



# SPORTS



## JDP squad returns victorious

# Bantams claim Buffalo tourney

On the American Thanksgiving weekend November 27-30, the JDP Computer Halton Hurricane Minor Bantams journeyed to the Buffalo Regal Tournament and returned with the Championship trophy. This seems to be a natural progression of events since they advanced to the quarter finals and semi finals in their previous two tournaments in Toronto and Markham.

It was a superb blend of goal-tending and scoring as Halton scored 25 goals in 4 games and held the opposition to a miserly 6 against. Goalies were Geoff Beuparlant who played the majority of periods ably assisted by Ian McGill.

The first game on Friday against the local Buffalo Wheatfield team resulted in a lopsided 11-0 blowout by Halton. Justin Davis led the

points parade with 3 goals and 3 assists. Tom Baynton was next with 2 goals and 2 assists; and Curtis Carr one goal and 2 assists. Single goals went to Doug Janjevich and Danny Haw. Both Mashinter's and Carr's were shorthanded goals. Goalies Beuparlant and McGill played flawlessly as they blanked Wheatfield. Strong defensive support came from Robert Haringa, Jon Atley, and Ryan Taylor.

The game against Oshawa on Saturday was a disappointing 4-2 loss due to penalties and some controversial calls. Halton quickly took a 2 goal lead on goals by Davis off a rebound from Haringa and a shorthanded goal by Mashinter at 6:53. It went downhill from there for Halton as Oshawa tied it up on 2 power play goals by the end of the period. They added another in

the second. In the third, with 5 minutes to go and the penalty box full, Davis was slashed across the throat at the blue line and went down; the puck was picked up by Finlayson who beat two defencemen to score. The whistle blew but Halton's tying goal was not only disallowed, but a penalty was also not called on the blatant slash. Halton lost their cool and ended up with 14 penalties to Oshawa's 7 which really was the difference in the game.

Sunday's contest against Welland was a must win and Halton responded in convincing fashion with a 7-2 victory. Welland opened scoring with 5:17 left in the first. Halton quickly tied it up on Davis' shorthanded goal on a pass from Taylor. Vervoorn only 90 seconds later blasted a bullet by the goalie on a pass from Baynton.

Halton opened a 2 goal lead when Mashinter poked in a rebound again from Vervoorn with Davis assisting. Welland added their second at the 8:40 mark to close the gap to one. Halton rebounded with 3 quick goals to put the game out of reach. Davis pumped in a Steve Roy pass at the 5:07 mark; Vervoorn with a great display of stickhandling, scored on a solo effort from the blue line followed by another superb effort by right winger Carr, who ripped in a rocket from the top of the circle. Finlayson, with 1:22 left in the third, made it 7-2 to end the game. Halton advanced to the final because of a much superior goals for/against record.

The championship game against Barrie was almost anticlimactic as the hungry Hurricanes stormed the

Barrie net for 3 frenzied periods to earn a 5-0 victory. Shots on goal were 40 to 6. Haw one-timed a perfect Carr pass at 4:40 of the 1st to start the scoring. In the second, Davis, from Haringa made it 2-0. Davis, with his second at 2:09, pushed it to 3-0 with help from Mashinter and Vervoorn. With seconds left, Vervoorn fired his patented blueline bullet to the top corner assisted by Haw. With minutes remaining in the game, Mashinter from Finlayson and Davis finished off a pretty passing play to cement the 5-0 championship. Geoff Beuparlant earned the shutout. Both Beuparlant and McGill were very instrumental in keeping the Hurricanes in the game during the many shorthanded sessions. Defencemen Jon Atley, Stuart Colvin, Robert Haringa, Matthew Vervoorn, Ryan Taylor and Richard Trotter also played superbly to clear the front of the net throughout the weekend. The tournament MVP was Justin Davis who earned the honor with his seven timely goals. The Hurricanes returned to league play and defence of their first place standing in a game against Oakville on Dec. 5.



Members of the JDP Computer Halton Hurricane Minor Bantams journeyed to the Buffalo Regal Tournament and returned with the Championship trophy at the end of November. Here the team relaxes and hams it up for the tourney's photographer. Photo submitted

## ATTENTION SPORTS GROUPS

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## Gary Ford named to coach struggling Raiders

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders added a familiar face behind the bench this week.

The Raiders appointed Gary Ford as their new coach Thursday, replacing Charlie Hanman, who stepped down 10 days ago. Ford was a long-time member of the Raiders' intermediate teams, playing for Georgetown when the club captured the Hardy Cup title, symbolic of Intermediate A hockey supremacy in Canada.

Ford was behind the bench for this weekend's contests at the Alcott Arena, a 7-3 loss Friday to the Caledon Canadiens and a 3-2 defeat to the Oakville Blades on Saturday. The latest defeats extend the Raiders losing streak to 21 straight and drops Georgetown's record to 4-20. One of those losses was

reversed by the OHA after Caledon used an illegal player.

Ford was one of nine candidates considered by Raiders general manager Finn Poulstrup. Others included former Raider coach Peter Sturgeon, current assistant Jay Anderson and one-time NHL'er Jerome Dupont. Dupont took his name out of the hat last week, opting to remain with the Metro League's Aurora Eagles.

Poulstrup opted to go with Ford based on the Streetsville resident's pro background (Ford spent 10 seasons in the International Hockey League) as well as his local playing roots.

"Gary is a former Raider and really knows the community," Poulstrup said. "A lot of

the candidates lived outside of Georgetown and really didn't have a feel for the community or an interest in it.

"Gary has played here and spends a lot of time here, so he has a feel for the community."

Ford's son Brent is currently on the Raiders' roster, but this isn't the first time the youngster has had his father behind the bench. The elder Ford coached his son four seasons in minor hockey.

"Brent legitimately made this club," Poulstrup said. "That hasn't been a problem before and I don't foresee it becoming one here."

Ford decided to take the Raiders position to scratch an itch that has been bothering him

since last April. That's how long it has been since Ford has coached a team, and he was getting antsy without it. Last year Ford coached in the Streetsville minor hockey ranks.

"I guess I didn't really realize just how much I missed it," he said with a chuckle.

Ford's biggest challenge with the Raiders will be trying to restore the club's confidence after such a long trail of disappointment and defeat.

"This team isn't as bad as its record," said Ford, who has been on hand to watch all of the Raiders games before deciding to take on the coaching duties. "It got off to a great start (three straight wins) and the guys may've got

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