

SPORTS & LEISURE



New-look Raiders manage split with Cougars, Sabres

EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

As one of just three returnees from last season's edition of the Georgetown Raiders, new captain Evan Zych has had a tough time putting names to new faces, never mind being the anchor of the team's defence.

And just a few games into the OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League's regular season, the Raiders are one point out of first place behind Hamilton with a 5-2-1 record after skating past the winless Buffalo Jr. Sabres 6-3 at the Alcott Arena on Saturday night.

Eighteen-year-old Zych, who hails from nearby Kilbride, almost didn't return to the Raiders this fall, either, as he was slated to accept a scholarship to the University of Massachusetts at Lowell before deciding to play another year at the Jr. A level. The 5-foot-11, 185-pound former Milton IceHawks' captain feels that the new-look Raiders can be West Division title contenders again in March with a few months of familiarity between them.

"We're still building with a lot of first-year Jr. A players but I think our character within the next few weeks will show through," Zych said after his club's first road loss in five starts, a 4-1 defeat at Burlington to the Cougars Friday evening.

"We had a lot of guys move on after last year and we've brought in some guys who do have a lot of Jr. A experience. You can say that our rookies are young and inexperi-

'I think our character within the next few weeks will show through.'



—Raiders' captain Evan Zych

enced but some of them already play like they're 18- or 19-year-olds."

The Raiders received a goal from veteran Andrew Ella early in Friday's contest, although they were unable to cause much trouble for 17-year-old Cougar netminder Andrew Hare, who is now 5-0-0.

On Saturday night, Georgetown was outshot 20-8 in the first period by the 0-7-0 Jr. Sabres and trailed 1-0 at one point, then rallied with four straight goals in the middle stanza while Buffalo went 2 for 14 with the man advantage on the night. Big winger Mark McGowan of Toronto led the Raider charge with a hat trick and singles came from Trevor Branning, Paul Yovanic and Anthony Luciani.

For the Thanksgiving weekend, the Raiders visit Milton on Friday to face the IceHawks and then they'll host Brampton Saturday at the Alcott Arena beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Defenceman Chris Borges of the Georgetown Raiders fends off an attempted elbow smash by Burlington's Scott Charbonneau during their OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League contest Friday night at the year-old Wave Twin Rinks. The Cougars led 3-1 after the first period and although outshot 35-29, the hosts received a second-period marker from Charbonneau to earn a 4-1 win, Georgetown's first road loss of the campaign.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Hockey Heritage Council honours six for contributions

EAMONN MAHER
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days of the 1970s and '80s.

Several players and executive members from the 1982 Hardy Cup champs were in attendance for the reunion and guest speakers recounted their favourite memories and the difficult losses along the way.

"I can't believe it's been 25 years. No one looks any older," joked former Raider president and treasurer Bob Hooper, who is now commissioner of the OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League.

The Hockey Heritage Council's citation awards are presented every three years and the latest half-dozen recipients bring the total number of honourees to 33. A moment of silence was also observed for the four community members who have passed on recently— Wilf Brownlow, Ron Knight, Trevor Moores and Roy Ward.

Following are the 2007 citation recipients:

Jim Barclay

Starting as the Raiders' first-aid attendant and then goal judge, Barclay performed many of the behind-the-scenes duties that help build a successful organization.



JIM BARCLAY

He served as the Booster Club Chairman for a season and chipped in on the fund-raising side, also serving on organizational committees for international exhibition games.

Unable to attend last week's ceremony due to his wife's illness, Barclay rarely missed even a Raider practice and had a hard time saying no when asked to help the team in some way.

John Boyce

Although he didn't play on the Hardy Cup champion squad, Boyce was one of the players who helped build the Raider dynasty of the 1970s and '80s.



JOHN BOYCE

His nine-year career saw him emerge as team captain, often coming up with inspirational dressing See SIX, pg. 18



GEORGETOWN TOYOTA

GAME OF THE WEEK

GEORGETOWN JR. A RAIDERS

vs

BRAMPTON CAPITALS

Saturday, October 6, 2007

7:30 pm

Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Alcott Arena)

GEORGETOWN JUNIOR "A"



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