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OHA-based teams to go it alone

Remembrance Day will take on a special meaning this year for teams within the Ontario Hockey Association.

That's the day OHA delegates unanimously chose to officially break away from the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association at a meeting Sunday in Kitchener.

The 102-year old OHA, the governing body for Junior, Senior and women's hockey in Ontario, has been at odds with the newly-structured Ontario Hockey Federation, the CAHA's southern Ontario branch which is controlled by the Metro Toronto Hockey League and the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

"We wanted to do it immediately, but we need time to get our rules and everything in place," said Finn Poulstrup, president and general manager of the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders.

Two incidents this summer resulted in the dissatisfaction of OHA member teams (which numbers around 130) towards the CAHA. After the CAHA admitted the Metro Junior A Hockey League back under its umbrella, the OHF refused to allow the OHA-based Jr. B. teams to re-classify themselves Jr. A in an attempt to remain competitive.

The OHA appealed to the CAHA to reverse the decision, but the CAHA said that it didn't want to interfere with the OHF's business.

Similarly, when the OHF met earlier in June, delegates presented a motion to disband the OHA. The OHA approached the CAHA about appealing the decision, but again the CAHA refused to get involved.

As well, there were reports that OHF teams were considering more than doubling their development fees for OHA-based clubs requir-

ing releases for potential players.

"OHA members, tired of being whipping posts for the OHF, felt more constructive time could be channeled into current programs and benefits for players rather than continuing to waste time, money and energy on territorial disputes," said OHA president Brent Ladds.

"Our teams will not be able to play in (CAHA or International Ice Hockey Federation) sanctioned events anywhere, but that isn't a big factor for us.

"We will develop our own card registration system for next season and have proper insurance in place for Nov. 11."

The decision will have little effect on the Raiders and its Central Ontario Junior Hockey League members. The teams will remain at Jr. A and compete for the Sutherland Cup.

"I think the OHA did exactly

what it had to," Poulstrup said. "We're just tired of all the bickering and fighting and it was taking the fun away from hockey."

Poulstrup remains hopeful the OHA split won't affect the working relationship the Raiders have with the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association, which is a member of the OMHA.

"The Raiders and the GMHA have made great strides and we've got to figure out a way how we can keep this working," Poulstrup said.

However, Poulstrup made it clear the OHA isn't making its stand in the hope of re-negotiating with either the CAHA or OHF.

"We're not looking for someone to come with a peace offering or trying to pick a bargaining date," he said. "It doesn't seem to me that we're striking a negotiating position because we're just not interested.

"We're very disappointed with the CAHA. We feel like we've been stabbed in the back."

Rebels claim tournament win

The Georgetown District High School senior boys volleyball team played the role of poor hosts Saturday.

The senior Rebels captured top honors in their annual tournament Saturday, the official kickoff event to their 1992 season.

But it wasn't easy.

After cruising through the round robin with a 9-1 record (only loss was to North Park), the Rebels gained an automatic berth in the

final, where Georgetown met up with E.C. Drury.

Coach Bob McKay employed the same game plan in the championship that he did throughout the tournament, which was to substitute players freely. Even after dropping the first game 15-8, McKay changed his starting six for the second and when that resulted in a 15-11 win, the coach opted to keep the same players on the court for the deciding contest.

The move paid off with a 15-3

victory.

"I just decided that the guys who won Game 2 deserved to start the third and they just dominated," McKay said. "But we didn't start to play well until late in the second game and I honestly thought we were in trouble."

Rebels Dave Sands and Matt Deruchie were Georgetown's representatives on the all-star team.

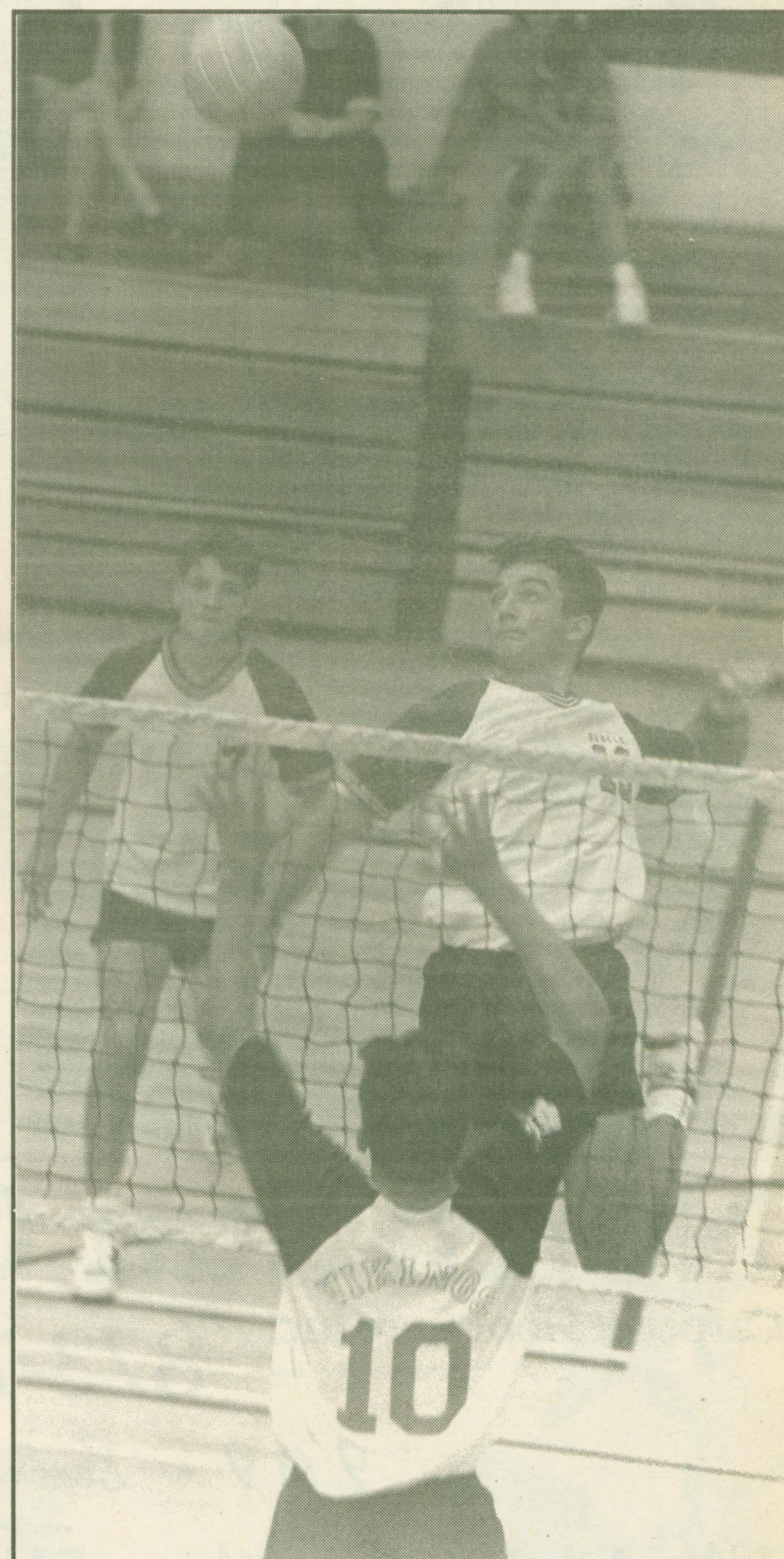
The championship ensures the Rebels start their Halton season on a winning note. Georgetown, which will play out of the West Halton division as the East swing team, returns four starters.

The Rebels experience, and the presence former GDHS volleyball standouts Graham Shepherd and Jon Hammer, has McKay pretty optimistic about the season, which begins today with a home meeting against Lord Elgin.

Graham, a former starter with York University, will join McKay on the bench as an assistant coach while Hammer, who played university volleyball with the UBC Thunderbirds, will help out when his schedule allows.

"Those two guys have university training and I want to use that," McKay said. "Graham could be the difference for us this year because he will add miles to our defensive strategies."

In junior action, the Rebels, minus a host of starters because of hockey tryouts, finished tied with the Acton Redmen for fourth. The junior season gets underway next Wednesday.



Georgetown captain John Katsilleris gets ready to put the ball down during senior action in the Rebels' annual volleyball tournament. The Rebels won the senior event.

GMFFL final "a classic"

By Colin Gibson

"A classic."

"The best championship game in five years."

These, and more accolades, were heaped on the combatants following the Dawgs 25-18 Georgetown Men's Flag Football League championship game triumph over the Longhorns Sunday at Neilson's Field on an atypical sun-drenched day.

The championship-winning effort marks the third consecutive year the Dawgs have claimed the league crown, and in a twist of fate, the first time in the same time-frame the Longhorns have had a really legitimate opportunity of reclaiming the championship hardware wrested from them by the Hounds of Hogtown.

Dawgs didn't appear all that intent on defending their league title through regular season play, finishing in third place and losing an unprecedented three games.

Longhorns, on the other hoof, stamped undefeated through regular season play and extended the unblemished streak into the championship game.

Give credit, where credit is due.

Longhorn leader, Jim Lindsay, who at times can be a pain in the hind quarters, egged his troops on all year and was instrumental in herding his charges into the championship match.

Lindsay, it should also be noted, captured the regular season interception title and was also in the running through a number of weeks for the league scoring title.

The championship game turned on two factors.

League MVP and Dawgs' quarterback, John Egan's scrambling ability, and the Longhorns inability to get into any kind of offensive flow in the first half.

'Horns' quarterback Greg Hulbert - the team MVP for 1992 -

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