

Plans for pavilion in works

Slopitch ball players seek a place in the shade

By **EAMONN MAHER**

Staff Writer

Finding some shade on a hot day around the baseball diamonds at the Gellert Recreation Centre can be difficult, but the Georgetown Slopitch League is working with the Town of Halton Hills to provide an oasis of sorts.

The GSL has submitted a proposal to the Town for a pavilion that would include washrooms, a concession/venue area and a refuge from the sun for local ball groups and casual park users.

"We think the Gellert could host more tournaments with a pavilion between Diamonds 1 and 2 because there's no real place to get out of the sun," said Pete Wanner, the GSL's treasurer and one of the 23-year-old association's founders.

"That's our big push this year, the capital fund. We assess a \$100 or \$200 fee per team and that's where the money comes from. We hope to see a meeting happen with the various user groups like the Ladies' Powder Puff League and the (Georgetown Baseball Association) to get something going."

The cost of the project is estimated at between \$90,000 and \$120,000, which is not identified in the Town's capital forecast, but is regarded as a potential joint venture with the GSL to provide a community asset.

"Pending the outcome of the servicing plan and project costing, a complete proposal will be submitted to Town council for their

approval later this year," said Warren Harris, manager of the Town's Parks and Open Spaces.

"While Gellert Community Centre and Park currently offer facilities suitable for tournament play, the addition of a pavilion by GSL could potentially improve the proximity of a staging area that would be suitable for tournaments."

The GSL fielded 63 teams last year, numbering approximately 1,100 players in total. Wanner said

that the organization is an anomaly in Ontario because most centres are seeing a drop in registration numbers while Georgetown's has been steadily growing, bolstered by players in their 20s who have graduated from youth leagues.

"We're not at capacity, but we couldn't take on a whole new division," Wanner added, noting that the

GSL has been advertising in Milton to attract new teams and individual players.

"Our players like the fact that they play on the same night every week. People say the idea of baseball is dying out (but) I say that people don't have the leagues and facilities to use, and that's why we've been partnering with the Town on projects like (the pavilion). I truly believe that if it's there, they'll come. The wellspring is there, when you see what the (Toronto) Blue Jays have been doing and the excitement surrounding them. There are lots of people who want to play."

For more info on the GSL and registration for new teams or players, visit the website www.georgetown-slopitch.com



Crease crusher

Mitch Christopher of Christ the King's Jaguars does some dangling in front of the Corpus Christi goal during what was supposed to be a regular-season Halton high school matchup Thursday at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex. But with no officials turning up to oversee the game, the teams ended up scrimmaging and it's doubtful it will be rescheduled. The 6-0-1 Jags lead the HSSAA's Volpe Division, outscoring the opposition 44-9, with two regular-season dates remaining. The playoffs will begin Monday, Feb. 25 at Oakville's Sixteen Mile Sports Complex, with the Tier I final slated for Thursday, Feb. 28. Ctk is gunning for its third Halton boys' hockey championship in the past four years.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Mervyn selected for national Jump squad



The 2013 Jump Canada Talent Squad was recently named and local resident Kim Mervyn is one of 10 riders from across the nation selected for the team. During the 2012 season, 14 Talent Squad qualifying competitions were held in the Eastern Division while eight qualifying competitions comprised the Western Division. Mervyn, 32, rides Caruso van Paemel Z, owned by Jennifer Footman, and is the trainer/owner of Park Lane Stables, which is located between Georgetown and Erin. The National Talent Squad Series is a means of recognizing up-and-coming riders who are preparing to enter the grand prix ranks and demonstrate the ability to become future members of the Canadian Equestrian Team.

Submitted photo

GEORGETOWN
 **TOYOTA**

GAME OF THE WEEK

GEORGETOWN JR. A

RAIDERS

vs

MISSISSAUGA

Saturday, February 23, 2013

7:30 pm

Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Alcott Arena)

**GO
RAIDERS
GO!**

GEORGETOWN JUNIOR "A"



www.georgetownraidersjra.com