

High school roundup

Rebels move on in badminton

The Georgetown Rebels claimed the overall team championship at last week's Halton high school badminton championships and are sending several competitors to today's (Thursday's) Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference tournament in Milton.

At the Halton tourney at E.C. Drury in Milton, the Rebels finished up with 23 team points, two points ahead of three schools that tied for second, including Georgetown's Christ the King Jaguars.

The top six finishers in each division at the Halton championships qualify for the GHAC draw and from there, the first- and second-place finishers move on to the OFSAA finals May 6-8 in Wingham.

GDHS's girls' doubles team of Maggie Darling and Natalie Gorjup finished second in the Halton finals, as did Acton's Ben Jolly and Michael Shortt in boys' doubles.

CtK's mixed doubles pairing of Sarah Hickman and Zach Pearson placed third alongside Jaguar teammates Phil Romanet and Marty Czernicki in boys' doubles.

Also qualifying for GHAC were: Georgetown's Chris Taylor and Brendon Allison, 4th in boys' doubles; CtK's Matt George and Nick Pshyk, 5th in boys' doubles; Georgetown's Sarah Chapin and Haley Besworth, 5th in girls' doubles; Acton's Kaylee Kearns and Kalsey Smith, 6th in girls' doubles; Georgetown's Lindsay McCabe, 6th in girls' singles.

Hockey

Having won the tournament in 2007 and 2008, Christ the King's Jaguars were edged out of the Canlan York Ontario Classic last week at the semifinal stage in a 3-2 decision against Loyola of Mississauga.

Some of the top junior boys' high school hockey teams in the province were entered in the tourney and the Jags cruised through the preliminary round with a 3-0-1 record.

They faced their rivals from Georgetown, the Rebels, in the quarterfinals and CtK prevailed 5-2.

Jacob Harris (2), Conner Brown, Jason Dickinson, Mike Nicolucci were the Jaguar marksmen.

Brandon Clelland and Tyler Topham tallied for CtK's juniors in the semifinal loss to Loyola.



Acton District High School's Ben Jolly teamed up with Michael Shortt to finish second in mixed doubles at last week's Halton badminton championships in Milton. Jolly and Shortt

advanced to today's Golden Horseshoe championships at E.C. Drury in Milton in hopes of qualifying for the provincial championships. Photo by Eric Riehl

Young 'Dogs eager to show bite

By **EAMONN MAHER**
Staff Writer

There's a youth movement afoot in the Halton Hills Bulldogs' training camp, but you wouldn't know it from the Jr. B lacrosse club's pre-season record.

With several players away at school south of the border and others currently trying to crack the rosters of Jr. A teams, Dogs' fifth-year head coach Blaine McCauley is in the unfamiliar position of beginning the season next week with a raft of rookies in the lineup.

Yet Halton Hills has looked anything like a collection of greenhorns during its exhibition schedule, posting a 6-1 record, including a 3-2 win at Six Nations against the perennially powerful Rebels.

First-year players such as Jordan Dance, Tyler Ferreira and Jake Harding performed well in prime time offensive roles, with goalies Dustin Hanzelka and Ryan Kelly looking sharp as well.

Gone are the Bulldogs' top three scorers from last season, as 50-goal scorer Dylan Webster and veteran Kyle Davis are with the Brampton

Jr. A Excelsiors, while star sniper Pat Saunders is currently on the Toronto Rock's practice roster and likely will spend the campaign with the defending national-champion Orangeville Jr. A Northmen.

The Bulldogs begin the Ontario Lacrosse Association Jr. B regular season Tuesday in Clarkson against the Mississauga Tomahawks at 8 p.m. and after a weekend trip to eastern Ontario to face Akwesasne and Kahnawake, they'll play their home opener on Saturday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m.

A shortage of lefthanded shooters is McCauley's biggest concern at the moment, although he's interested to see how the rookies respond.

"There are a lot of quality kids who are competing for spots and when the older guys get back from school or Jr. A, they're going to have to earn their spots back. You

can see that in the competitive nature of training camp that these kids come to play," he said.

"We've lost a lot of scoring, but what we're excited about is that this year we're going to be more balanced, and there is the potential for some of our young guys to develop into dominant offensive players. Last year, we had two or three dominant goal scorers and then it dropped off. I think this year we're going to rely more on a team game; hard-working and not as much on the perimeter as we have been."

Not that the Bulldogs were languishing in 2009, compiling a franchise-best regular-season mark of 17-2-1 before advancing to the OLA East Conference final for the third consecutive season, falling to Clarington's Green Gaels in the fifth-and-deciding game.

There is still a strong leadership core for McCauley to call on with vets Nic Grasby, captain Nik Matwyszyn, netminder Mike Cregan, Shane Scott, Brendan MacDonald, Peter Laidlaw, Kody Lyons and Justin Reid among those back for another year.

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