



Bob Doucette, smooth-skating Georgetown Pontiac-Buick Raider forward, has played well despite his team's tow losses. Raiders are hoping their fortunes will change for the better this weekend in a pair of contests. Tonight (Saturday) the Raiders host Milton Merchants, 7:30 p.m. at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena. (Herald Photo)

# Raiders look to improve early season record

By COLIN GIBSON  
Herald Sports Editor

Georgetown Pontiac-Buick Raiders are hoping this weekend will herald an upswing in their early-season Central Ontario Junior "B" Hockey League fortunes, as the local favorites have yet to taste the fruits of victory.

The Raiders journeyed to Oakville for a re-match with the Blades Friday night, at press time the score was not available.

Tonight (Saturday) the Raiders play host to Milton Merchants 7:30 p.m. at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena and once the ice-chips have settled from the weekend battles, the Georgetown team could be sporting a .500 record.

Raiders lost their opening game of the 1989-90 regular season 8-4 to Streetsville in a game played in Streetsville.

Last Saturday night in the more familiar confines of Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena, the Raiders were tripped up 6-3 by Oakville.

Raider coach, Peter Sturgeon, feels that his charges must display more intensity if they are to succeed and if the intensity does not quickly become apparent, changes on the team roster will be made.



Raiders split a pair of pre-season exhibition games with Oakville so should be at least even money in the game against the Blades.

Raiders claimed a pair of pre-season exhibition wins over Milton in feisty, entertaining games so tonight's game at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena should feature much of the same type of action.

League standings as of last Wednesday, show new league West Division entry, Peterborough sitting on top of the pile with four points from three games.

Barrie is undefeated and tops the East Division standings with six points.

West Division							
Team	G	W	L	T	P	PTS	
Peterboro	3	2	1	0	14	14	4
Streetsville	3	1	0	2	19	15	4
Oakville	2	1	0	1	14	11	3
Burlington	2	1	1	0	9	7	2
Milton	2	1	1	0	7	8	2
Brampton	2	0	1	1	7	8	1
Georgetown	2	0	2	0	7	14	0

East Division							
Team	G	W	L	T	P	PTS	
Barrie	3	3	0	0	31	10	6
Collingwood	1	1	0	0	5	3	2
Oxilia	2	1	1	0	8	4	2
Aurora	2	1	1	0	4	12	2
Markham	3	1	2	0	13	16	2
Lindsay	3	1	2	0	14	27	2
Newmarket	2	0	2	0	4	11	0

## C.A.H.A. stresses fair play

This season, any player in a CAHA league, who intentionally pushes, body checks or hits an opposing player from behind will be assessed a minor or major penalty. The penalty will be left to the referee's discretion, but a major penalty plus a game misconduct will automatically be assessed if an injury results from a check from behind.

This amendment was one of several rule changes ratified at the association's annual meeting in May.

The CAHA has also taken action by eliminating body checking for all levels below peewee, by introducing new stickwork guidelines and by urging referees to crack down on enforcement of the rules.

The association's Initiation Program is also catching on all across the country. The program follows the "Learning the skills and having fun" theme of Minor Hockey Week, with children being taught the basic concepts of the game in a fun atmosphere, actually playing tag on the ice in order to learn the basic skills necessary to play the game.

These changes mark the latest step in the CAHA's efforts to reduce violence and stickwork and to promote fair play in its leagues in a direct partnership with the Commission for Fair Play.

Established in 1986, the Commission consists of former Olympic and professional athletes, coaches, referees, members of the sport media and representatives from the field of medicine and sport administration. The CAHA is represented by President Murray Costello. Other hockey personalities include Canadian Hockey League President Ed Chynoweth, former NHL referee Bruce Hood and broadcaster Danny Gallivan.

The Commission supports the efforts of groups like the CAHA with a

print and television advertisement campaign, posters, transit ads and resources for teachers, coaches and leagues.

The CAHA initiatives are a step in the right direction, but everyone involved in hockey shares the responsibility of improving the game.

"We are aware that this is not a one week, one month or one year game plan," says Rick Parayre, CAHA's manager of officiating. "It's long term and it is an education process for everyone — players, coaches, officials and parents."

Referees can make a commitment to fair play by remembering to enforce the rules consistently, regardless of the individual or the game situation. It is also the ref's responsibility to remain knowledgeable and up to date about rule changes that may occur.

League administrators must also take a strong fair play stand on behalf of their league. Developing a fair play pledge to be signed by all participants — players, coaches and referees — will encourage them to commit to playing fairly. Set fair play standards for your league and publicize them to all members.

In Quebec, the SCORE (Scoring Calculated On the basis of Recognition of Ethics) Program rewards not only goals, but also a player's and a team's positive behavior with respect to opponents and officials.

In London, Ontario, the principles of the Quebec program have been taken a step further. Not only has a

fair play league been implemented at the recreational level, but in the high schools as well. The London Secondary School Athletic Association requires all hockey players and coaches to sign a code of fair play and all of the team uniforms feature a fair play logo.

Perhaps most importantly, coaches must recognize their role in molding their players' fair play attitudes.

As one of the most influential role models in a young athlete's life, coaches must make a personal commitment to fair play.

By increasing the emphasis on fair play, good skills and enjoyment of the sport, we are paving the way for a better game of hockey, as well as a better society.

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