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Mustangs tops
at tournament

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at Junior nationals

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Special pullout section

Shell-shocked Davey lands with Raiders

EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

As a member of the last-place Bramalea Blues this past season, rookie goaltender Eddie Davey often felt like he was in a shooting gallery on most evenings.

The Blues managed to win just one game out of 49 and the the once-mighty franchise— Royal Bank Cup semifinalists in 1999— deteriorated to the point where it has taken a year's leave of absence from the OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League.

But the heavy workload wasn't necessarily a burden for the 17-year-old Davey, who would often earn a game star for his acrobatic saves despite being on the receiving end of a usually lopsided defeat.

The Orangeville resident was finally rescued from his 1-15-1-0 record and 5.37 goals-against average with a trade to Burlington in December, and the Georgetown Raiders acquired Davey from the West Conference-rival Cougars in a cash deal last week.

With backstop Keaton Hartigan now too old to play and veteran Texan Marc Stuart choosing to suit up for Syracuse of the Empire Junior Hockey League, the Raiders feel Davey is ready to take on the vacant starter's role for the 2007-08 campaign.

"When you're facing 60 to 70 shots a night, giving up seven goals was considered a good game and it was actually an excellent experience for me to play in Bramalea," said Davey, who faced the Raiders during last year's playoffs in a couple of games for the Cougars.

"I had a chance to play with (national Jr. A champion) Aurora but

it turned out just fine where I ended up going. I got my name out there without all the pressure of a rookie playing for a first-place team. Now I need to take the next step and showcase myself if I'm going to get a scholarship. One of the reasons why I wanted to come to Georgetown is because I love playing there. The fans are always into it even before the game starts."

Georgetown begins its main training camp on Monday at the Alcott Arena and will stage an intra-squad game on Wednesday beginning at 7 p.m. A meet-the-Raiders reception will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the arena.

With just under a month until the 2007-08 season commences, the Raiders have just a few spots remaining to fill on their opening-night roster. There are also many question marks surrounding what will be an almost-completely revamped lineup that has few returnees from last year's run to the West Conference finals.

A handful of possible returning players, including defencemen Jon Quarrie, Spencer Metcalfe and Peter Mrksic, still have to attend Ontario Hockey League training camps, but it appears that Georgetown will ice a much-younger club than it has in recent years.

"We have 15 guys signed and there are three pretty significant deals that we hope to have finalized by the time camp gets going," said new director of hockey operations Lonnie Freeman. "Yes, there are a lot of new faces, but (director of scouting) Bill MacIntyre has done an unbelievable job in identifying players who can step in and have an impact right away."

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EDDIE DAVEY



Riel Flack of the Georgetown Thunderbolts leaped to a bronze-medal finish in the Tyke girls' long jump at the recent Ontario Minor Track & Field Association Championships in Oshawa. Flack was also a member of the Georgetown relay team that raced to victory in the Tyke girls' 4x100m event. Submitted photo

Bolts strike gold at meet

Members of the Georgetown Thunderbolts participated at the Ontario Minor Track & Field Championships recently at the Oshawa Civic Centre, earning some provincial titles and several personal-best results as well.

The Tyke girls (grades 3-4), consisting of Chante Burnett, Hailey Den Elzen, Chelsea Dixon and Riel Flack, were frequent visitors to the podium.

Den Elzen earned the Ontario title in the Tyke girls' long jump, finished a close second in the 100m final and was third in the 200m.

The team of Den Elzen, Dixon, Flack and Burnett captured the provincial gold medal as they received a strong 400m performance from their anchor, Burnett.

That same foursome won the 4x100m relay at the prestigious Ontario Hershey Finals, where their time was just shy of qualifying for Team Ontario and a trip to the international meet at Hershey Pa.

Flack added to the medal haul with a bronze medal in the Tyke girls' long jump.

Not to be outdone by her younger sister, Courtney Den Elzen won the atom girls (grades 5-6) shot put, placed second in the Atom girls' 200m dash and was third in the 100m with times of 25.12 and 13.38 respectively.

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Eagles open championship with 8-0 win

The Georgetown Eagles registered an 8-0 victory over New Brunswick Thursday morning to open the Baseball Canada Peeewe Boys' Championships in Quebec City.

Pitchers Brad Bedford and tourney pick-up Zack Sardellitti of Vaughan combined for the shutout, while Georgetown's Adam Anderson knocked in Team Ontario's first run in the second inning with an RBI double and then scored on a two-run homer by catcher Carson Kelly of London.

Kelly added two more RBIs with an inside-the-park home run in the fifth.

The Eagles were slated to face host Quebec City last night (Thursday). They'll play Alberta and Manitoba today before finishing the round-robin segment against B.C. on Saturday. The semifinals and championship game is scheduled for Sunday.

For live updates on the national championship tournament, visit the website www.baseball.ca.

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