

SPORTS & LEISURE

Short-staffed Raiders move back into top spot

Even with four of their top players out of the lineup, the Georgetown Raiders still managed to pull off a 5-4 shootout win over a powerful Markham Waxers' side Saturday night.

Justin Basso scored his Ontario Jr. Hockey League-leading 26th goal in 22 games and then supplied the shootout winner to give Georgetown its second straight win.

Rookie Patrick Megannety added a pair of goals, with Mike Sullivan opening the scoring against the Waxers, who are rated second in the Canadian Jr. Hockey League's latest rankings.

Running with just 10 forwards in the absence of snipers Evan Rodrigues and Scott Wilson, along with defenders Tyler McCarthy and Matt Chiarantano, who are in B.C. this week for the World Jr. A Challenge tournament, the 16-6-0 Raiders jumped out to a 3-0 lead on

Markham, which forced overtime with an equalizer in the final minute of regulation.

"We said after those four guys left that it was sink-or-swim time and the guys have really bought in," said Raider head coach Greg Walters.

The Raiders held a one-point lead over the Burlington Cougars in the OJHL's West Division standings prior to Monday evening's trip to Buffalo to face the Jr. Sabres.

Georgetown will host Burlington Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., with a special pre-game Remembrance Day ceremony involving local-area soliders. The Hamilton Red Wings visit Saturday.

On Thursday night, Raider goalie Michael Nishi made 38 saves in a 3-0 triumph in Brampton over the Capitals. Basso (2) and Alex D'Oliveira were the goal scorers.



Nurse earns silver at worlds

Local native Cristy Nurse had her own cheering section from Georgetown last week at the World Rowing Championships in New Zealand and helped Canada's women's eight team capture a silver medal in Sunday's final, three seconds back of the winning U.S. boat. The 23-year-old Nurse was making her debut with the national team on the world stage and was delighted to run into her former swim coach at Georgetown District High School, Jon Newcombe, who is on a sabbatical this year in New Zealand and brought his family out to watch the championships at Lake Karapiro. His children (from left) are: Christianne, 8, two-year-old Hayden and James, 6. The last time Canada won a medal in this event at the world championship was in 2003.

Photo by Steph Newcombe

Bartle leads local runners at OFSAA cross-country

Grade 9 student Bryan Bartle of Georgetown District High School had the top finish for a Halton Hills athlete at the provincial cross-country running championships held Saturday in Etobicoke.

Bartle placed 26th in the midget boys' 5,000m race in a time of 18 minutes and four seconds, 1:15 off the lead at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations meet at Centennial Park.

His finish helped the midget Rebels post a 16th-place team result, followed up by Ben Wanless (101st), Matt Simpson (122nd) and Max Wanless (185th).

Andrew Pundsack of Christ the King was 90th in the midget boys' event.

GDHS's Caitlin Watson placed 56th in the junior girls' 3,800m race and the Rebel team finished 26th overall.

Acton's Jade Kovacevic was 65th in the senior girls' 5,000m.

FOOTBALL: A 15-9 victory over host Abbey Park on Friday in the opening round of playoffs put the Georgetown Rebels through to the Halton Tier II senior semifinals this Wednesday against Assumption in Burlington.

No details from Friday's game were available.

Georgetown's juniors were eliminated from the Tier I playoffs in the first round after a 21-14 defeat at Notre Dame in Burlington on Friday. Andrew Allen and Nick Phillips had the Rebel touchdowns.

In Tier III post-season play, Christ the King's juniors and seniors will host quarterfinal games Wednesday afternoon at Bishop Reding in Milton.

The 4-2 senior Jags take on 3-3 Robert Bateman beginning at 1:30 p.m., followed by CtK's unbeaten juniors taking on eighth-seeded Burlington Central at 3:30 p.m.



Martie Czernicki (centre) of Christ the King's Jaguars is met at the net by Georgetown Rebels' blockers Stephen Kemp-Graham (1) and Jake MacNeill (3) during their Halton high school senior boys' volleyball match Thursday at CtK. After the Jaguars took the first set 25-23, the Rebels rallied to win the next two 25-18, 15-7. Both teams finished the regular season at 9-3 and hosted first-round playoff matches Monday afternoon.

Photo by Eamonn Maher



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