

# Sports

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A player from the visiting Ellesmere College rugby team in England manages to grab the ball from the North Halton club during a scrum Monday night in Georgetown. The English squad, touring Canada for three weeks, defeated the local team 55-0.

## North Halton rugby club no match for touring English college team

By STUART JOHNSTON

The North Halton Rugby Club once again hosted an English team this week, but the results were not exactly flattering for the local boys.

Ellesmere College, of Shropshire, England (near the Welsh border, close to Liverpool) competed in the first of several matches in Canada at Neilson's Field against the North Halton team Monday night.

They dominated the field from the first moment of play, with the final score being...55 to nil.

"I really don't want to mention the score...but we got clobbered, that's for sure," coach Sandy MacKenzie said with a laugh. "We've never got hammered like that before, but we were clearly out-classed."

This is the fourth year in a row North Halton has hosted a team "from across the pond."

The English club will be competing against Canadian teams right across the country until they return home July 23.

On Wednesday, they played against the York Yeomen at York University, before travelling west to Edmonton, Calgary, Banff, Kelowna and Vancouver.

Ellesmere's coach Mike Sampson described his 21-member team as "an average, English schoolboy team — nothing special," with a "fair record" of attaining victories on two-thirds of

their matches.

However, MacKenzie would not describe the British club as just being "average."

"The trouble with the (English) guys is that they got bet-

ter as the game went on," he said. "But, I thought our guys played to the best of their abilities..."

"These competitions lift the standards of our own game, and hopefully a certain amount of what the other team does rubs off on us," he added.

While in Georgetown, the Ellesmere club stayed at the homes of the local players. It is the camaraderie of these matches that really make them worthwhile, MacKenzie said.

"We've done this for the last four years, now," he added. "We didn't get chippy, when we started losing so badly. Sometimes the players will get into fights when they realize they're losing, but the game seemed to end on a good spirit. They all got along really well, and that was the positive side of it."

Sampson agreed, noting the main purpose of the matches is not the competition, but "the opportunity of meeting new people."

Last year, the North Halton club hosted another English team, the Yatton Junior's. The local boys were also defeated in that match, 31-7.



England's Ellesmere College seemed to dominate the plays in a friendly match earlier this week against the local North Halton Rugby Club.

Photos by STUART JOHNSTON



Ugh, where's that ball? Is what a North Halton player seems to be thinking during the exhibition match Monday night against England's Ellesmere College.



Competition was fierce Monday night as the North Halton Rugby Club unsuccessfully struggled to beat the visiting English squad. The visitors scored a 55-0 win.

## Ladies rely on relief pitching

Georgetown Ladies came up with two more wins in Halton Ladies Fastball action recently thumping Glen Williams and Acton.

Georgetown Ladies defeated Glen Williams 13-6.

Linda Bottero started the game for Georgetown but ran into trouble in the third with the Glen Girls hitting everything she threw.

The Glen were winning 5-4 when Roberta Cuthbertson came in to shut them down until the Georgetown bats got going. The game star of this one along with Cuthbertson was Glen pitcher Angie Stafford as she pitched her best game of the year striking out four and reaching base twice. Lynn Ward had the big hit of the game with a triple off of Bottero in the third inning.

Georgetown defeated Acton 10-2.

With the batting of Janet Tolton and Linda Bottero pitching the game for Georgetown after coming on in relief for Carrie Gallant, who started her first game of the year for the ladies, giving up two runs in the two and two-third innings she pitched, Bottero came in with Acton winning 2-1 and shut them down for the rest of the game.

Georgetown finally got their bats going in the fourth with the big blow by Shirley Burra with a long triple scoring one run and being driven in by Carrie Gallant.

Susie Tufford had a hot bat with a long triple and her sister Boo with a single and Mel Spears with a single and finishing the game in the sixth in relief giving up no runs on one hit but the Georgetown Ladies had already scored six.

Georgetown travelled to Peterborough to compete in the Coors Slo-pitch National Championship and came away losers.

Georgetown lost their first game to Chatham 5-4 in nine innings. Georgetown lost this game in the top of the seventh. With Georgetown winning 4-2 and two out Chatham came on to tie it to force extra innings and win it in the ninth.

Georgetown beat Oshawa 9-5 in the second game of the tourney. Georgetown lost to St. Catharines 14-1 in game three as everything St. Catharines hit found a hole.

Georgetown played Peterborough in game four and were defeated 3-1 as once again the Georgetown bats were silent as the Peterborough pitcher had five easy assists to help shut the Georgetown team down.

Peterborough scored two of their runs on a throwing error in the third inning. This was Georgetown's first tournament against this competitive level in "B" Division as the winner of this tournament automatically qualified for a trip to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1992.

Although they only won one game, with a bit of luck it could have been 3-1 and qualified as the top two teams qualified.