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## Georgetown two points out of playoff spot

# Raiders gain split with Burlington

There's nothing like a little encouragement from a coach to spur on the troops.

On Saturday night, the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders went into the dressing room trailing the Burlington Cougars 3-1 after the second period. However, Raiders' coach Gary Ford was less than

enthralled with his club's play through 40 minutes, and could be heard letting them know of that fact.

Well, whatever Ford had to say obviously sunk in because the Raiders came out and outscored Burlington 5-1 in the third to take a 6-4 victory and split of the week-

end home-and-home series with the Cougars. On Friday night, the home side defeated Georgetown 9-3.

The Raiders have been on a roll of late, having won two of their last three contests. While no one's ready to make plans for a Sutherland Cup victory parade just yet, it's pretty heady stuff for a

team that had gone 35 games without a win before a long-awaited 7-2 win over the Royal York Rangers on Wednesday night.

The Raiders' about face has the team staring at a playoff spot. The weekend split improved Georgetown's record to 6-34-1, good enough for 14 points (extra point came from an earlier overtime defeat to Caledon). While the Raiders still remain in the Central Ontario Junior Hockey League West Division cellar, the club trails seventh-place Royal York by just two points with eight regular-season games remaining.

The top seven clubs in the West

Division clubs advance to the post season, with the first-place finisher getting a first-round bye. After that, second takes on seventh, third meets sixth and fourth and fifth tangle in best-of-five playoff sets.

On Friday, the Raiders went to Burlington riding their modest one-game win streak, but quickly had that string halted. The home-town Cougars spread their scoring evenly over the three periods, outscoring the Raiders 3-1 in each frame.

Trevor Brandt had Georgetown's first-period goal, with Ian Ellis and Randy Bond scoring in the second and third periods respectively.

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Amazing that when you start to win, scouts find their way to watch you play. Well, there were plenty of scouts in the stands Saturday watching the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders defeat the Burlington Cougars, but they weren't exactly the scouts the players had hoped for. Here, area Boy Scouts take in the action.



Players with the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders mindfully attend to the flock of fans on hand to have their hockey cards autographed on Saturday night at the Alcott Arena. The Raiders honoring the masses include from left: defenceman Jeff Churney (5), captain Trevor Elinesky (with hat), forward Bryan Gendron (10) and goalie David Kennedy. After graciously signing the cards, the Raiders went out and beat the Burlington Cougars 6-4.

## Heritage guest list features big names

The guest list for this year's Georgetown Hockey Heritage Dinner is fast becoming a who's who of the sports world.

Ron MacLean, the host of Hockey Night in Canada, will be back as the dinner's master of ceremonies for the March 1 event, his fifth year at the helm. Also in attendance will be coach Pat Burns of the Toronto Maple Leafs, and defenceman Todd Gill. Gerry Dobson of CFOTV and Global's Mark Hebscher will also be there.

This year's event will honor Jim Ford. Tickets are \$35 and can be

obtained by calling Bob Creasey of Knechtel Food Market at 873-3963.

Of course, the Heritage event will be kicked off with an exhibition hockey game Feb. 28 between the Toronto NHL Oldtimers and the Legiskaters. Proceeds from the game will be donated to cystic fibrosis and Georgetown and Memorial Hospital.

The game will start at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, students and seniors.

## Pee wees capture five wins

The Ridley Windows and Doors' Halton pee wee hockey team finished its regular season on a winning note, claiming five straight wins.

The Hurricanes blew away opponents from Streetsville, Guelph and Oakville.

At home, on Hillsburgh ice, the Halton pee wees did not give the Streetsville team a warm welcome. Home and away games against Guelph opponents gave the Halton squad two more big wins.

Between the matchups with Guelph, the Hurricanes managed to take a great win off the Oakville Peewees. The Halton team played a solid match, highlighted with strong team defensive play. Netminder Chad Mehlenbacher was superb between the pipes as the Hurricanes took a resounding 5-1 win. Halton's Darren Haydar netted a hat trick while linemate Adam Bertoli scored twice for the Hurricanes.

The Halton pee wees visited Streetsville for the final game of the season and managed to close off the regular league games with another win.

The Halton pee wees now advance to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association playoffs, playing against Barrie in the first round. The team will travel to Barrie Friday night and then back to Halton for the second matchup on the weekend. Home ice will be in Erin on Saturday so come out and enjoy a great hockey game played by your local boys.