

SPORTS & LEISURE



Raiders hoping poor play a 'blip'

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Staff Writer

A quiet stretch in the OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League's regular season schedule likely couldn't have come at a better time for the slumping Georgetown Raiders.

And although they're just a couple of points out of first place in the West Division with a 12-6-1 record, the Raiders have dropped three of their past five games, including a 6-3 home loss to their rival Brampton Capitals Saturday at the Alcott Arena.

Georgetown did respond with a 6-3 win Sunday in Etobicoke against the depleted Streetsville Derbys, but Raider coach James Richmond has been concerned with the alarming number of soft goals allowed dating back to the club's third-period collapse in a 9-6 loss to last-place Buffalo on Oct. 22.

"We have not played well recently, although I didn't think we were that bad against Brampton, so if there was a time to have a bit of a lull in the schedule, this is it," said Richmond.

"I think that Buffalo game really hurt us psychologically and it's got us in a bit of a tailspin. But that's to be expected sometimes when you've got a young team like we do, so hopefully this is just a blip in a long season. We had a high-tempo skate Monday night and we'll have a good technical practice on Wednesday. We're still fighting it out at the top of the standings because nobody's really running away with the division, which makes everything exciting."

Against the Capitals, who've won nine of their past 10 games, the Raiders gave up three power-play markers and some bad-angle goals on netminder Paul Claxton as the visitors pulled away with a big third period. Rookie Mark McGowan, with his team-leading 14th goal, Trevor Branning and Scott Levitt tallied for the home side.

Georgetown was without its captain, Carlisle's Evan Zych, who is playing for Team Canada East at the World Jr. A Hockey Challenge this week in B.C., and speedy forward Anthony Luciani, who is possibly lost for the season with a broken ankle. Luciani had 14 points in 13 games before suffering the injury in the late stages of a 5-4 win over Burlington Oct. 27.

Versus the Derbys, losers of 11 consecutive starts, McGowan scored twice and singles were added by Levitt, Andrew Ella, Luke Reda and Spencer Metcalfe.

The Raiders have just one game this week when they host the Milton IceHawks Saturday at the Alcott Arena beginning at 7:30 p.m. Zych is expected to return to the locals' lineup when Georgetown entertains Mississauga next Wednesday.

The 18-year-old blueliner picked up two assists in TCE's 4-1 victory over Belarus on Monday night in the opening contest of the round-robin portion of the tournament.

The championship game will be broadcast Sunday on TSN.



JAMES RICHMOND

Brampton's Matt Ferreira (17) had his scoring attempt blocked by Georgetown goalkeeper Paul Claxton with some help from his defender Scott Levitt (44) on Saturday night in an OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey

League matchup at the Alcott Arena. Tyler Leimbrock and Cody Crichton scored twice each for the visitors in a 6-3 victory over the Raiders.

Photo by Jon Borgstrom

High school roundup

Football playoffs get under way this week

Christ the King's and Georgetown's senior football teams plan on returning to Ivor Wynne Stadium in Hamilton for a playoff game next week, although this year they definitely won't be playing each other.

The Halton Secondary School Athletic Association realigned its post-season format for the 2007 campaign, waiting until after the regular season to determine which schools will play in Division I or II.

CtK's Jaguars finished the season with a 5-2 record after a 7-2 loss to M.M. Robinson last week and will face undefeated Assumption in Burlington this Friday as the fourth seed in the Division I semifinals.

The Rebels, meanwhile, qualified for the HSSAA Division II final four with three other teams sporting 4-3 records and will host St. Thomas Aquinas Friday on the GDHS field beginning at 2:30 p.m. Georgetown's seniors were beaten 34-0 by Assumption to close out the regular schedule last Thursday.

The Division I and II championship games will be played at Ivor Wynne on Wednesday or Thursday

of next week. Last year, the two Georgetown schools squared off in a high-scoring affair for the Division II title, with the Jaguars prevailing.

Cross-Country

Emily Driedger of Georgetown District High School was the top local-area finisher at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championship meet held in Niagara Falls last Saturday.

Driedger placed 77th out of 245 competitors in the 4,000-metre junior girls' event in a time of 16

minutes and 13 seconds, helping the Rebels place 23rd out of 38 schools in the team standings. GDHS's junior team was rounded out by Marissa Clarke (134th), Allison Waters (146th), Lauren Sokolowski (182nd) and Jennifer Pettit (226th).

Acton's lone entry, Cameron Shortt, placed 89th out of 237 runners as a first-year senior in the 7,000m race in 23:22.

Georgetown's Devon Cook finished 96th in a field of 233 athletes in the 5,000m midget boys' event, clocking in at 18:37.

Bulldogs dumped in final

After a 9-1-0 showing during the regular season, the Halton Hills Bulldogs were upset by Barrie 10-5 in the final game of the Ontario Lacrosse Association Division 2 field championships in Mississauga recently.

Preliminary round— Halton Hills 15, Newmarket 3: Adam McGourty (4G, 2A); Nick Rose (4G, A); JJ Laforet (2G, 3A); Nick Grasby (2G, 2A); Matt Laidlaw (2G); Russell Peacock (G); Peter Laidlaw (A).
Halton Hills 12, Burlington 2:

Rose (6G); Grasby (3G, A); Laforet (3A); Pat Saunders (2G); Peter Laidlaw (2A); Peacock (G); McGourty, Kyle Andrews (A).

Semifinal—Halton Hills 10, Oshawa #2 2: Saunders (4G); McGourty (G, 3A); Laforet, Rose (2G, A); Brandon Gordon (G); Peter Laidlaw, Grasby, Daniel Patterson (A).

Championship— Barrie 10, Halton Hills 5: Laforet (G, 2A); Saunders (2G); Matt Laidlaw, Rose (G).

GEORGETOWN TOYOTA
GAMES OF THE WEEK

GEORGETOWN JR. A RAIDERS
vs
MILTON ICEHAWKS
Saturday, November 10, 2007
7:30 pm
Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Alcott Arena)

GEORGETOWN JR. A RAIDERS
vs
MISSISSAUGA CHARGERS
Wednesday, November 14, 2007
8:00 pm
Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Alcott Arena)

GEORGETOWN JUNIOR "A"

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