't know what they want to do now," said Hooper on Monday of the current situation. "There's nothing really decided."

Obviously with summer coming on, it would be nice to get everyone in their place for next season so the job at hand can be undertaken - building a winning Jr. B franchise in Georgetown. All the involved parties have

the best interests of the club in mind. Some feelings have been hurt in the wake of another early playoff exit and some doubts persist. No one wants to tip their hand just yet.

But let's hope by May 9 the right people are in the right places and the real games can start again.

IT'S HALTON HILLS VS GUELPH ON MAY 31:

The Town of Halton Hills has challenged the City of Guelph in the Crownlife Participation Challenge. On Wednesday, May 31 the community should participate in a physical activity like walking, raking your lawn, house cleaning, etc. for 15 continuous minutes then call the new Civic Centre at 873-2600 to register your activity. Last year Halton Hills had 34.6 per cent of its residents take part.

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