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Raiders putting it together for home opener

By Mike Zrostek

There is no way to go but up for the 1993-94 Georgetown Chrysler Raiders of the Ontario Provincial Junior A West Division and the team is taking steps to ensure this is what happens.

Raider fans will have a glimpse of the team's potential tonight, with Brampton Capitals providing the opposition in the season-opener, tonight, 7:30 p.m. at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena.

Raiders have looked both brilliant and mediocre at times in pre-season play, but this looks like a team on the way up.

Once again the Raiders will be led by scoring sensations Ian Ellis and Trevor Brandt, however general manager Finn Poulstrup has signed a few players to help in the scoring department.

Brandt and Ellis, if they stay healthy, will both be in the top 10 of the scoring race but the Raiders aren't going to count on the duo entirely says head coach, Gary Ford.

"We're not going to put weight on two guys to score all the goals," says Ford. "Brandt and Ellis will be leaders, but each player has to contribute. That's why they're here."

Management has gone out and acquired players such as right winger Will North, who is tentatively set to play along with Brandt and left winger David Bouskill of Georgetown.

North, who has come over from the North York Canadians, has shown a strong scoring touch around the net in the pre-season and should thrive playing with Brandt.

Another impressive player has been left winger Ryan Brown and he will be with Ellis at center along with Dean Roberts on the right side to give the Raiders two solid scoring lines.

After that Ford is uncertain who will play where Saturday. The third line will be centered by 17-year-old Georgetown stand-out Doug Sheppard, but who will be

along him is undecided.

"Brown, Roberts and Sheppard will be counted on to score but the key for us to win will be playing disciplined hockey, strong defense and we have to come to play every night," said Ford.

This is where the Raiders will have some problems. So far the Raiders haven't shown a lot of discipline. But talking to Ford you know he won't hesitate to solve the problem.

"Right now the problem (lack of discipline) is with a few players and if they keep it up they'll be gone. They're not going to jeopardize the rest of the team with their selfish play."

The Raiders will start the year going with six defenseman but that probably will change as the hunt still goes on for an experienced point man.

Kris Arro, Colin Hooper, Dave Milek and Andy Pazaver are all returning on the blue line and will be joined by Shawn Healy and Jason Parks.

Goaltending will be a strong point for the Raiders

with the duo of Paul Stinnett, who made some great saves against Bramalea last Saturday and Nick Montessano, presently nursing a minor groin injury.

"We have two solid goaltenders," said Ford, "who if they get some help, will win us some games."

Overall, the Raiders will be in tough in the West division that sports another powerhouse in the Hamilton Kilty B's along with Burlington, Brampton and Milton but that doesn't seem to phase Ford.

"Just another team we have to beat... more mileage," joked Ford. "We can't be concerned with other teams, we just have to take care of our own."

With Ford and assistant coaches Jay Anderson, Tony Feis and Paul Lawrence, the Raiders should be an entertaining team that could be in the thick of the West division.

Sunday, the Raiders are in Royal York against the Rangers in their first road game of the 1993/94 campaign.

GEORGETOWN CHRYSLER RAIDERS 1993 - 94 SCHEDULE			
HOME GAMES		AWAY GAMES	
Sat. Sept. 25 vs Brampton	7:30 p.m.	Sun. Sept. 26 at Royal York	7:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 2 vs Burlington	7:30 p.m.	Tues. Oct. 5 at Hamilton	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 9 vs Hamilton	7:30 p.m.	Fri. Oct. 8 at Milton	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 16 vs Oakville	7:30 p.m.	Fri. Oct. 15 at Burlington	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 23 vs Milton	7:30 p.m.	Tues. Oct. 19 at Streetsville	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 30 vs Streetsville	7:30 p.m.	Fri. Oct. 29 at Oakville	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 13 vs Oakville	7:30 p.m.	Tues. Nov. 2 at Hamilton	7:30 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 19 vs Royal York	8:00 p.m.	Thurs. Nov. 4 at Brampton	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 20 vs Hamilton	7:30 p.m.	Fri. Nov. 5 at Milton	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 27 vs Burlington	7:30 p.m.	Tues. Nov. 9 at Streetsville	7:30 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 3 vs Royal York	8:00 p.m.	Fri. Nov. 12 at Burlington	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 4 vs Milton	7:30 p.m.	Wed. Nov. 24 at Royal York	8:00 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 10 vs Brampton	8:00 p.m.	Fri. Nov. 26 at Oakville	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 18 vs Burlington	7:30 p.m.	Thurs. Dec. 9 at Brampton	7:30 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 26 vs Streetsville	7:30 p.m.	Fri. Dec. 17 at Milton	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 8 vs Brampton	7:30 p.m.	Tues. Dec. 21 at Streetsville	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 15 vs Oakville	7:30 p.m.	Tues. Jan. 4 at Hamilton	7:30 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 21 vs Royal York	8:00 p.m.	Fri. Jan. 7 at Burlington	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 22 vs Milton	7:30 p.m.	Thurs. Jan. 13 at Brampton	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 29 vs Streetsville	7:30 p.m.	Fri. Jan. 28 at Oakville	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 5 vs Hamilton	7:30 p.m.	Wed. Feb. 2 at Royal York	8:00 p.m.

Brampton Capitals will be tough again

By Mike Zrostek

Defending champion in last years Central Ontario Junior B West Division (now Provincial Junior A Hockey League) the Brampton Capitals are the first opponents of the season for the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders.

The Capitals have been trying to find new talent for the upcoming season and have been players at different positions to find the right chemistry.

It reflects in their 2-5 pre-season record.

Glen Walsh head coach of the new team on the block and early favorite, Hamilton Kilty B's, however, expects Brampton to be right up there along with Burlington and Milton.

With nine players returning from last year, the Caps should have a good nucleus led by center Ryan Foster whom general manager Mike Cassidy calls the fastest skater in the league.

Goal scoring is not a problem for the Capitals. Their pre-season included scores of 8-7 and a 9-8 come from behind victory over Bramalea in which they scored six straight after being down 6-3 after two periods.

Derek Wells, a third year player who has Ontario Hockey League experience, will score his share as will Ronnie Watts and Doug Mann who are all back from last year.

Defensively, the Caps will be led by third-year defenseman Rob Gail and Curt Lutz, who split time with Oakville and Brampton last year. Robert Maxwell is a big blue liner who can clear out the front of the net.

In goal, the Caps are led by Chris Billingsley who is solid, but they are still in search of a legitimate back-up.

Strengths: team speed, power and muscle up front and a reported more disciplined team than last year. Weaknesses: lack of a 50-goal man and the fact they are a pretty young team.



Trent Cull, 19, has returned to Kingston Frontenacs for his fifth year of OHL competition, to bolster their blueline brigade, after failing to crack the Boston Bruins lineup. photo submitted

Cull will keep plugging away

By Mike Zrostek

A lot of young hockey players might view getting cut from a National Hockey League team as a big disappointment. But not 19-year-old Georgetown resident Trent Cull who was an early cut of the Boston Bruins in this years training camp.

A 6-foot-2, 210-pound defenseman, Cull was down in Boston trying for a spot on the big league team but was cut last week and will be playing with the OHL's Kingston Frontenacs, and isn't disappointed at all.

"I can't look at it as negative but instead, as a good experience," said Cull. "I felt like I had a good camp and they (Boston) liked me and were impressed with my play. They may be buttering me up, but I'm looking forward to trying again next year."

Cull says he didn't want to play for Providence (Bruins farm club) because they already have 16 defenseman and that going to Kingston was an obvious choice.

"I feel like I can play in the International or American hockey league but I would rather go where I will play. In Kingston we should have a strong team that will challenge for the Memorial Cup, there will be better exposure," said Cull.

Cull who will be 20 at the end of the month, graduated from Georgetown District High School and played all of his minor hockey locally, starting at pee wee and going all the way through the system to the Junior B Raiders (now Junior A).

"A lot of local coaches helped me during my playing time here but one that stands out is Peter Sturgeon, who took a chance with me when I was 15, letting me play with the Raiders," said Cull.

After a year with the Raiders in 1988-89 Cull was drafted by the Owen Sound Platers (then operating in Guelph) in 1989. In his second year Cull was traded to Windsor and then traded again to Kingston in his third year where he has played since. He will be heading into his fifth season in the Ontario Hockey League.

Last year with the Kingston Frontenacs, Cull netted 12 goals and 28

assists along with 150 penalty minutes.

He sees himself as a tough defenseman who can put some points on the board and who's not afraid to scrap, qualities professional coaches love to have in defenseman.

As well as playing hockey this year, Cull is planning on taking some part time courses at Queen's University.

To get himself set for the year Cull got involved in strength training over the summer. He's planning on being an on-ice leader this year for Kingston, which he feels will help him prepare for next year when he hopes to get another shot at making the Bruins.

Shevalier back with Cents

By Mike Zrostek

Erin resident and Ontario Hockey League stand-out Jeff Shevalier will be returning to the North Bay Centennials after his second camp with the Los Angeles Kings.

The former Erin (formerly Acton) Sabre who also saw playoff action with the then Georgetown Chrysler Jr. B Raiders is entering his third season with the Centennials - coming off an all-star season last year when he scored 113 points (59 goals and 54 assists), good for 11th overall in the OHL scoring race.

He also collected four major Centennial awards for his efforts last year and earned a spot on the OHL's third all-star team.

Drafted in 1991 by North Bay, Shevalier finished his first year scoring 57 points (29 goals and 28 assists) as a second line winger before emerging into last year's scoring star.

Shevalier was drafted by the 1993 Stanley Cup finalist Kings in the seventh round of the 1992 NHL entry draft and attended his first camp last year playing on a line with Luc Robitaille.

This should be Shevalier's last season with the Centennials as he is eligible to play with the Kings farm team in Phoenix, Arizona.

The 6-foot, 195-pound Shevalier hopes to crack the Kings squad in the next couple of years.