Wednesday, November 17, 1999

PRO SPORTS

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Raiders bounce Buffalo, move past Milton into first

BY HERB GARBUTT Staff Writer

o player can appreciate how far the Georgetown Raiders have come in the last three years more than Adam Bertoli.

The Milton native is the only holdover from the Raiders' three-win campaign of 1996/97—an experience that was so enjoyable that the big winger gave up hockey for a year and a half. So you'll have to excuse him if he seems a little more surprised than the rest of his teammates that the Raiders now sit atop the Provincial Jr. A Hockey League's Western Conference with a record of 16-5-1.

"I wouldn't have thought this was possible. Not at all," Bertoli said after contributing four points, including the winning goal, to a 10-4 win over the Buffalo Lightning on Saturday that pulled them even with the Milton Merchants. Georgetown then edged Hamilton 6-5 on Mon-

day to move into sole possession of first.

Bertoli's self-imposed exile ended last season when Raider coach Jay Anderson, in need of some size to compliment a speedy but small team, gave the 6'1, 220-pound winger a call. He came in and not only provided the physical aspect the Raiders were looking for but also contributed 14 points in 15 games.

Despite that success, the 19-year-old found himself on the sidelines early this season. It was his ability to play both wing and defence got him back into the lineup and he's been taking a regular shift wherever he's needed for the past month.

The biggest difference Bertoli sees in his second tour of duty with the Raiders is in the team's attitude.

"There's a lot more talent and people working harder," he said. "Then it was a bunch of older guys and the team had never done very well. Now we've got some young guys coming to the team and the vets like (Jeff) Seeds and Stace (Page) have been unbelievable."

Among the group of young players coming in is Joe Tenute. The 16-year-old centre sparked an eight-goal third period on Saturday. Though the rookie had produced consistently with 17 points in his first 19 games, his two-goal, four-assist effort was definitely a breakthrough.

'Some games have been a little frustrating but I just have to keep working hard," said Tenute, who made the jump from the North York Canadiens bantams to Jr. A. "It's a faster pace and it's taken a while to get used to."

Tenute also set up a pair of goals by Mike Knoepfli in a 4-3 win over Oakville on

Friday.

Raider rap: Stace Page had three goals on Saturday to lift his team-leading total to 18....Knoepfli's goal against Buffalo extended his point streak to nine games (7-7-14)....Tristan Fairbarn had a goal and two assists and Jeff Seeds set up three goals on Saturday....Scott MacDonald had two assists in both weekend games....The Raiders outshot Buffalo 57-36.....The Raiders host a couple of teams on hot streaks this week. They play the Mississauga Chargers on Friday at 8 p.m. and then the Brampton Capitals on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Both games are at the Alcott Arena.

Provincial Jr. A West Conference GP W L T OTL Pts Georgetown 22 16 Milton Burlington Streetsville Brampton Hamilton Mississauga Oakville Bramalea Buffalo

Georgetown Raider Stace Page tucks a shot just under the crossbar to beat Buffalo goalie Jason Chrapala. The goal completed Page's hat-trick and was part of an eight-goal third period for the Raiders in Saturday's 10-4 win. Photo by Herb Garbutt

Rep hockey roundup

Keany nets two in novice win

ichael Keany scored twice and set up Cam Maltby to lead Georgetown past Orangeville 3-2. Patrick White had a pair Lof assists and John Forsier recorded the victory in net.

The Raiders could only muster one goal by Kyle Bolton in a loss to Milton. Keany and Robert Stuart assisted on the goal. Earlier, Milton had handed the Raiders a 5-2 loss. Cody McCulloch and Keany scored. Zachary Austin drew an assist.

Minor Atom Raiders: Michael Parker set up two third-period goals in the M&M Pro Sports Raiders 2-0 win over Milton. Matt Wittman and Jeff Pierce scored for the Raiders.

Pierce and Wittman each netted a pair in a 7-2 win over Guelph and Byron Hackett had a goal and two helpers. Sean Taylor and Reid Parker also scored and Jordan Thompson had two assists. Hackett, Pierce and Wittman scored in a 3-1 win over Burlington.

Minor Bantam Tanners: Colin Sheehan scored twice as the APM/Acton Firefighters Tanners downed Fergus 6-2. Chad Henry, Mike Gerrow, Shawn Richards and Jesse Hepburn also scored for Acton while Stephen Boychuk had two assists.

Jesse Hepburn had two goals, both set up by Peter Finnie and Joe Brunelle, in a 5-4 win over Elora. Also scoring were Chad Henry, Mike Chapman and Matt Chapman. Dustin Gamble, Matt Gardener and Boychuk had the Acton goals in a 3-1 win over Milton. Aaron Ferguson earned the victory.

See MORGAN, pg. 30

Kearns leads Acton to exciting playoff win

rista Kearns capped a fourth-quarter comeback that gave Acton a 28-26 victory over M.M. Robinson in Thursday's Halton Secondary School Athletic Association playoff game.

Kearns' basket with 40 seconds to play gave Acton its first lead of the junior girls basketball game.

Acton trailed by seven points going into the final quarter. Strong defensive play allowed Acton to outscore M.M. Robinson 11-2 in the last eight minutes.

quarter, finished the game with 13. Meghann Williams added eight and Holly Goddard had six points.

Goddard and Kearns also provided excellent rebounding.

Senior basketball: Acton's senior girls basketball team lost its final league game 64-11 to Notre Dame.

Rebecca Austin, one of four graduating players, led Acton with five points. Ruth Eddolls and Chrissy Pereria each had three points. Paige Killick, Jenn Schultz and Jessica Kearns, who had six points in the final Wright are Acton's other graduating players.



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