

Earlybird tournament launches minor hockey season this weekend

The first sure sign that winter is just around the corner arrives in town this weekend as the puck drops for the first minor hockey tournament of the season.

While most teams have played their first regular season games, the Georgetown Atom/Novice Earlybird Tournament will kick the season into full swing with 74 games over four days. Forty teams in two divisions will hit the ice, including three local entries.

The tournament opens Friday at 5 p.m. at Alcott Arena. Playoffs begin at 7 a.m. on Monday.

Both finals are set for 2:30 p.m. The Novice final will

be played at Memorial Arena and the Atom final is at Alcott Arena.

New to the tournament this year is the King of the Rink Three-on-Three Competition. Three players from each team will be chosen to play in two-minute sudden-death games. All regular rules will apply except that any penalty will result in a penalty shot. If the game is not decided in the two minutes it will go to a shootout.

Both three-on-three competitions will be held at Alcott Arena. The atom competition is at 2 p.m. and the novices follow at 3 p.m.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Georgetown Novice Raiders | |
| Friday, 7:30 p.m. | vs. Etobicoke (Memorial Arena) |
| Saturday, 9:30 p.m. | vs. Peterborough (Mem. Arena) |
| Sunday, 5:30 p.m. | vs. Sudbury (Memorial Arena) |
| Georgetown Novice II Raiders | |
| Saturday, 10 a.m. | vs. Chatham (Alcott Arena) |
| Sunday, 11 a.m. | vs. Richmond Hill (Alcott Arena) |
| Sunday, 8:30 p.m. | vs. Streetsville (Memorial Arena) |
| Georgetown Atom Raiders | |
| Friday, 9 p.m. | vs. St. Catharines (Alcott Arena) |
| Saturday, 6 p.m. | vs. Belleville (Alcott Arena) |
| Sunday, 8 p.m. | vs. Markham (Alcott Arena) |

Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

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Back-to-back losses

Raider revival hits rough road

By **HERB GARBUIT**
 Staff Writer

The road to respectability was bound to have a few bumps along the way and the Georgetown Raiders hit a couple of them this weekend.

The Raiders lost back-to-back games for the first time this year, dropping a 9-3 decision to the Oakville Blades on Friday before losing 7-1 to the Milton Merchants on Saturday. While nobody is expecting the Raiders to dethrone the defending league champions, they do have to make the most of their opportunities against teams such as Oakville, which picked up its first win of the season.

The Raiders, now 3-4-1, will have a chance to get back to the .500 mark when they play Streetsville on Tuesday.

Georgetown played well against the league-leading Merchants in five-on-five situations but the Milton power-play tallied four goals, three of them in the final period. Raider coach Jay Anderson wasn't too happy with the officiating, which gave the opposition eight power plays.

"We were playing disciplined hockey but the calls that idiot was making...How many penalties



Georgetown's Stace Page moves in to clear the puck as Raider goalie Jeff Hladysch dives across to cover the net in Saturday's Provincial Jr. A Hockey League game against Milton. The Merchants handed the Raiders a 7-1 loss. Photo by Herb Garbutt

can you kill? Milton doesn't need that kind of help."

The Raiders could have helped themselves by cashing in on some early opportunities but for the first time this season, the offence sputtered.

"We just have to come back next game and play strong defensive hockey and get the numbers offensively," said rookie winger Scott MacDonald.

The one constant through the Raider season to this point has been the play of Stace Page and MacDonald. Both extended their point streaks to eight games by setting up Gene Spadaro for the Raiders only goal against

Milton.

Page, a second-year Raider, has 15 points and is half way to equaling his first year's output with 43 games remaining.

MacDonald, a 16-year-old who came from the Don Mills midgets, entered the season hoping to average a point per game. He's done better than that, averaging a goal a game and leading the team with eight. He also had a hand in all four Raider goals on the weekend to give him 13 points:

"I knew I'd get a regular shift but I've been getting a little more than that and that's helped," MacDonald said.

Raider rap: The Raiders have given goalie Tim Ware permission to find a new team. Streetsville and Oakville have both expressed interest. He's been replaced by former Wexford midget goalie David Digironimo. Digironimo got off to a rough start allowing five goals against Oakville....Page, MacDonald and Curtis Carr, with his fourth of the season, scored for the Raiders on Friday...Shayne Kanyo missed that game after being recalled by the Kingston Frontenacs of the OHL....Cerrone Natale missed both weekend games with an ankle injury.

Bulldogs need extra innings to edge Innfielders for title

Bracky's Bulldogs were supposed to have clear sailing to the championship but they ran into some choppy waters and almost sank.

The Bulldogs needed an 11th inning single by Steve Simpson to pull out a 14-13 victory over the Terra Cotta Innfielders in the deciding game of the Georgetown Slo-Pitch League Over-35 Division final. The Bulldogs had escaped a bases-loaded, none-out jam in the top of the inning.

Bracky's also dodged a bullet in the first extra inning. After giving up three runs to fall behind 13-10, the Bulldogs got a three-run homer from Brian Ross to tie the game.

The Bulldogs built a 10-4 lead but Terra Cotta held them scoreless over the last four innings allowing the Innfielders to tie the game when Herb Hulme singled home John Baird in the ninth.

Ted Fauteaux scored four times and Kevin Mercereau was 4-for-4 for Bracky's while Mark Hendry had a home run and scored three runs for the Innfielders.

Terra Cotta had forced the deciding game by edging Bracky's 10-8 with two runs in the ninth inning. Bill Patsbou homered and Richard Garden was 4-for-4 and scored three times for Terra Cotta. Fauteaux scored four runs for Bracky's and Mike Weber, Ross and Kevin Watchorn connected for home runs.

Mixed A Division

The Squirrel Sluggers took the Mixed A championship with a convincing 19-5 win over Extreme Auto Clean. Hal Ridley and Dave Morson each had a homer and two doubles. Wayne Millar was 4-for-4, including a three-run triple, while Karen Lowe went 2-for-3 with a walk and scored twice.

The Extreme offence was held to just one run until Jim Kavanagh connected for an eighth-inning grand slam. Trevor Elinsky was 4-for-4 for Extreme.

Mixed B Division

Ralph Vanderleest singled home Tim Park with one out in the bottom of the ninth as the North Halton Roofing Wildcats edged Bracky's Bozos 9-8 for the Mixed Division B championship.

The Wildcats had taken a 7-2 lead through three innings but Bracky's fought back and tied the game at eight in the top of the ninth.

Park and Vanderleest were both 5-for-5 for the Wildcats. Walt Anderson was 3-for-3 with three runs and Tammy Bosch was 2-for-3 and scored once for Bracky's.

See page 30 for more results

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