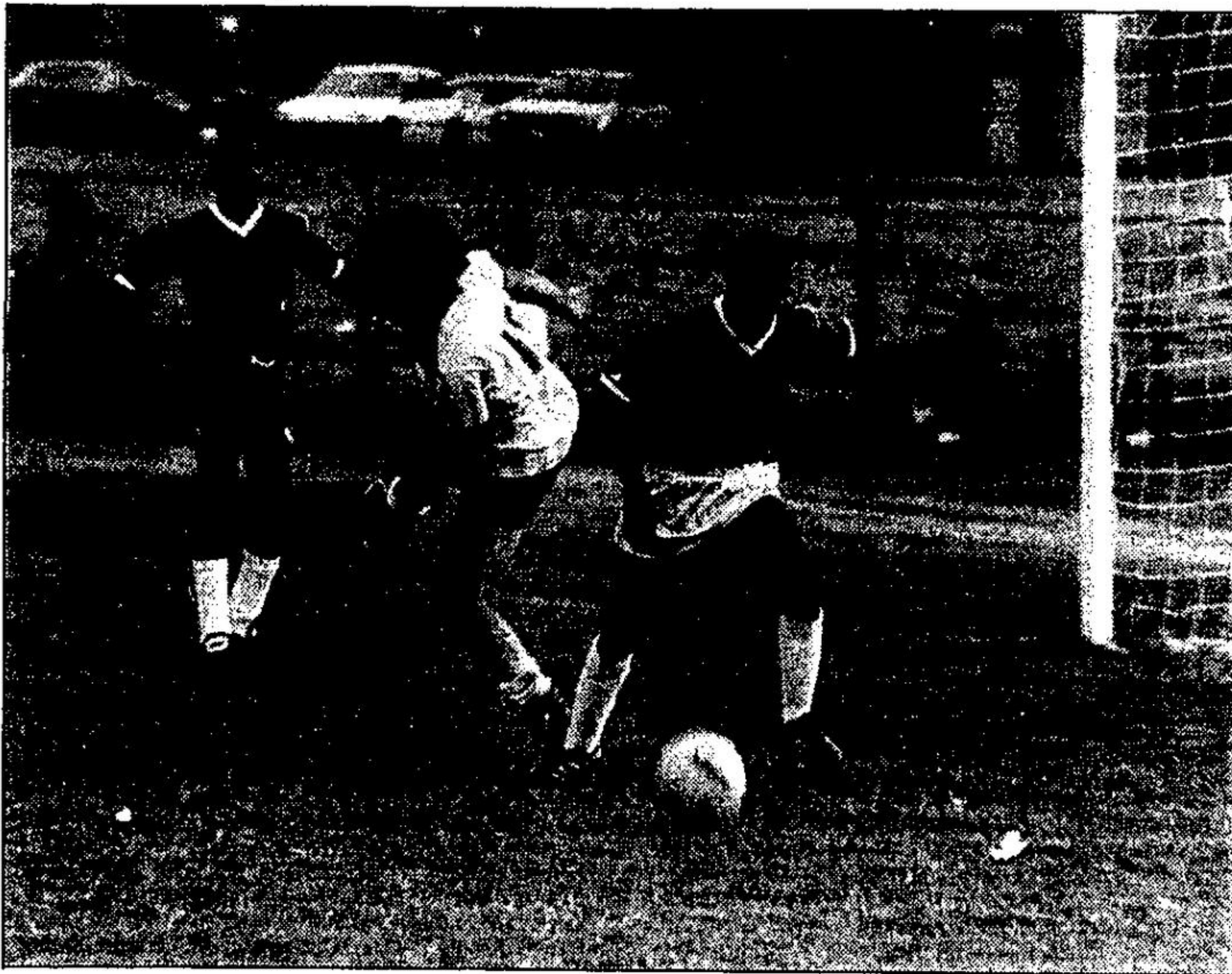


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Soccer Falcons lose 3-2 to Chemist but coach hopeful of future success



Talk about bending over backwards for the team. That's just what Georgetown Falcons' soccer player Brindley Hole, (centre) did to get back into the action during Friday's game against Chemist United at the

Alcott field. Unfortunately, his efforts weren't enough, as the Falcons lost 3-2 to the visiting team. (Herald photo)

The Georgetown Falcons soccer team saw their 2-1 lead over Chemist dissolve, after drawing two costly penalty kicks on Friday evening at Alcott Field.

Falcons coach George Baines said his squad had played well against the visiting team, but some defensive errors allowed their opponents to get back into the game.

"We had good control of the ball on the attack, but not so well in our own end. They tied it on a penalty kick in the first half and won it on another kick in the second."

Baines said the game was one his team should have taken two points from, something that has happened earlier this season.

"It's happened more than once, in fact, about three of our four losses could have just as easily been wins for us. We're doing alright though. With a 4-4-2 record, the team is in second, though I don't know what the exact standings are right now."

Baines said he was happy with the way his team has progressed over the last three years, especially in their mental approach to the game.

"They've steadily improved and have developed a winning attitude as we've gone along. The whole league has improved, and we've moved in step with it."

With just five games remaining in the schedule, Baines said he was hungry for more points to get to the

top of the Premier division (the top eight teams) but had mixed feelings about the next two games.

"First we play Chinguacousy on Sunday and we should be able to come away with a win there. The next day though, we play the Brampton Eagles who are very tough. It's a reserve team for their team that plays in the Toronto and District premier division and they have a lot of players trying to make it to the top team."

Another goal Baines has set for the team is the League Cup games that are set for August 10.

"It's a league knockout tournament, which we're hoping to make a better showing in this year. We always seemed to get a really tough first draw. This year we play Burlington and for a change we're fairly evenly matched, so there's a good chance we can advance past the first round, which we've never done before."

With centre-back Benny Beckett coming back from an injury for the last two games of the season, Baines is hopeful of the team creating more scoring chances.

"He's a tall, strong fellow who can make very good plays. If the ball is played to him in front of the net, a goal is pretty well his."

Baines said the team has shown good spirit and is continuing to work hard, coming back to help out their teammates, which is what is needed in order to make first place.

Parks supervisor leaving Halton

After five years of working for the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department, the supervisor of adult services and park bookings is moving on.

Jeff Bitton may be leaving, but he said he will be continuing in pretty much the same line of work for the Township of Sydney, which is just north of Belleville.

"I'm the new recreation manager in charge of programming for the township and I'll also have a couple of community centres under my jurisdiction."

He said the main reason he took the new job was because it provides a new challenge for him, since the position involves more responsibilities.

"There are a few things that I'll be working to help implement, like new programmes. I'm very happy with Halton's seniors drop-in program which was started while I was here and is something I'm aiming to do in Sydney."

He said there was definitely a need for more seniors programming in his new area and said getting the older people involved in activities is important to him.

"One example of a good activity we have here that would work well is the seniors television program that's run on Halton Cable once a month. All the writing, interviewing and taping is done by them."

Another successful activity he would like to carry over to his new job is the drop-in program for disabled adults, which involves games, crafts and bus trips.

Bitton and his wife, Robin, along



Jeff Bitton

with their dog and rabbit, are scheduled to leave at the end of this month. While the packing and searching for a new home will be hard, Bitton said the most difficult part will be leaving friends and co-workers behind.

"We both made a lot of good friends here and we definitely won't lose touch. Halton Hills is also one of the most beautiful areas I've ever seen and I'll miss that

Hockey scouts get preview of Junior B Raiders squad

Players from the Georgetown Jr. B Raiders will get their first look of the season from hockey scouts at the premier of a new tournament on the Labor Day weekend in Etobicoke.

Finn Poulstrup, president of the Raiders, said the scouts will also be slightly changing the role they have played in recruiting prospects to the Ontario Hockey League Draft.

"For the first time, they will be sitting down with the players and telling them what they are looking for before they watch them play. Before, you just sort of assumed what they were interested in and worked towards that."

Poulstrup said the new procedure should help players to focus more on what they need to do in order to make a good impression on the scouts and may improve their chances of being picked.

"It's a good start to the season, especially from the scouting point of view. If a scout sees somebody performing well later in the year, there's a better chance of them remembering them from the first look they had at this tournament."

The event involves just four teams, Georgetown, Brampton, Streetsville and Oakville, who will play a round robin format.

The two top teams will go head to head for the championship, while the bottom two will play for the consolation.

"We'll be dressing 20 players and two goalies for this and after it's over, we're going right into our main training camp to prepare for

the season," said Poulstrup. The tournament is also serving a double purpose, since the event

will be used to assess new referees by the league in preparation for a new crop of officials this year.



Heads up play

Teams from the Halton Hills Men's Slo-pitch league not only battled the rain Saturday. Judging from the above photograph, second baseman Ron Meyers of the Georgetown Newfoundland Club had his own battle to tag out base runner Mel Campbell of the Royal Plaza team during one of the games. Results from the tournament were not available at press time. (Herald photo)