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Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2001



Buffalo Lightning defenceman Adam Drescher wraps up Georgetown's Paul Marchese as they chase a loose puck in Saturday's Provincial Jr. A Hockey League game. The Raiders rallied for five unanswered goals to down Buffalo 5-2.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

Raiders win, draw with Lightning

When it came time to name a new captain this season, the Georgetown Raiders didn't have to look much further than Bill Fetherston.

Now in his fourth season with the Raiders, Fetherston earned a spot on the team by delivering highlight-reel hits and showing a willingness to defend his teammates as capably as he defended the Raider net.

And while the 20-year-old defenceman continues to be the team's backbone defensively, the last two seasons he has added an offensive element to his game. After seasons of 18 and 19 points, Fetherston stepped up when the Raiders lost power play quarterback Ryan Fairbairn and delivered a 45-point season last year.

"I don't think we saw that in him when (former Raider coach) Jay (Anderson) and I brought him out," said Raider GM Jack Moon, who has watched the Aurora native's confidence build during his tenure with the Raiders. "He was given the opportunity to play more and he took full advantage of it."

Even when Georgetown added a true puck-rushing defenceman in Mike Taylor late last year, Fetherston continued to contribute.

Saturday he chipped in three assists as the Raiders scored five unanswered goals in a 5-2 win over the Buffalo Lightning. That temporarily moved him into a four-way tie for the team lead in points with 15, at least until Monday's 3-3 tie in which the Raiders needed Scott MacDonald's goal with 22 seconds to play to earn the draw.

Despite giving up a point to the conference's last place team, the Raider captain likes

the way the team, now 6-6-1, is shaping up.

"With Ryan (Robert) and Lorne (Acchione), that's two key additions. We can still improve defensively but our forwards are set now and Zak Brown's been giving us good goaltending."

Brown stopped 21 shots in Saturday's win and newly acquired Adam Jacobs was sharp in turning aside 39 shots in his first start on Monday.

Robert, a 19-year-old picked up from St. Mike's of the Ontario Hockey League, contributed immediately with a goal and an assist Saturday and Acchione also scored.

The Raiders also acquired 18-year-old defenceman Noah Hamilton from the Brampton Capitals to shore up things in their own end. But Fetherston will continue to be the cornerstone on the Raider blueline. Despite being the team's most willing combatant he has never had 100 penalty minutes in a season, which shows that his positional play rarely puts him in a situation where he has to take a penalty.

The Raiders will find out how valuable he is in the coming weeks. Fetherston was handed a seven-game suspension for arguing with a referee following Monday's game. The Raiders are appealing the suspension and no doubt, they won't want to be without the rugged defenceman for very long.

RAIDER RAP: Ryan McCarthy scored twice and T.J. Trevelyan scored for the sixth straight game Saturday....McCarthy and Ryan Busby staked the Raiders to a 2-1 lead that lasted until the final eight minutes of regulation Monday.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

Game to mark anniversary of junior hockey

It's been 25 years since they last met so you can't blame them if their memories are failing them a little.

"The old boys were victorious," said John Boyce, captain of the 1977 Georgetown Intermediate Raiders. "I can't remember the score but we handled them pretty easily."

"Ah, we killed them," said Doug Pembleton, an original member of the Georgetown Junior Gemini.

Though the details of that long-ago exhibition game may be disputed, the two teams will have a chance to settle the score once and for all when they meet again Sunday, Oct. 21 at the Alcott Arena at 1:30 p.m. Proceeds from the game will go to the local motion recreation centre campaign.

The game will celebrate the 25th anniversary of junior hockey in Georgetown with the original Gemini lineup hitting the ice together.

Pembleton began planning for the reunion about six months ago.

"With it being the 25th anniversary, I thought it was a good time to get the team back together," said Pembleton, who now lives in Lakefield. "I started making phone calls and calling guys from my team and they were all pretty excited about it."

Players will be making the trek from as far as New Jersey for the game while most are scattered around Ontario.

It wasn't as difficult to bring the Intermediate team together. Many of them still play with Boyce on the Sports Unlimited oldtimers team.

Many of the Gemini players actually went on to play for the Intermediate Raiders.

"They had some really good talent," Boyce said. "Some of them came up and played for us that season and certainly contributed to our team."

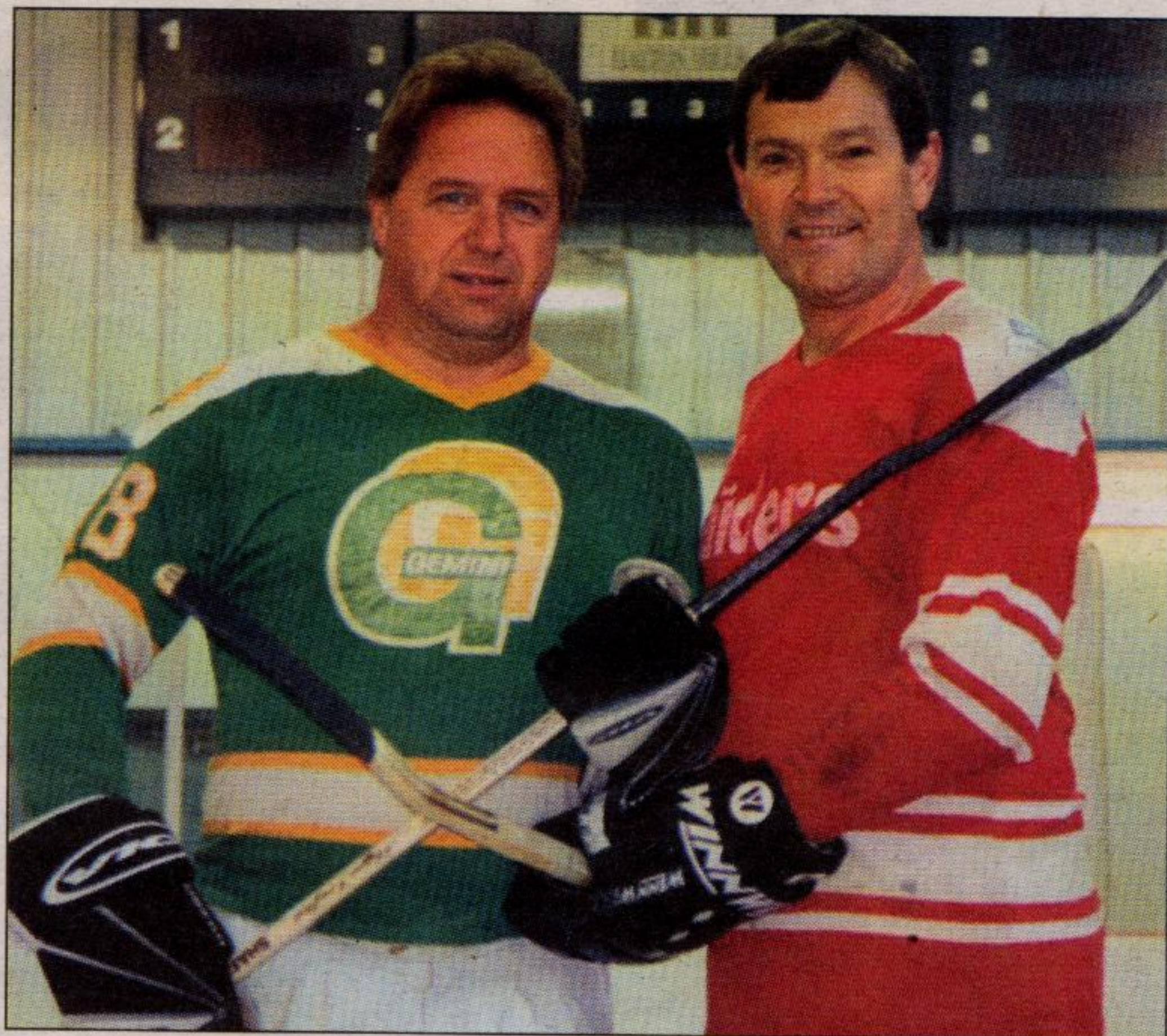
As for predictions....

"We're a little slower," Boyce said. "But we won before despite our speed."

"It will be a lot fun no matter what," Pembleton added.

Tickets for the game will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids and seniors. Tickets are available at J.V. Clothing, M&M Pro Sports, the Mold Masters Sportsplex and the Georgetown Marketplace lottery booth.

The game is sponsored by the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council, the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association, the Jr. A Raiders and the Town of Halton Hills.



Doug Pembleton, left, and John Boyce are set to do battle Sunday when the Georgetown Gemini mark the 25th anniversary of junior hockey in Georgetown by sending their original lineup out to play the 1977 Georgetown Intermediate Raiders. Game time is 1:30 p.m. at Alcott Arena.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

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