

# SPORTS & LEISURE

## Defending champ Bulldogs okay with being 'targets'

By EAMONN MAHER  
Staff Writer

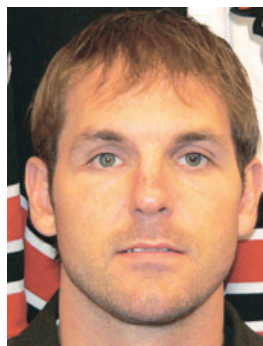
The Ontario Jr. B Lacrosse Association's regular season gets underway for the Halton Hills Bulldogs with their annual lengthy bus trip to eastern Ontario for a pair of games.

But this time around, the Bulldogs will be viewed a little differently by their opponents as they carry the titles of defending Canadian and provincial champions to the arena in 2011.

"We've got the targets on our backs now, but that's okay," said Halton Hills head coach Blaine McCauley.

"We'll just have to make sure we're prepared for what other teams are going to throw at us and how they'll approach us. Yes we did lose some veteran leadership and scoring, but we're looking at giving some of the younger kids the opportunity to fill the void. The best part about this group is that they know what's ahead and what it takes to get to a Founders Cup. There's an added expectation for us now and just because we've got some younger faces in there, it doesn't make a difference. We had nine rookies in our lineup for the Canadian championship game last year."

About three-quarters of the 2010 roster is back, including both goaltenders in Ryan Kelly and Dustin Hanzelka. The size of the nets has been enlarged for all levels of lacrosse this year



BLAINE  
MCCAULEY

but that didn't seem to trouble the Bulldogs in their final exhibition game last weekend as they blanked the visiting Orangeville Northmen 8-0.

Up front, the 'Dogs lost top scorers Shane Scott and Nic Grasby but will still be potent with Founders Cup overtime hero Dylan Gilbert, Jordan Dance, Tyler Ferreira, Michael Licata, Seth Laidlaw and Mike MacDonald back in the fold.

The two-way talents of Ethan O'Connor and the stout defending of captain Nik Matwijszyn will also be missed but the team has plenty of depth with Brad Kri, Pete Laidlaw, Kody Lyons, Jayson Crawford, Justin Reid and Chris Haynes back in the fold as well.

Veteran forward Blake Kenny should also add some scoring punch after coming over from Gloucester.

Halton Hills begins its campaign Saturday night against Kahnawake and will visit Akwesasne on Sunday afternoon.

They also have road dates with the Green Gaels and Orillia next week before taking on Oakville in the home opener on Thursday, May 5.

McCauley said it hasn't been determined when the Bulldogs will unveil the Canadian and Ontario championship banners in the Alcott Arena as they hope to have as many of last year's players as possible back for the ceremony.

The 'Dogs also announced that Todd Bell, who coached the Halton Hills intermediates last year, will be the head coach of the new Jr. C team.



## Grizzly attack

Conor Fiske (right) of Georgetown South's Gardiner Grizzlies prevents Chris Hadfield's Brandon Ferreira from getting a shot off during the Halton District School Board's North Division Tier II championship game last week in Milton. Fiske led the Grizzlies with seven points in a 38-21 loss. Stewarttown's Stingers were edged 21-18 by Bruce Trail in the North Tier II girls' final. In Tier I boys' action, the 12-0 Centennial Chargers will be gunning for a Halton championship tonight (Thursday) at E.C. Drury against John T. Tuck of Burlington at 8:30 p.m. Owen Martel had 14 points for the Chargers in their 36-35 triumph over Oakville's Alexander's in Tuesday night's semifinal contest.

Photo by Daniel Ho/Special to Metroland West Media Group

## Racquet club holds club championships

The Georgetown Racquet Club recently held its 36th-annual Club Championships and the men's open division winner turned out to be a conquering returnee.

Keith Smith, who played at the GRC as a junior in the 1980s, edged Ryan Berrigan 3-2 for the open title.

In the women's A final, Samantha Gowland defeated Diane Jackson 3-0.

Special honourees included Gill More, who received the Haiting Wang Sportsmanship Award, and Paul Duval, the Odney Cook Award recipient.

Other division winners included: Men's A— Greg Salt def. Ron Wagner 3-1; Men's B— Jeff Switzer def. Phil Jackson 3-0; Ladies' B— Kim Lanthier def. Candace Slack; Men's C— Andrew MacMillan def. Art Balogh 3-1; Ladies' C— Shari Kogon def. Janet Gorman 3-1; Men's D— Grant Leonard def. Christian Reyce 3-0; Ladies' D— Rebecca Kogon def. Cherri Massey 3-0; Men's Masters— Glenn Austin def. Ron Wagner 3-0; Ladies' Masters— Kate Switzer def. Chris Kogon 3-0; Men's Vets— Mike Joseph def. Tom Steller 3-0; Ladies' Vets— Sharon Babin def. Gill More 3-2.

See photo page 17.

## The Finns are coming Friday

It will be a Good Friday for international youth hockey tomorrow as Georgetown's bantam (born in 1996) AA Raiders play host to a team from Finland in an exhibition contest.

Admission is free of charge, however organizers request that spectators bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Georgetown Bread Basket.

Game time is 2 p.m. at the Alcott Arena B pad.

The Tappara squad begins



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