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Bad weather halts final of softball tournament

By ROBERT RISK
 Herald Sports Editor

Aside from a clash with biathlon competitors and the rainout of the championship final, the 10th annual Georgetown Ladies Powderpuff tournament went off without a hitch.

On Sunday morning, the Park School Field was overcrowded with approximately 330 biathlon competitors waiting for the start of their race and about 100 softball players trying to complete their games.

"The Recreation and Parks Department must have overbooked that area. I didn't know anyone was using it until they showed up," said Andrea Ford, the tournament's main organizer.

She said things were crowded for a while, but it didn't affect the playing of the games too much. However, the rain on Sunday afternoon cut short the consolation final midway through the seventh inning, which happened to be her Esobee team, that lost 12-6 to Remax Milton.

The championship final got started around 4:00 p.m., but was rained out in the first inning. As a result, the two finalists, Fuller Custom Homes (Acton) and the Jim Dandies (Ballinafad), last year's defending champion, agreed to make up the game at a later date to decide who gets their name on the trophy.

The Georgetown teams played the polite hosts in the 32 team tournament,

with 10 of the 12 local teams losing the first game to enter the consolation round. The only two to advance to the championship side were Udderly Awesome and Simply Red. The Red team beat Midland (1) 16-6, but lost their next game 17-3 to Burlington and were eliminated.

Udderly Awesome, currently in second place in the Georgetown league, put up a good fight, beating Random Ladies 4-1 in the first game on Saturday. They played the next match at 2:30 p.m., beating Orangeville Pharmacy 15-12. However, their hopes of reaching the semi-final were dashed in the next game, when they were trounced 21-1 by the Acton Marauders.



Cindy Bodrug, a player on the Georgetown Blue Lightning softball team, pitches during one of her team's games at the 10th annual Powderpuff Tournament on the weekend. (Herald photo)



Participants in the Georgetown Biathlon begin the first leg of their competition at the Fairgrounds on Sunday. The local biathlon, part of the Nike Biathlon Series, is comprised of a five kilometer run, a 30 kilometer cycle stage and another five kilometer run.

The course wound its way downtown and through some of the rural roads around Georgetown. Local athlete Doug Hagensen finished 10th in the event and is currently in third place in the series. (Herald photo)

Competitors cram fairgrounds for Georgetown biathlon

By ROBERT RISK
 Herald Sports Editor

Georgetown athlete Doug Hagensen hoped to capitalize on the home town field to move ahead in the Nike Biathlon Series, but slipped into third after finishing 10th in the local stage of the competition.

At the start of the Georgetown Biathlon on Sunday, a five kilometer run, 30 kilometer cycle and another five kilometer run, Hagensen was second overall in the series, in which the best five results of the nine races are used to determine a competitor's rank.

Hagensen was trailing Orangeville resident Al Pilcher, who finished first on Sunday, clinching the title with his fourth straight biathlon victory. Pilcher first won the Milton Biathlon on June 16, then the King City Biathlon on July 15, and the Hardwood Hills Biathlon, near Barrie,

on July 22.

Guelph native Brian Keast moved ahead of Hagensen in the series by finishing with his third straight third-place finish. Hagensen's best finishes have been a third place finished in the London Biathlon on June 2, a fourth place effort in Milton and a fifth place finish in Hardwood Hills.

Biathlon organizer Gerry Bruce said the Georgetown leg of the series has been the most well attended this summer, with over 300 competitors taking part this past weekend.

"We were expecting 200 and we got 330. There were over 100 last minute registrations, which delayed the start of the event by about an hour. We usually get only about 50-60 signing up on race day."

Bruce said the biathlon series is in its second year and has grown considerably over its opening

season. For the Georgetown race next year, he is optimistic of getting 400 competitors.

"We should be able to handle the number all right. The police do a really good job of keeping the course clear."

The Georgetown Biathlon started with a five kilometer running stage, which began at the Fairgrounds. From there, the competitors bicycle to Main Street, turning south to Steeles Avenue and 10th Line and then returned to the Fairgrounds. The final stage required the entrants to repeat the same five kilometer running route.

Bruce said the only problem experienced on the weekend was discovering there was a softball tournament going on at the Fairgrounds at the same time.

"I didn't know about the tournament until the week before. There were a few hundred people there for that, so it was really crowded."

Rep baseball playoffs

More details on the playoff schedules for the Georgetown Baseball Association Rep teams are now available.

Since the Georgetown teams have a home game advantage, the following games are the second and third game (if necessary) of the opening playoff series. All of the games will be played at the Fairgrounds main baseball diamond.

The Halton Hills Trout Farm Tykes 'D' team received a bye into the Ontario Championship tournament, due to a lack of opponents. They will play for the title in Exeter on the Labour Day weekend. The Georgetown Quick Lube Pee wee 'C' team play against a team from the Little Britain area (Lindsay) on Aug. 19 at 11 a.m. and will play a third game (if necessary) at 1:30 p.m.

The Re/Max Mike Adams Bantam 'D' team plays Glanbrook on Aug. 20 at 7:00 p.m. and will play the third game (if necessary) the next day at the same time.

If the Bantams win this series, they advance to the Ontario Bantam 'D' championship tournament in Corunna on the Labor Day weekend.

The Lion's Club Midget 'C' team plays against Ancaster on Aug. 15 at 7:30 p.m. and will play the third game (if necessary) on Aug. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

The Neilson Juvenile 'D' team will face a team from the Windsor area at 4:00 p.m. on Aug. 19. They will play again at 7:00 p.m. if necessary.

The Acmetrack Limited Junior 'A' team has completed their season.

Acton Lacrosse

Teams face elimination at start of playoffs

The Acton Novice Rams lacross team is facing elimination from its league playoff competition after losing their first game 9-1 to Kitchener last Wednesday.

Rams' coach George Artem knew his team was overmatched by the Kitchener Braves squad, a powerful team that also happened to have the home advantage. As a result, Artem said the team's goal was to hold their opponents to single digits in the goals against column.

The Rams were successful at achieving that objective, but a four goal onslaught in the first period by the Braves could have made the final score a lot higher.

Artem's defensive plan was executed fairly well after that, allowing three goals in the second period and just two in the third, while the Rams got their lone marker in the final frame.

The next game is tonight (Wednesday) at the Acton Arena, with the match due to begin at 8:00 p.m. With hardly a breather, the Rams are off to the Ontario provincial playoffs in St. Catharines this weekend. The Rams, ranked in the 'C' division, play their first game against Midland on Friday.

In Tyke lacrosse playoff action, the Acton team is also on the ropes, having lost their first two games of a best of five series against Arthur.

In the first game on Wednesday, Acton came up against a strong goalie who allowed just one goal, a shot by Jason McGuire which eluded the Arthur netminder. Unfortunately, Acton goalie Eddie Hess wasn't so lucky, having nine goals scored against him.

Hess played a strong second game on Thursday in Arthur, making many tough saves, but with only two extra players on the bench, there was a lot of activity in their defensive end.

The Acton side did manage to score three markers, but it wasn't enough to overcome Arthur, which won 10-3. The third and possibly last game of the series is set for tomorrow night (Thursday) in Arthur.

In lacrosse house league play, the Mickey Mouse team beat the Bugs Bunny squad 10-2 in a two game total goals series. Steve Atkinson scored four times and Michael McDonald got the other two and assisted on one to lead their team to the victory.