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Raiders scare up a 12-2 thrashing of Bramalea

In the weeks leading up to Halloween, the Georgetown Raiders have been doing their best to portray Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

Just as they begin to look like West Conference contenders, they turn in a performance so dreadful, you wonder if they'll survive long enough to be playing hockey in March. Then no sooner do you write them off than they return with a great game that restores faith.

After scoring eight goals against Mississauga on Wednesday, the Raiders (11-8-1), couldn't find the mark in a 7-3 loss to Brampton Thursday. Then they came back two nights later and blasted Bramalea 12-2.

"The lineup is nowhere near what I want it to be, what anybody wants it to be. I know there are pieces missing," said Raider coach Jay Anderson.

A team could usually deal with those growing pains but it becomes more difficult when you're coming off a trip to the national championship.

"Coming back after last year, expectations are so high but that's a tough year to follow," Anderson said. "But we're not just going to be that team. We're going to have to develop into that team. Until then, we can't afford to be outworked."

Which was the case as the Capitals jumped on the Raiders for a 5-1 lead by the five-minute mark of the second period. Goals by Adam Campbell and



Greg Lever of the Georgetown Raiders watches as the puck slips behind Bramalea goalie Kyle Newton during Saturday's Provincial Jr. A Hockey League game. It was a familiar sight as the Raiders pounded the Blues 12-2.

Photo by Yves Desjardins

Mike Gurtler pulled the Raiders within two but they couldn't sustain that momentum in the third.

Saturday the Raiders couldn't stop the momentum if they wanted to. Up 6-2 through two periods, the Raiders' four affiliate players got generous amounts of ice time and made the most of it.

Mike Kosziwka of Acton had a goal and three assists in the third period while Dan Grespan scored twice.

Raider veterans also had big nights in establishing the early lead. Mike Gurtler had two goals and two assists, Frank DeAngelis scored once and set up two and Ryan Lee, Jon Southgate, Joey Piccone, Wade Finegan, Rob Sgarbossa and Matt Sitko each had a goal and an assist. Rookie Adam Campbell also chipped in with three assists.

RAIDER RAP: The Raiders have finally shored up their backup goaltender position by signing 16-year-old Cameron Healy. The Raiders had Aaron Ferguson, on loan from Orangeville, backing up until a permanent replacement could be found. The Raiders had their limit of two 16-year-olds, George Lovatsis and Andrew Shorkey, but Shorkey's departure allowed them to sign Healy....The Raiders have won eight of their last nine at home....Georgetown hosts Streetsville Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

Kazakh teens pay a visit

The Kazakhstan Torpedo, a team of 15-year-olds, will be playing the Georgetown Minor Midget AE Raiders tonight (Wednesday) at the Acton Arena at 9 p.m.

The Kazakhstan recently won the Carson Cup International Hockey Tournament in Saskatchewan. The team is staying with local families before returning home on Thursday.

The team spent Tuesday in Toronto and will be visiting Georgetown District High School Thursday morning.

Three Acton runners off to OFSAA

Cameron Shortt won the Halton cross-country title to lead a contingent of three Acton runners who will compete at Saturday's provincial high school championship.

Shortt held off Ryan Lepine to win in 18 minutes, 31 seconds, edging the Notre Dame runner by three seconds for the Halton title at Bronte Park in Oakville last Wednesday.

"I thought he was going to sprint by me," Shortt said. "He looked pretty comfortable but I just gave it all I had."

Shortt finished second overall in the combined Golden Horseshoe/Halton race. That earned him a spot at the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic

Association (OFSAA) meet in Kingston.

With 200 to 250 of the province's best runners competing at OFSAA, Shortt is aiming to finish in the top 50.

Joining Shortt at OFSAA will be Acton's sister/brother team of Melissa and Matthew Bigg. Melissa Bigg finished second among Halton runners and third in GHAC. Runners from two qualifying teams and the next top three individual runners from non-qualifying teams move on to OFSAA. Bigg was in fifth place when coach Spike Adams let her know that the five at the front of the pack were not likely to be on qualifying teams.

"I wasn't worried," she said. "I just

focused on what I had to do."

She moved up one spot and then out-sprinted Oakville-Trafalgar's Kimber MacMaster to finish third by two seconds and earn the third and final qualifying spot in a time of 20 minutes, 19 seconds.

It will be Bigg's second trip to OFSAA in the last three years. She qualified for OFSAA two years ago and finished 42nd in the junior girls race.

Matthew Bigg will be returning to OFSAA for the second year in a row. He finished in 22 minutes and 21 seconds to place third among Halton runners and fourth in GHAC.

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