

Raiders cut down by Blades

By EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

Even in late November, the Georgetown Raiders and Oakville Blades can make the regular season seem like the playoffs when they meet up and Saturday's tilt played out as usual.

The Blades, who have eliminated the Raiders from the post-season the past three years, came away with a 2-1 road victory in the Ontario Jr. Hockey League contest witnessed by about 400 spectators.

Georgetown won the first two of the five-game regular-season series against Oakville in its spacious new Sixteen Mile rink, but the Blades seemed better-suited to the closer confines at the Alcott Arena Saturday, outshooting the hosts 35-20.

"It was a tight, playoff-style game and they happened to get the last break," said Raiders' head coach and general manager Greg Walters of the winning goal by Braedan Russell with just five minutes to play in the third period.

"We had the flu go through the team last week and were missing a couple of top-end forwards with injuries (Evan Rodrigues and Travis Fulton), but they should all be feeling healthy for our next game. We've only got 20 games left in the regular season, so it's time

for us to make a run."

Patrick Megannety had the lone Georgetown goal on the night, with goalie Michael Nishi earning the second star for his 33 saves.

The 21-7-2 Raiders remain in second place in the OJHL's West Division standings, three points back of the Burlington Cougars and 11 points ahead of the offensively struggling Blades.

Georgetown quickly rebounded from the loss to Oakville with a 3-2 triumph Sunday afternoon in Aurora against the Tigers on goals by Brock Labelle, Scott Wilson and defender Tyler Shiplo after the home side had built a 2-0 lead.

Shiplo's clinching marker came with under four minutes left in regulation on the power play as former Raider Patrick Moran was in the box for a slashing infraction.

Wilson and Rodrigues have been named to the Team East roster that will play in the Canadian Jr. Hockey League Prospects Games to be held Dec. 7-8 in Dauphin, Man., but likely won't miss any action with the Raiders.

Coming up this week, the Raiders will host the last-place Milton Ice Hawks Saturday at the Alcott Arena beginning at 7:30 p.m., followed by a trip to Buffalo Monday evening to face the Jr. Sabres.

Bell rings up impressive showing

Hayleigh Bell, 14, of Acton had a spectacular showing at the recent Skate Canada Central Ontario figure skating competition in Midland, earning a gold medal in the pre-novice pairs event and a silver in the women's individual category. Bell teamed up with Stratford's Alistair Sylvester (pictured right) in July and the duo won the Midland competition by a wide margin over the runner-up pair to earn a berth at this week's Western/Eastern Challenge at the Hershey Centre in Mississauga. Bell, who has moved to Barrie to train at the Mariposa International Skate School, also qualified for the Western/Eastern Challenge after finishing second amongst the pre-novice women at the Central Ontario meet. She was first following the short program, just a few points ahead of the second-place skater—her 16-year-old sister Kaitlyn—and ended up as the runner-up, while Kaitlyn placed eighth out of 69 competitors. *Submitted photo*

out of 85 competitors. Submitted photo



A male volleyball player in a blue jersey with "GAELS" and number 17 is captured in mid-air, reaching up with both arms to block or spike the ball. He is positioned in front of a white volleyball net. The ball is red, white, and blue and is positioned above his hands. In the background, a large banner hangs across the gymnasium, featuring the words "WIN DISI" and "Gaels".

Net battle

John MacDonald (17) of the Georgetown Rebels soars above the block attempt by a Hamilton Cathedral player at the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference AAAA senior boys' volleyball title match at GDHS. After dropping the first set 25-16, the Rebels won the second game of the best-of-5 OFSAA qualifier before the Gaels surged to take the next two by 25-22, 25-15 scores and earned a spot in last week's provincial championship tournament in Mississauga.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Nominate now for sports museum

The Halton Hills Sports Museum is looking for athletes, teams or builders worthy of being inducted into its fifth-annual Hall of Fame in 2010 and the deadline for nominations arrives Jan. 31.

Town of Halton Hills at the time of the achievement.

Builder candidates may be either active or inactive at the time of their consideration.

Full nomination criteria and forms are available at *The Independent & Free Press* office, located in the Georgetown Market Place, or at Johnson Associates at 247 Guelph St. in Georgetown.

Nomination forms can be dropped off at *The Independent & Free Press* c/o Steve Foreman.

Tickets for the gala are \$40 each. For more info visit www.hhsm.ca.

