

Raider sophomores sharp against Cougars, Capitals

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What happened last year was the team getting upset in the playoffs by Oakville after getting a little too complacent. That hasn't been a concern with the second-year Raiders. Sgarbossa has played his best hockey through a tiring stretch of seven games in 12 nights, racking up 10 points in that span. He now has 14 points in 18 games.

Gurtler also showed promise last season. Though he was scratched for more than half of the Raiders' playoff games, he came back ready to show he could contribute.

Through 18 games, Gurtler has already topped last season's totals with seven goals and 18 points.

After being upset by Streetsville last week, Gurtler helped the team bounce back with a win in Brampton.

"It was a better game for me and just a better team effort," the

17-year-old said.

Though the departure of several veterans opened up some ice time, the arrival of Mike Nelson, Richard Hornseth and the return of Jay Sprague meant there were no guarantees. And with a new head coach in Dan Cameron, Sgarbossa and Gurtler still had to earn their ice time.

"They've definitely been given more opportunity to play than last year," said Raider assistant coach Mike Currer. "We knew what they were capable of and we had a little more trust and faith in them but they earned that by playing hard and doing the right things."

In Brampton, Sgarbossa opened the scoring and then set up Nick Harloff. Gurtler set up Sprague to make it 3-0 and added his own late in the second. Wade Finegan made it 5-2 Raiders in the third and another second-year junior enjoying a solid season, Kyle Frieday, capped the scoring with his seventh of the year.

Saturday, Sgarbossa twice gave the Raiders the lead but Burlington answered each time and then took a 3-2 lead. Defenceman Dan Rogers pulled the Raiders even with 4:26 left in the second and three minutes later DeAnglis potted the winner.

Lapointe finishes ninth at world team tourney

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Though trouble on the greens in the second round led Lapointe to a 78, her teammates picked her up. Matthews shot another 70 and Knowlton had a 75 to help Canada increase its lead to three shots.

Back on the River Course, Lapointe overcame a double bogey on the first hole and shot a 71 that included five birdies. Matthews had a 72 but Sweden still managed to cut the lead by a stroke. Lapointe's finishing round of 72 tied her for ninth in the tournament's individual standings with Stahl.

A veteran of seven worlds, Lapointe was excited about this year's tournament.

"When I saw who was named to the team, I had a good feeling. It's one of the strongest teams I've been a part of. Then when we had the good start we were thinking about winning it all the way. I told them after the third round, 'We've got to win this. You guys will have another chance, this might be my last.'"

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

Junior Rebels meeting all challenges

With their undefeated season on the line, the Georgetown Rebels rallied to down the Milton District Mustangs—and it came as no surprise to their coach.

"Every time they're faced with a bit of a challenge, they rise up to it," said Georgetown junior boys volleyball coach Erin Reble. "The more challenge there is, the more exciting it seems to be for them."

And the Rebels certainly made things exciting on Monday after losing the opening game 25-16. They trailed 20-19 in the second game and it looked like their seven-game winning streak was about to end. Instead, Georgetown reeled off six straight points for the victory. They carried that momentum into the 15-9 match-clinching third game.

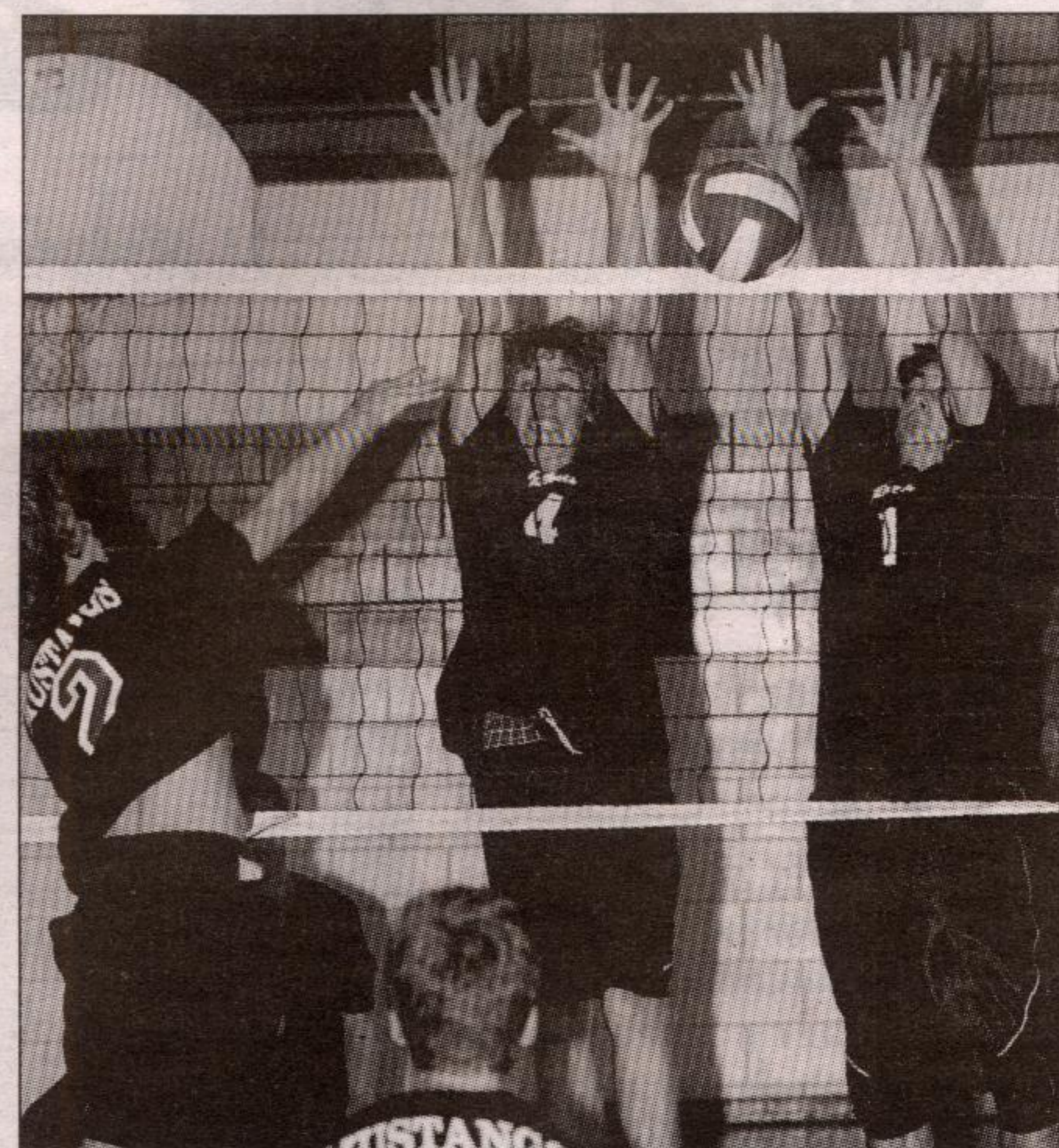
It wasn't the first time the Mustangs had posed a problem for Georgetown. The Rebels won all five matches at a tournament at E.C. Drury on the weekend but had to survive a three-game quarterfinal against Milton. The Rebels went on to defeat Durham's Sinclair in the final.

"They really hustled and outplayed the other teams. It was amazing to see," Reble said.

The Rebels' first-year coach knew last year's team was strong team but with six players graduating to the senior squad, there were no guarantees that success would continue. By the first few tryouts, she knew things would be fine.

"We've had some really good Grade 9s come in. There are really good feeder schools. They come in with the skills you need as a good base so there's always room for growth."

Cameron Gillmoure and Matt Scott, two returnees from last year's team, provide a powerful attack that is orchestrated by setter Ricky Davids. Byron Hackett has also given the team a spark with strong play at the net.



Byron Hackett (4) and Matt Scott of the Georgetown Rebels stretch to block the Milton attack during Monday's Halton junior boys volleyball game. The Rebels rallied for a 16-25, 25-20, 15-9 victory to improve their record to 8-0.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

With two games remaining, the Rebels need only wins over Christ the King and Bishop Reding, two teams they have already beaten this season, to have an undefeated season. Then the challenge becomes reclaiming the Halton title they last won in 1999.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

Rep hockey roundup

Bantam AE Raiders edged in tourney final

Facing a formidable opponent, the Georgetown Dan Bodanis Financial Planner Major Bantam AE Raiders were edged 2-1 by Clarington in the final of the Orillia Thanksgiving Tournament.

Clarington had outscored its opponents 29-2 heading into the final. It jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the championship. The Raiders pulled within one in the third but couldn't get the equalizer.

Cody McCulloch set up David Carscadden's goal in double overtime to lift the Raiders to a 2-1 quarterfinal win. The Raiders then doubled Uxbridge 4-2 to advance to the final.

In round-robin play, the Raiders beat Ajax 5-2, lost 2-1 to Innisfil and tied Orangeville 1-1.

Midget AE Raiders

Charlie Little scored and set up another goal but Burlington held off the Raiders for a 5-4 win.

Burlington 5, Georgetown 4: Little (1G, 1A); Brad Williams, Reed de Haas, Sean Taylor (G); Doug Lowry, Bryce Fellows, Matt Wittmann (A).

Fergus 7, Georgetown 1: Michael Parker (G); de Haas, Sean O'Callaghan (A).

Woolwich 6 Georgetown 1: Mike Weber (G); Lowry, Brett Reynolds (A).

Minor Bantam Raiders

A.J. Van Doorn and Robert Turner each had two points as the Georgetown Dan Bodanis Financial Planner Raiders edged Orangeville 3-2.

Georgetown 4, Brampton 2: Zach Austin, Matt Brown, Trevor Hill, Robbie Robertson (G).

Stoney Creek 4, Georgetown 2: Keegan Witten, Brent O'Dourghty (G).

Georgetown 3, Orangeville 2: A.J. Van Doorn, Robert Turner (1G, 1A); Brendan Uberig (G); Kamil Burghardt (A).

Major Novice AE Raiders

Jacob Hector had two goals and two assists to lead the Sports Unlimited Raiders to a 7-3 win over Orangeville. The Raiders remain undefeated through nine games with a record of 8-0-1.

Georgetown 3, Erin 3: Dylan Reid, Hector, John Smith (G); Steven Rosa, Cory Highfield, Brandon Gago, Christopher Brydie, Matthew Hopson (A).

Georgetown 7, Orangeville 3: Hector (2G, 2A); Highfield (1G, 1A); Nicholas Hale, Matthew Hopson, Matthew Carr, Gago (G); Ben Sutherland (2A); Mitchell Catoen, Brydie (A).

Georgetown 4, Milton 1: Highfield, Hector (1G, 1A); Reid, Hopson (G); Curtis Moorhead, Rosa, Adam Dobis, Brodie Briscoe, Carr (A); Tyler Anderson, Theo Dol (W).

Georgetown 4, Orangeville 2: Brydie, Adam Dobis, Hale, Hector (G); Carr, Hopson (A); Dol, Anderson (W).

Major Bantam Raiders

Brendan Gingras scored twice and set up another goal as the Raiders defeated Brampton 5-2.


Georgetown 5, Brampton 2: Gingras (2G, 1A); Adam Salisbury, Darcy Mejia (1G, 1A); Marc Nadeau (G); Andrew Berlingieri, Cody Matthews (2A); Nick Spence (A); Steven McDonald (W, 15 sv).

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