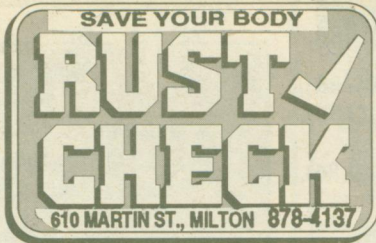


SPORTS



Canadians, Capitals add to Georgetown's woes

Raiders' losing streak now at five

After starting the season with three consecutive wins, the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders have dropped five straight.

The Raiders downfall began last week with losses to Oakville and Mississauga. Then this week Caledon Canadians and the Brampton Capitals added to Georgetown's woes.

The Canadians claimed a 7-3 win Thursday in Caledon, then

Brampton captured 14-6 and 8-4 decisions in a home-and-home set with the Raiders on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

Defensive breakdowns contributed heavily in the Oakville and Mississauga defeats, but Raider coach Charlie Hanman pointed to sub-par performances by goaltenders Jason Sirota, who after a strong start has allowed 16 goals in just his last five periods, and Jamie

Szyc as big reasons for this week's trio of losses.

"We allowed too many soft goals, plain and simple," he said. "I have no beef with allowing good goals, but too many times our defence would clear the way for the goalie, but the shot would go through the five hole (goalie's legs).

"That bothers me." Georgetown drops to seventh in

the eight-team West Division, five points ahead of last-place Royal York and one point behind Caledon.

The Raiders had to play catchup throughout the weekend. On Thursday, the Canadians put four of their 10 first-period shots past Szyc, but in defence of the goaltender two came on the power play and the other two were with Georgetown skating with the man advantage. Trevor Brandt cut the deficit to 4-1 just 49 seconds into the second before the home side went ahead 6-1. Dean Roberts scored late in the period to make it 6-2 as Caledon outshot the Raiders 32-21.

However Georgetown is protesting the game after Caledon played Jody Spagnol. Spagnol is reported to have started the season with Mississauga before joining Caledon. However, the Derbys haven't yet surrendered a release for Spagnol, making him ineligible to play for the Canadians. Ironically, Raider general manager Finn Poulstrup phoned Canadians' officials prior to the game telling them if Spagnol played the contest would be protested.

On Saturday, Georgetown fell behind early as the visiting Capitals took an 8-1 first-period advantage, scoring four power-play goals and another while shorthanded en route to the lopsided win. The Raiders lost starting goalie Sirota in

the first period for fighting.

Ian Ellis and Britton Taylor had two goals for the Raiders. Jason Parks and Justin Humeniuck had the others.

On Sunday, the hometown Capitals lead 2-0 after the first despite only firing four shots at Szyc. Brampton increased its advantage to 6-1 in the second, again with Georgetown, which had seven first-period shots, outshooting its host 10-8. For the game, Brampton held a 23-22 edge.

Ellis, Jim English, Todd McKee and Brandt had the goals for the Raiders.

Yet, even in the losses, Hanman said he saw some bright spots.

"We played bad against Brampton but we still scored 10 goals," he said. "The thing is we're going to get better.

"I also think guys like Trevor Brandt, Ante Galic, Britton Taylor, Randy Bond and Jason Parks are playing well. They're doing everything they can to help this club win."

Hanman also pointed to the Raiders still getting used to a new system implemented by assistant coach Jay Anderson. Anderson, a former Raider player who is back in Georgetown after serving as an assistant coach for the University of Brandon, just put the system in place last week and already Hanman can see where it will help.

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Centre Britton Taylor of the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders (9) can only watch as the puck rolls on past after a faceoff with Brampton Capitals Derek Wells (20) on Saturday night. The Raiders got little in the way of bounces this weekend, losing all three Central Ontario Junior Hockey League games they played to drop to seventh in the eight-team league after starting the season with three straight wins.

Major Atoms suffer tough 4-0 defeat

On Saturday, Oct. 17, the John Henderson Pro Shop Major Atom AA hockey team hosted last year's play-off rivals, the Oakville Rangers, at Memorial Arena.

An aggressive, determined Oakville club struck early, leading 2-0 after only three minutes of play. An excellent save on a shot from the slot denied Scott Ellis a goal midway through the first frame. Defenceman Jason Hayes played a 2-on-1 rush perfectly and goaler Ryan Carter made a save on an Oakville breakaway to close out the first.

Oakville scored their third marker 18 seconds into the second period. Despite determined play by forwards Ryan Bobor, Matt Hotham, Jason Campbell and the line of Dan Smith, Sean Muscat and Mike Rovere, Georgetown could not overcome the solid Oakville goaltending. A foolish retaliation penalty by Brent McClung late in the second period gave Oakville the power play advantage they needed to score their fourth goal.

Good defensive plays by Bryan Stuttard and Simon Saulnier combined with the stellar goaltending by Ryan Carter kept the final period scoreless.

Aggressive forechecking by Josh Travers and Roddy Heinz and headman passes by Mike Rovere lead to scoring chances, but, despite having two power-play opportunities to close out the game, Georgetown shooters could not spoil the Oakville goaltenders shut-out bid, final Oakville 4 - Georgetown 0.

Coaches Dave Krause and Tim Bennett and trainer Dave Campbell take the team to Chinguacousy Oct. 21 for a re-match.

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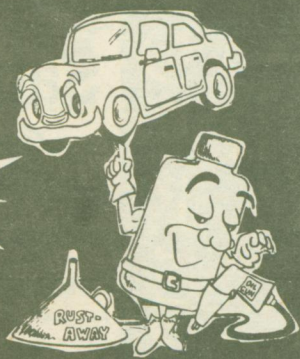
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