

# SPORTS & LEISURE

## Chargers impress but fall in final

Trying to topple a dynasty, the Centennial Chargers didn't win but certainly left an impression on their opponents in the Halton elementary school basketball championship game last week.

Making their first appearance in the Halton final in more than 15 years, the Chargers headed into the contest on a hot streak, finishing the season 8-0 and winning all four playoff games by an average of 21 points.

Alexander's Coyotes of Burlington stood in the way of Centennial, having captured the regional title last year and continuing that roll into 2010, stretching their win streak to 31 games after a 31-24 victory over Centennial in Oakville last Thursday.

"They play an up-tempo game and their point guard really pushes the ball," said Centennial coach Stew Teetzel.

"Shots just didn't fall for us at times, but they're a great team."

The smallest margin of victory for Alexander's this season was 12 points prior to the championship matchup, but on Thursday the teams were never separated by more than four points through the first three quarters.

The Coyotes looked to be pulling away in the final quarter, building an eight-point lead before Centennial hit three straight baskets in less than a minute with 2:39 remaining to cut the deficit to 26-24, but the Chargers didn't score again.

Lindsay Kirby led the Chargers with eight points, with Haley Buist adding seven.



Steph Wilson of the Centennial Chargers goes in for a layup during the Halton girls elementary school basketball finals at White Oaks Secondary School against the Alexander Coyotes from Burlington. Centennial, making its first final appearance in 15 years, fell 31-24.

Eric Riehl/Metroland Media Group

## GDHS duo reach OFSAA tourney

By **HERB GARBUTT**  
Metroland Media Group

Filling the underdog role to near perfection, Georgetown's Hayley Besworth and Sarah Chapin advanced to OFSAA with a second-place finish at the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference badminton championships.

It will actually be the second trip to OFSAA for the duo, who helped the Rebels volleyball team win a provincial high school silver medal earlier this year. The fact that badminton is not their primary sport made their showing that much more impressive.

"They're not club players, so to do this, it's quite an accomplishment," said GDHS coach Randy Marinangeli.

There were many other factors that made Besworth and Chapin an unlikely pair to be the only local players to advance. For starters, they weren't even their school's top finisher in the girls' doubles division at the previous week's Halton championships.

That honour went to Maggie Darling and Natalie Gorjup who were second at Haltons while Besworth and Chapin were fifth.

But the Grade 12 pairing made it all the way to the GHAC final before falling 21-9, 21-14 to Notre Dame's Sarah Lowicki and Jamie Ruttle, who are undefeated this season.

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## D'Oliveira finds silver lining in Reps' Telus Cup run

By **EAMONN MAHER**  
Staff Writer

The Greater Toronto Hockey League's medal drought at the Canadian midget hockey championships is finally over.

Not since the Don Mills Flyers claimed the championship in 1977 had a team from the GTA won the Telus Cup, yet the Mississauga Reps came within one goal of equaling that feat over the weekend.

Mississauga's magical run came to an end on Sunday afternoon in the tournament final, a 3-2 loss to the top-ranked Notre Dame Hounds of Saskatchewan in Levis, Que.

"Our team was a group of Toronto-area kids and Notre Dame is a private school with players from all over Canada, so I thought we did pretty well," said Reps' defenceman Alex D'Oliveira of Georgetown.

"To be the first GTHL team in 33 years

to win a medal is a great honour."

The 17-year-old Georgetown District High School student suffered a sprained shoulder in the opening contest against Levis and still managed to earn player-of-the-game honours for the Reps. He didn't miss any action during the seven-games-in-seven-days tourney, scoring once and assisting on four others.

"I've never been through anything like that before, to play full 60-minute games,

seven days in a row, at that intensity, it'll be nice to get some rest time away from the rink," he added.

"I've got a lot of schoolwork to catch up on too."

The 6-foot-1, 210-pound D'Oliveira has been invited to play in a prospects showcase tournament in Toronto May 8-9 and is in discussions with a number of Ontario Hockey League teams about signing as a free agent for next season.

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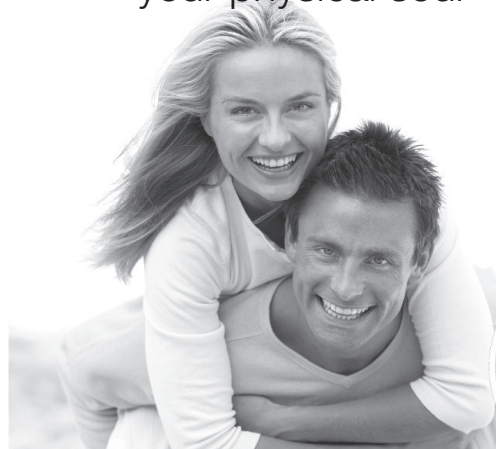
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