

Junior Jags power way to Tier III title game

By **EAMONN MAHER**
Staff Writer

Gunning for their first-ever Halton junior football title and an undefeated season, Christ the King's Jaguars will take on Oakville's Iroquois Ridge Wednesday morning at McMaster University in Hamilton for the area's Tier III championship.

Quarterback Brad Ranson and Hayden Gaskill-Cadwallader rushed for two touchdowns each and Tudor Bertien broke open a 21-14 game with a major score in the third quarter in a 34-14 CtK triumph over the White Oaks Wildcats on Thursday afternoon at the new Kiwanis Field facility at Georgetown District High School.

The 8-0 Jaguars are now set to face the 6-2 Iroquois Ridge Trailblazers, who beat Burlington's Pearson in Thursday's other semifinal, for the Halton Secondary School Athletic Association Tier III championship trophy Wednesday starting at 10 a.m. at McMaster.

It's been a wonderful, if not awkward, season at times for head coach Greg Mayberry's squad, which was forced to play its home games on a rugby field at the Gellert Recreation Centre in Georgetown South because the opening of the new artificial turf field at CtK has been pushed back due to construction delays.

So, the team practised basically on the side of a hill amidst portable classrooms at CtK through the season and played its quarterfinal playoff game in Milton, then no doubt had the grizzled gridiron types at GDHS steaming that the first-ever post-season game at Kiwanis Field involved the town rival Jaguars as a tenant.

"We would have liked to do it on our own field, but like I said to the team, this was a community win," Mayberry said.

"This was the first game we didn't have to take a bus to, but it felt like home because we practised here all week."

The junior Jags started well, building a 21-0 lead with a multi-pronged running attack, but the Wildcats turned a CtK fumble in the third quarter into a quick touchdown, cutting the hosts' lead to 21-14.

The game would turn back in CtK's favour when on a third-and-10 play from

their 35-yard line, Ranson threw his lone pass of the day to Bertien for a big-gainer and the latter subsequently broke through for a short TD run.

The Jaguar defence forced a number of White Oaks' turnovers and limited the Wildcat offence to just a couple of big plays in the contest.

"We want to be the first CtK team to go 9-0 and hopefully the whole school will come down to McMaster and watch us," said Gaskill-Cadwallader.

"It's a shame we didn't do it on our field, but next year we'll have it. This is an awesome team and we came out with something to prove, that we're the school to watch out for."

The Jaguars defeated Iroquois Ridge 44-6 in the opening game of the regular season, but Mayberry said the Trailblazers' are a much-improved side since then, pointing to their 22-8 upset over host Pearson on Thursday in the other Tier III semifinal.

CtK's seniors were eliminated from the Tier III playoffs after a 31-0 loss Thursday to Pearson at Bronte Field in Oakville.

Jays cut Hill

The much-travelled Shawn Hill is on the move again.

The Georgetown resident was released Thursday by the pitching-rich Toronto Blue Jays, even though the 29-year-old threw very well for the Jays after being called up in September.

In four starts, the oft-injured Hill was 1-2 with a 2.61 ERA and 14 strikeouts.

On Sept. 23 at Rogers Centre, Hill won his first game in a year-and-a-half in the same game that saw Jose Bautista swat his 50th home run.

Hill, who has pitched for the Montreal Expos, Washington Nationals, San Diego Padres and Toronto in a six-year major league career, missed significant time in 2009 recovering from his second "Tommy John" surgery to his elbow.

According to Rotoworld.com, Hill's release is a "minor surprise." The baseball website says it shouldn't take long for Hill to find himself another team.



Christ the King Jaguars' running back Hayden Gaskill-Cadwallader steamrolls over a White Oaks' tackler during their Halton Secondary School Athletic Association Tier III semifinal contest Thursday at Georgetown District High School. Gaskill-Cadwallader scored two first-half touchdowns to lead the 8-0 Jags to a 34-14 victory and a berth in Wednesday's HSSAA championship game against Iroquois Ridge at McMaster University at 10 a.m.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Nishi backstops Raiders' win

Michael Nishi kicked out 44 of 47 shots directed his way as the Georgetown Raiders' goalie led his team to a 5-3 win over the Hamilton Red Wings Saturday at Alcott Arena.

The win leaves the Raiders three points behind Burlington for top spot in the Ontario Jr. A Hockey League's West Division but eight points ahead of Hamilton. All three squads have played 27 games.

The Raiders jumped out to a 3-2 lead in the first period and led 4-2 after two frames.

Despite being outshot 15-9 in the final stanza, the Raiders managed to extend their lead to 5-2 before surrendering the

final goal a minute later.

Patrick Megannety led the Raiders with two goals while others went to Justin Basso, Scott Wilson (shorthanded) and Michael Capicotto.

The win followed a 1-0 Georgetown victory over Orangeville last Wednesday as Nishi recorded the shutout, stopping all 35 shots.

Basso had the lone goal in the middle frame on passes from Duston Hebebrand and Matt Chiarantano.

Next action for the Raiders is tonight when they visit Mississauga at Malton Arena (8 p.m.) before hosting the Oakville Blades Saturday at Alcott Arena at 7:30 p.m.





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