

Sports & Leisure

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Bantam Raiders nearly snap 18-year tourney title drought

The Georgetown Dan Bodanis Major Bantam Raiders may not have won their division but they provided the local fans with plenty of thrills.

Only the grand champions, the Brampton Battalion, prevented the Raiders from ending an 18-year drought at the Georgetown International Bantam Tournament. The Raiders were vying for Georgetown's first divisional title since 1984 when they met Brampton in Saturday's B Division championship.

Brampton jumped out to an early lead but Thomas Raynard scored to tie the game. Brampton goals in the final minute of the first and midway through the second gave the Raiders a daunting task. Brampton goalies Jason Morton and Kevin Maddison had allowed just three goals entering the game and would end up sharing the tournament's top goaltender honours.

Despite being denied the divisional title, the Raiders did not come away without some hardware. Georgetown's James Mountford won the Red and Jean Asseltine Trophy, presented to the player who best exemplifies skill,

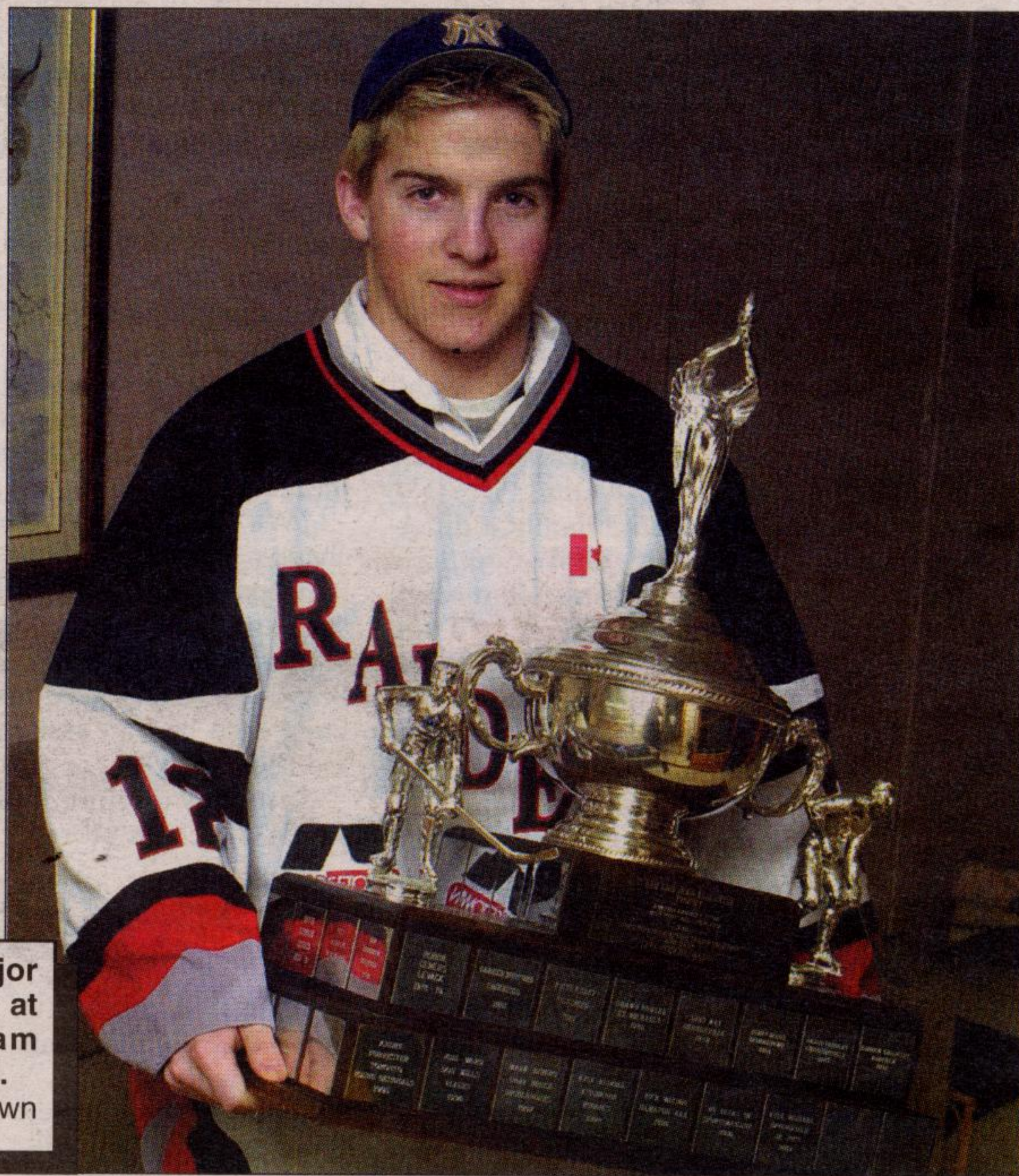
leadership and sportsmanship in the tournament.

Meanwhile, Nick McLaughlin came through with a pair of clutch goals to help the Raiders reach the final.

McLaughlin scored with 1:15 to play in the second overtime as the Raiders advanced to B final with a thrilling 5-4 victory over Vaughan.

Travis Bland had a pair of goals in the game while Kevin Field and Brock Grin also scored. Tim Walinga, Matt Chisholme and Jeremy Walsh each had two assists.

The Raiders entered the playoffs with a record of 2-0-1 thanks to a 5-3 win over Ted Reeve on Friday. Again it was McLaughlin scoring with 45 seconds to play in regulation to break a 3-3 tie. Jeremy Walsh scored his second of the game 25 seconds later to cap the victory. Travis Bland and Thomas Raynard had the other goals.



James Mountford of the Georgetown Major Bantam Raiders won the Asseltine Trophy at the Georgetown International Bantam Tournament. The Raiders lost in the B final.

Photo by Ted Brown

Tanners fall in final

The tournament hosts weren't the only team trying to end a dry spell at the Georgetown International Bantam Tournament. Acton had last won a divisional title in 1988 but after downing Coronation 4-1 in the semis, found itself in the E Division final against their neighbours, the Erin-Hillsburgh Devils.

There the Tanners ran into a one-man wrecking crew in Calvin Mostaard. Mostaard, the tournament's most valuable player, scored five times in a 7-4 win for the Devils. Making the loss tougher to take was the fact the Tanners had handled Erin/Hillsburgh 6-2 in their final round-robin game.

However, the Tanners dug themselves a 3-0 hole from which they could never fully recover in the final. Pat Collins and Matt Bronizewski scored shorthanded goals 17 seconds apart to get Acton back in the game but the Devils would get two more before the end of the period to restore their lead. Goals by Troy Ethier and Greg Boughton helped Acton keep pace in the third but they couldn't close the gap.

In the semis it was Coronation striking first but Ethier's two second-period goals gave Acton the lead for good. Boycott and Bronizewski scored in the third to send the Tanners to the final. Matt Freckleton and Chad Artem each had a pair of assists.

Curtis McArthur and Freckleton each had two goals in the Tanners' earlier victory over Erin-Hillsburgh. John Tysoe and Al Dube also scored while Mike Kuiper and Bronizewski had two assists.

At Georgetown Bantam tournament

Battalion storm to win in grand championship

The Brampton Battalion launched a full-scale attack and conquered the 42nd edition of the Georgetown International Bantam Tournament.

Brampton claimed both the grand championship and the Founders Division for AAA Major teams.

After capturing the Goldham B Division for the second time in three years by defeating Georgetown 3-1, Brampton edged Erin/Hillsburgh 2-1 on Josh Erion's third-period goal in the grand championship semifinal.

Meanwhile, Cambridge, paced by Alex Andrade's hat-trick advanced by winning the C Final 5-3 over Oakville.

The grand championship looked as though it was going to be a lopsided affair as Brampton jumped out to a 3-0 lead. With the tournament's top netminders Jason Morton and Kevin Maddison guarding the net, that looked insurmountable.

But Cambridge broke the shutout in the second and added another early in the third to cut the lead to 3-2. It took Brampton just 31 seconds

to respond and up their advantage to 4-2. A shorthanded goal by Brampton captain Brendon Doran with 3:38 remaining sealed the victory as they went on to a 6-2 victory.

Morton and Maddison allowed just six goals in seven games for a tournament average of 0.86.

The Battalion's major bantam AAA unit had to work a little harder for its 3-2 victory. Sean Kerr scored with 55 seconds to play to force overtime against Ajax-Pickering, which had led 2-0. The teams then played through two scoreless five-minute overtimes. After two-minutes each of four-on-four, three-on-three and two-on-two hockey produced many thrills but no goals, the teams went to one-on-one.

Ajax-Pickering pulled their goalie for an extra attacker and Brampton

followed suit after clearing the puck. Kyle Sobotka stole the puck along the boards in the Pickering end and chipped the puck to a wide-open Jesse Adair, who deposited the winning goal into the empty net.

Erin/Hillsburgh's Calvin Mostaard was the tournament's most valuable player. He led his team to the E Division championship and finished the tournament with 16 goals and three assists in six games.

Mostaard scored five times in the E Division final, a 7-4 win over Acton, but his best performance of the tournament was a five-goal, two-assist effort in a 7-0 win over Listowel.

The Red and Jean Asseltine Trophy, for the player exemplifying skill, leadership and sportsmanship, went to Georgetown's James Mountford.

In the E Division final, Paul Cyr scored twice as Springfield doubled Waterloo 4-2. Springfield then fell 4-2 to Cambridge in the grand championship semifinal.



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