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Decision on suspensions could come down this week

Raiders awaiting word from OHA

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders should learn this week about the future status of forwards Bryan Gendron and Trevor Brandt.

The Ontario Hockey Association is looking into incidents involving the two Georgetown players, and OHA president Brent Ladds is hopeful he can hand down a judgment concerning both instances soon.

Gendron is currently serving an 11-game suspension the result of receiving match penalties for head butting and molesting an official in an 11-9 loss to the Caledon Canadiens on Dec. 10. The Raiders contend Gendron never head butted his Caledon rival, and have sent the

OHA a video they hope will further prove that point. Ladds has also spoken to the officials involved.

Gendron, the former Georgetown Jr. B player who returned after spending three-plus seasons in the Ontario Hockey League with the Peterborough Petes and the Owen Sound Platers, hasn't dressed for the Raiders' past four games.

Raiders general manager Finn Poulstrup has said if the suspension is upheld, he will appeal. However, he can only appeal the seven-game penalty Gendron received for the molesting the official match penalty because an appeal can only be launched on suspensions of six games or more. The head-butting

penalty brought with it a four-game penalty.

Brandt's situation is unique in that a Mississauga Derbys' player contends the diminutive Raider forward bit him during a scuffle in a game between the Central Ontario Junior Hockey League rivals in November. The player is reported to have required hospital care for a severely-swollen hand that kept him out of the lineup for six games.

Ironically, this is one of two biting incidents the OHA is investigating the Derbys. Another Mississauga player is reported to have been bitten by a Burlington Cougars player.

Just as interesting is that in both

instances, no match penalty was called by the referee.

If the OHA decides in favor of the Derbys' the Raiders' forward could be suspended for up to six games. Again, Georgetown could only appeal if Brandt was sidelined

for six games.

However, Ladds did contend having to look into a pair of biting incidents involving the same team is odd.

"One biting incident is a rarity," he said.

Raiders end 1992 with close games

What a wild Boxing Day.

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders narrowly missed presenting coach Gary Ford a belated Christmas present Saturday, drop-

ping an 11-9 shootout decision to the Mississauga Derbys at the Alcott Arena.

The Raiders fell behind 5-3 after the first period and couldn't dig their way out of the hole. However, the home team did cut the deficit to 10-9 late in the game before the Derbys scored an empty-net goal to secure the win.

The contest was entertaining, that is if you're a fan of offensive hockey. Among the 20 goals were four of the short-handed variety and two more on the power play. Each club scored twice while killing off a man advantage to go with a power-play goal.

Trevor Brandt was a one-man show for the Raiders. The diminutive centre had two goals, including one shorthanded, and four assists. Ian Ellis and Britton Taylor also had two goals, with Taylor notching the other short-handed tally. Ante Galic, Mike Lunn and Brent Ford had the other goals for Georgetown.

The loss extended the Raiders winless streak to 27 games and left Georgetown last overall in the Central Ontario Junior Hockey League standings with a 4-25-1 record.

However, Georgetown is only two points out of a playoff spot, trailing sixth-place Royal York by the deuce. The top six teams in the Central League's East and West Divisions advance to the postseason.

But the club's series of close finishes didn't stop there. The Raiders took part in a junior hockey tournament in Newmarket, and dropped their three games by a total of five goals.

Georgetown opened the event against Mississauga in a rematch of Saturday's contest, and lost 4-1. But the toughest was yet to come.

The Raiders then met Central League East Division rival Milton in its second game, and held an early 1-0 advantage before suffering a 3-2 setback Monday.

On the following day the Raiders hooked up with Lindsay, and again it was close but no cigar as Georgetown finished on the short end of a 5-4 decision.

The Raiders have a rare weekend off this weekend, but will resume league action with a bang. The club's first game of 1993 will be Thursday, when it travels to Brampton. On Saturday, Georgetown is at home to Royal York at the Alcott Arena before going to Caledon to meet the Canadiens on Sunday.



Goaltender Josh Barber of the Georgetown Sunny Acre Farms midgets comes up with the save off an Etobicoke Canucks player during action last week in the 26th annual Georgetown Minor Hockey Association midget tournament. Barber and his teammates didn't fare too well in their first two games of the round-robin event. Etobicoke won this game 10-6, and earlier Ajax claimed a 6-2 win over the Georgetown squad.

Photo by Scott Kline.

Parity describes GMHA tourney

The Georgetown Minor Hockey Association's 26th annual midget tournament is well underway, but tournament director Brian James is hard pressed to say just what teams will still be playing in the championship games Sunday.

"The games have been pretty close," James said. "A lot of the teams are pretty equal."

Full round-robin results weren't available because of holiday deadlines, but the early contests, particularly in the AAA division, seem to back up James's contention.

In the first four AAA games, one finished in a tie and another was decided by a goal. The largest margin of victory was four goals.

In the AA competition through Tuesday, there was only one lopsided score (7-0), with the majority of the games decided by two goals or less.

A total of 17 teams are competing in this year's event. Four of the clubs are battling in the AAA class, with the remainder playing in the AA division. Those entries are divided into three divisions.

All four AAA entries will advance to the semifinal round Sunday, with the three AA division winners and the best second-place team qualifying for their semifinals. The victorious teams will then face off in the divisional championships. There will not be a AAA-AA matchup to decide the overall tournament championship.

Georgetown's Sunny Acre Farms midgets took part in two of their three tournament games earlier in the week. The local entry dropped a 6-2 decision to Ajax on Sunday and was on the short end of a 10-6 shootout with Etobicoke on Monday. The two losses effectively eliminated the Sunny Acre Farms team from contention for one of the four semifinal berths.

James said both scores weren't indicative of just how close the games were.

"Against Ajax Georgetown definitely had its chances," he said. "They just couldn't put the puck into the net."

In a classy move, the tournament's program featured a full-page memorial to Jeremiah

Fendley, the Georgetown District High School student who died suddenly earlier this month. The tribute to Fendley, who played minor hockey and rep baseball locally, was affectionately signed "Your Friends."

The youngster was to have taken part in the tournament as a member of the Sunny Acre Farms club. The team formally retired his jersey (No. 20) prior to its game Wednesday evening Humberview.

The tournament resumes play today, with the AA and AAA round-robin portions finishing up. The playoff rounds begins Sunday, with the first-place AAA team taking on the fourth-place club at 10 a.m., and the second- and third-place teams meeting in the other semifinal starting at noon.

The AA semifinals start at 2 p.m. The AAA championship game will get underway at 6 p.m., with the AA final starting right after, at approximately 8 p.m. All games are at the Alcott Arena.