

SPORTS & LEISURE

Bulldogs in command after weekend wins

By **EAMONN MAHER**
Staff Writer

The Halton Hills Bulldogs did some cross-border shopping over the weekend and made the five-hour bus trip home from the Cornwall area with two big playoff victories.

An 11-9 win Saturday, followed by an 8-2 triumph Sunday afternoon over the host Akwesasne Lightning has given the 'Dogs a commanding 2-0 lead in their best-of-5 Ontario Jr. B Lacrosse League East Conference semifinal series, with the next three games, if necessary, set for Georgetown this weekend.

"We came up against a lot of adversity, but I was proud of how our boys stayed disciplined and fought through it," said Bulldogs' head coach Blaine McCauley Monday.

"(Akwesasne) came out and tried to intimidate us, but the guys handled it well. In the first game, they went after us right away and we had a bit of a case of bus legs, but once we settled down and started to play our game, we were fine."

The fourth-seeded Lightning led the second-ranked Bulldogs 5-4 at the mid-point of the opener before the visitors took charge with four goals in

five minutes, never looking back.

The Halton Hills goal scorers were Seth Laidlaw (3), Blake Kenny (3), Dylan Gilbert (2), Brad Kri, Michael Licata and Mike MacDonald. Ryan Kelly earned the win in goal as the 'Dogs outshot the Lightning 47-32.

In game two, the outcome was determined early on as the Bulldogs were up 3-0 seven minutes in and some of the hosts seemed more interested in wielding their wooden sticks in a penalty-filled contest. With the Bulldogs leading 8-1 late in the third period, a spectator threw a garbage bin onto the floor.

Luke Laidlaw (2), Seth Laidlaw (2), Chris Haynes (2), Peter Laidlaw and Jordan Dance supplied the offence, although the 'Dogs didn't come away unscathed as rookie defender Jamie Batten suffered a broken collarbone.

Game three of the series will be played Friday at the Alcott Arena beginning at 8 p.m. If a fourth game is required, it would be played here Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and game five is slated for 2 p.m. Sunday.

The winner of the series will move on to face the top-seeded Green Gaels of Clarington, who easily swept past the Newmarket Saints in their semifinal matchup.



Gladiators get first taste of provincials

Goaltender Jackson Ploughman of the Georgetown tyke Gladiators was kept busy during his team's game against Halton at the Ontario Minor Ball Hockey Association championships in Mississauga over the weekend. In its first year as an organization, the Halton Hills Minor Ball Hockey League sent three rep teams to the provincial championship tournament and as tyke head coach Nelson Hilario noted, it was certainly a learning experience due to the calibre of competition the Gladiators faced. None of the teams advanced to the playoff round, but Georgetown's tykes earned the Gladiators first-ever win at the provincials, a 2-0 victory over Elgin-Middlesex Saturday. And Christian Pretto scored the first goal at the Ontario championships for the junior Gladiators Friday in a 6-2 loss to Ottawa.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

After getting thumped by the host team 22-4 in the preliminary round of the Burlington Bulls' minor mosquito AA tournament, the Georgetown Eagles exacted revenge on the Bulls when it mattered most, scoring an 8-7 triumph in the title game. Team members (front, from left) are: Brandon Ponomarew, Nicholas Theim. Kneeling: Josh Priebe, Stephen Kinal. Third row: Owen MacNeil, Joland Oke, Nic Basilio, Kurt Snell, Campbell Ellis, Gabriel Braun, Kyle Roach, Davis Young. Back row: Coaches Mark Kinal, Paul Roach, Robert Snell, Craig Ellis, Mike Ponomarew.



Submitted photo

Eagles tops in Burlington

Georgetown's minor mosquito Tier I Eagles recently won the Greater Niagara Baseball Association Tournament and then the Burlington Bulls' AA division on the following weekend, defeating Tillsonburg in the finals at Niagara Falls before edging past the host Bulls 8-7 in the championship game of the Burlington tourney.

Burlington Bulls Tourney
Preliminary round—
Georgetown 10, Hamilton 1;
Burlington 22, Georgetown

4; North York 8, Georgetown 7

Semifinal— Georgetown 18, Royal York 7

Championship— Georgetown 8, Burlington 7

Niagara Falls Tourney

Preliminary round—
Georgetown 21, North Toronto 9; Niagara Falls 4,

Georgetown 2; Georgetown 21, Brampton Royals 2

Semifinal—Georgetown 20, Brampton Braves 10

Championship— Georgetown 13, Tillsonburg 5

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