

# Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, October 14, 1998

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## Lack of goals denies local team berth in playoffs

# Good defence not enough for Raiders at Earlybird tourney

The Georgetown Atom Raiders came up one goal short of advancing to the playoff round in the annual Georgetown Novice/Atom Earlybird Tournament.

Despite back-to-back shutouts in their final two games, a goal drought robbed the Raiders of a chance to move on. Georgetown scored just once in their three games yet still posted a record of 1-1-1.

St. Catharines blanked the Atom Raiders 4-0 in their first game of the tournament. Chad Skinner scored late in the first period against Belleville and goalie Jordan White made the goal stand up in a 1-0 victory. Dylin Malchin then turned in a shutout in the Atom Raiders final game, only to be matched by his Markham counterpart in a 0-0 tie.

Shutouts also played a big role in the tournament for the Georgetown Novice Raiders. They were blanked by Etobicoke 5-0 in their tournament opener but Alex Bortolotto and Ryan Oliver came back with a shutout of their own in the next game, downing Peterborough 6-0.

Byron Hackett and Reid Parker each scored twice for the Raiders while Jesse Modzelewski and Chris Ackroyd each had one. Thomas Neely and Blake Seaton each had a pair of assists with singles going to Kyle Lockwood, Modzelewski,

Parker, Matthew Wittman, Mike Maiatico, Bryce Evans and Jeff Pierce.

The tables were again turned in the Raiders' finale as Sudbury blanked Georgetown 4-0.

The Georgetown Novice II Raiders had a rough time against some more experienced opponents.

Chatham scored five third period goals to down the Raiders 7-2. Jordan Thompson had both Raider goals with assists going to Nic Grasby, Craig Syme, Michael Parker and Adam Jones.

Parker had the only goal from Thompson in a 10-1 loss against a strong Richmond Hill team.

They were in tough again against a high-scoring Streetsville squad, which won 9-1. Mac Doell set up Parker for the only goal.

Goaltending proved to be the key for the tournament champions. Darren Gwilliam of the Aurora Tigers allowed only five goals in six games as his team won the novice championship while Patrick McAllister surrendered only six goals in six games to lead the Etobicoke Canucks to the atom title.

Despite the strong play of their goalie, Aurora needed some late heroics to win the novice final.

Ryan Fennell scored with 1:14 to play to lift the Tigers to a 2-1 win over the



Chris Rahim (12) of the Georgetown Atom Raiders has the puck poked away by Belleville goalie Ryland Mulder during the Raiders' 1-0 win in action at the Georgetown Novice/Atom Earlybird Tournament Saturday. Photo by Herb Garbutt

Mississauga Braves.

Aurora had advanced to the final with a 6-2 victory over the Caledon Hawks in the semis while Mississauga doubled the Etobicoke Canucks 4-2.

McAllister made sure his team didn't

have to wait until the final minutes. He blanked the Aurora Tigers in the atom final 3-0. Etobicoke beat St. Catharines 6-2 in the semifinals while Aurora edged Mississauga 4-3 on a goal with 1:39 left to advance to the final.



Gene Spadaro (right) of the Georgetown Raiders checks a Mississauga opponent in Saturday's Provincial Jr. A Hockey League game won by the Raiders 5-1. Photo by Herb Garbutt

## Raiders impressive in dumping Chargers

The Georgetown Raiders had all the excuses they needed for losing served to them on a silver platter.

But instead of simply throwing up their arms, the Raiders scored a 5-1 victory over the Mississauga Chargers with their best effort of the season. It also snapped their four-game losing streak and improved their Provincial Jr. A Hockey League won-lost-tied record to 4-6-1.

"After blowing the lead in Brampton (on Thursday) we were a bit down," said Cerrone Natale who scored twice, giving him four goals in his last two games. "This was a big must-win because when you get so close and you lose, it's frustrating."

Saturday's game seemed destined to add to that frustration. It began with Stace Page, the team's leading scorer with 21 points in 10 games, getting tossed for checking from behind just 46 seconds into the game.

No problem. The Raiders sim-

ply killed the penalty and then cashed in on a two-man advantage shortly after as Peter Veltman redirected Scott MacDonald's pass for his first of two on the game. Veltman was one of the many players who stepped up his game to fill the void left by Page's absence.

That lead lasted until the late stages of the first when the Raiders appeared to have added to it. However, Curtis Carr's goal was called back because the net was off its moorings. Mississauga promptly brought the puck back up the ice and scored 23 seconds later.

"That was a two-goal swing right there," said Raider coach Jay Anderson. "But the way they (The Raiders) responded showed we were the better team."

They responded with Rob LaRose feeding Natale at the side of the net early in the second. The former Bradford Bull capitalized with his seventh of the season. Even a third-period penalty that could have got the Chargers,

down by two at the time, back into the game couldn't deter the Raiders as Jason Read scored shorthanded to ice the game.

Meanwhile, goalie Jeff Hladysz stopped 35 shots to preserve the win, though he gave most of the credit to the team's defence, which struggled through the team's losing streak.

"The defence played great," the second-year Raider netminder said. "I could see all the pucks and they did a great job clearing the front of the net."

RAIDER RAP: Page's game misconduct brought an end to his 10-game point streak but MacDonald extended his to 11 games with two assists. The 16-year-old now has 18 points on the season....The Raiders scored three power-play goals and one short-handed....LaRose had two assists....Saturday was the Raiders first home win of the season. They are 3-3-1 on the road.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

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