

HALTON HILLS  
WEEKEND

## SPORTS

Sports

## Shorts

## Playoff bound

The Stewarttown girls basketball squad has finished first in North Halton regular season play, with an impressive 8-2 record.

W.I. Dick and McKenzie-Smith finished in a tie for second with 7-3 efforts while Centennial took fourth with a 6-4 showing. Rounding out the six-team league were Sam Sherratt (2-8) and Brookville.

In boys' play, Centennial finished up with a 9-1 record for top spot - a game up on 8-2 McKenzie-Smith. Taking third was Sam Sherratt who were 6-4.

Stewarttown (4-6) finished a game up on W.I. Dick for fourth place while winless Brookville finished last.

Tier 2 finals were held Thursday night, at Stewarttown for the boys and at Centennial for the girls. Tier 1 championship matches will be played this coming Tuesday. Girls action will be at Stewarttown while Centennial will host the boys.

## Indoor action

Shannon Gray continued her strong play in junior girls indoor soccer action last weekend, scoring seven goals and lifting her Green Hornets to an 11-2 victory over the Blue Bears. A five-goal performance by Meighan McIntyre helped the Lightning Bolts down the Blue Bears 7-1.

In senior girls competition, Francis Beans beat the Big Bad Smurfs 9-4 while the Smurfs edged out the Aqua Stingers 6-4.

The Blue Hurricanes won a 9-8 shootout over Green Grass in boys action, and then went on to down the Wild Rebels 1-0.

In adult action, the Barnies and Wilde Burgans fought to a 10-10 draw and the Reds got past the Hornets 10-6.

## Gems meets Norval

Inaugural members of the Georgetown Gemini Junior B hockey club will meet the Norval Oldtimers in an exhibition tilt at Gordon Alcott Arena on Saturday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Hockey Heritage festivities honoring Norm Lockhurst. The event is being sponsored by the Hockey Heritage Council and Legion Branch 120.



The Georgetown Raiders did everything they could to stop the Milton Merchants' attack in their Central Ontario Junior A playoffs but just couldn't manage a win, dropping the best of seven in four straight. The Raiders did play some inspired hockey

against the league leaders, losing game two 3-2 and game three 5-4 in double overtime. Raider netminder Jim Hibbert had plenty of traffic to handle (above) but came up with an outstanding post-season performance.

Photo by STEVE LeBLANC

*Sweeping up the season*

## Raider hopes dashed with double OT loss

By STEVE LeBLANC

Special to The Independent/Free Press

It's all over but the crying. The Georgetown Raiders were swept 4-0 by the Milton Merchants in opening round playoff action this past week. They played their final game Thursday at Alcott, where they were eliminated with a 7-2 loss.

And while Georgetown showed great effort in game three's overtime thriller, they had little intensity left for Thursday's outing.

Following a decent first period, in which the hometown went behind 1-0, the Merchants fired in three quick goals early in the second before the Raiders knew what hit them.

Georgetown scored the next two, but were all out of

firepower after that. Milton took a 6-2 lead into second intermission and cruised to victory the rest of the way.

Netminder Jim Hibbert turned in another solid outing, stopping 35 shots, but received little defensive assistance.

With the final verdict already written by the third stanza, a number of altercations (and potential altercations) ensued that resulted in 12 players taking early showers.

Among these altercations were big boxing performances by Rocky Florio and Gavin Glaser, who let off a little steam in the dying minutes of their 1994/95 season.

The ugly third period was highlighted by an unclassy move by Milton's Todd Ring,

who grabbed a broom and did the sweeping motion to signify Georgetown's elimination.

Scoring for the Raiders were Dave Cooper and Mike McKnight while Stephen Choi drew an assist. Jamie Janjevich, Scott Bertoli, Shawn Holloway, Jeff McArthur, Luch Nasato, Scott Bramwell and Robert Gubala all tallied for Milton with goalie Paul Knaggs earning the win.

Thursday night's elimination followed a heart-breaking finish to game three Tuesday in Milton, where the Merchants stole a 5-4 decision away from Georgetown in double overtime.

The Raiders held a 4-3 lead in the dying seconds of regulation time when Nasato batted down a loose puck past

Hibbert at 19:57.

Jason Fortier delivered the game winner at 1:15 of the second sudden-death stanza — on an upstairs wristshot that Hibbert just got a piece of. Assisting on the play was Mike McPhail.

Along with solid goaltending by Hibbert, the Raiders got some key defensive efforts from Glaser and Florio.

Florio also provided half of the offensive production with two goals including the one that put his team ahead for the final time.

Captain David Bouskill also scored a pair, with forwards Brad Cripps and Brian Farrugia drawing two assists each.

Recording single helpers were Glaser and Marek Babic.



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