

# Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, April 9, 1997

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## OMHA champs! Raiders survive another late scare to dump Stars and win Ontario title

By **HERB GARBUTT**  
 Staff Writer

The Georgetown M&M Pro Sports Minor Atom Raiders rewarded themselves and their fans after a wild ride on an emotional roller coaster. The Raiders staved off a late comeback to down the Richmond Hill Stars 4-2 and win the Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship.

"It couldn't happen to a finer bunch of kids," said Raider coach Jack Moon. "I couldn't have found a better team to coach."

The minor atoms became the first Georgetown team to win an OMHA title since the juveniles beat Grimsby for the provincial AA championship in 1987-88.

While the Raiders were able to savor the victory afterward, Sunday's fifth and deciding game was beginning to look all too familiar. The Raiders built a 3-0 lead through two periods but like the Stars did in the previous two games, they rallied in the third.

The recipe for disaster was there as the Raiders began the third two men short, but Georgetown managed to kill both penalties. Richmond Hill was able to sustain the momentum and the Stars broke Chris McCulloch's shutout bid and then pulled to within one with 6:07 to play.



The Georgetown M&M Pro Sports minor atom Raiders captured the OMHA championship Sunday with a 4-2 win over Richmond Hill. Team members are, front (from left) Chris McCulloch, Brett Hirtle. Second row, from left, James Mountford, Travis Bland, Aaron Kirk, Matt Velten, Nick McLaughlin. Third row, from left, Peter Tregunna, Kevin Field, Brad Torres, Mark Boycott, Tim Walinga, David McNally and Shaun Dennie. Back row, from left, Danny Field, manager, Geoff Beauparlant, goalie coach, Scott Van de Valk, assistant coach, Jack Moon, coach and Mike Bland, assistant coach. Absent was Matt Lyons. Photo by Herb Garbutt

"We dominated the game as usual but they came on very strong for seven or eight minutes and that's when they got

both goals," said Moon. "The guys didn't get down at all. They were still cheering each other on the bench."

McCulloch still had to come up big to preserve the win. He turned the Stars away on a breakaway with five minutes to play and the Raiders managed to limit the Stars' chances the rest of the way until Richmond Hill got a faceoff in the Raider end with 25 seconds to play.

Kevin Field won the draw, getting the puck back to Travis Bland. He moved the puck ahead to Brad Torres, who dumped the puck into the empty Richmond Hill net to touch off the celebration.

Moon, who picked up his first OMHA title after three consecutive trips to the final, said a big Georgetown contingent helped keep spirits up.

"Probably three-quarters of the crowd was from Georgetown," he said. "A lot of them had nothing to do with our team. They were there from other rep teams and house league teams. It was great."

Field got the Raiders on the board in the first, scoring from James Mountford and Nick McLaughlin. The same trio hooked up for Field's second goal. Mark Boycott then scored what proved to be the winner, from Peter Tregunna, in the second.

The Raiders finished the regular season just one point out of first with a 16-6-6 record. Moon said the team started to show its potential around Christmas, just in time for the playoffs where the Raiders knocked off Oakville, Brampton and St. Catharines en route to the final.

## Bayley fires three goals as minor novices thump Milton for Tri-County title

Jeff Bayley scored three times to help the Georgetown Minor Novice Raiders wrap up the Tri-County championship with a 7-3 victory over the Milton Winterhawks. The gave the Raiders a 3-1 triumph in the best-of-five final.

Bayley added an assist to his hat-trick and Chris Darling also had a four-point game with a goal and three assists. Brett Reynolds scored a pair of goals and set up another. Peter Bailey scored the other Raider goal.

Mike LaRose played set-up man with three assists while linemate Mike LaRose had a pair. Kyle Westwood also picked up an assist. Alex Bulgarelli turned in an

excellent effort to shut down Milton after the Winterhawks had rallied to tie the game at three.

### Novice II Sabres



Anthony Kri had the lone goal for the Acton Andy's Restaurant Novice II Sabres in a 3-1 exhibition loss to Fergus.

The team also played in a tournament in Chesley, dropping both games to a pair of strong teams. Craig Kirkwood set up Greg Henry, the game's third star, for the only goal against Wiarton. Kirkwood and Kri then scored against the host team. Greg Black and Brad Ethier assisted on Kirkwood's goal.

Matt Lyons was the game's third star.



The Georgetown Minor Novice Raiders captured the Tri-County championship with a 7-3 win over the Milton Winterhawks. Team members are: back (from left) Scott McLaughlin, Paul Martin, Peter Bailey, Jeff Bayley, Michael LaRose, Paul LaRose, middle (from left) Brady Gingras, Ryan Putnam, Mitchell Thompson, Chris Darling, Kyle Westwood, Brett Reynolds, front (from left) Alex Bulgarelli, Greg Heywood, Cory McLaughlin, Raymond Martin, Michael Clost. Photo submitted

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