



Assumption Crusaders running back Elio Almeida attempted to hurdle Georgetown Rebels defender Jacob Mandel last Friday at Kiwanis Field before crashing to the turf in a thoroughly entertaining Halton high school senior football matchup, which ended up in a 28-28 tie. Photo by Eamonn Maher

Senior Rebels making a stand

For a team that didn't win a single game last season, the Georgetown Rebels are suddenly catching the attention of the big dogs from Burlington and Oakville in Halton senior football this fall.

The Rebels are 3-1-1 following a fan-pleasing 28-28 overtime tie in the cold and rain on Pink Day at Kiwanis Field last Friday against Burlington's 2-1-1 Assumption Crusaders, winners of two of the past three HSSAA Tier I titles.

Georgetown's seniors, led by a core of fifth-year students and bolstered with contributions from promising Grade 11s, finish their regular season at home Friday against Frank Hayden of Burlington at 2 p.m.

The double-edged sword of the teams resurgence means a berth in the Tier I playoffs amongst undefeated powerhouses at Corpus Christi and Nelson, although the Rebels could host a home post-season matchup next week.

The fact that we're in the conversation with those schools is a testament to how far we've come, said first-year head coach John Leckie, who starred as a running back for the Rebels before being a Vanier Cup finalist with the Western Mustangs in 2008.

Quarterback Connor Heggie engineered some impressive scoring drives against Assumption and the hosts held a 28-14 lead with less than six minutes left in regulation before the Crusaders rallied to force OT in with just a few seconds remaining.

Matt McDonagh scored two touchdowns for the Rebels, with Alex Leduc and Mitchel Spence adding the other major scores.

Each team had a series in the extra period and Assumption's field-goal attempt from 42 yards out that would have won the game bounced off the goalpost and out.

Georgetown native Rusche feels Hawaii Ironman heat

Although disappointed with the finishing time in his first attempt at the famed Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii earlier this month, local native Bryan Rusche vows to give the grueling triathlon race another shot.

Rusche, now a Toronto resident, was the 10th-fastest Canadian, 235th overall and 33rd in the men's 40-44 age group in the race in a time of nine hours 38 minutes and 25 seconds.

After completing the punishing 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile marathon run, Rusche, who won the Toronto Marathon on May 1, said he learned some valuable lessons about the difficulty of the course specifically in the swim segment -- and feels he can finish in less than nine hours on a good day.

Many athletes have a love and hate relationship with Kona. After completing it, I understand that feeling, Rusche said in his blog. Kona is like a person whose admiration and respect you desperately want, but whose respect and admiration is incredibly hard to win. You go to this race working for months and years to do your best and often leave knowing it wasn't your best. The race is as hard and intimidating as its reputation. You think you know this going in and then you do it and then you really understand.

Georgetown resident Matt Poole, profiled in the Independent & Free Press last month, placed 132nd in the men's 35-39 age group in a time of 10 hours, 15 minutes and 54 seconds in his first attempt at the Ironman World Championships.



Local native Bryan Rusche competed at the Ironman World Championships in Hawaii a couple of weeks ago, enduring the heat of the lava fields during the marathon run portion of the event in which temperatures soared past the 100F mark.

Submitted photo

Dozen straight wins for Raiders

Rookie forward Matt McJannet earned first-star honours in both of the Georgetown Raiders weekend victories as the Ontario Junior Hockey League club continues to steamroll over its competition.

The 18-year-old McJannet, a 6-foot-3, 175-pound forward from Courtice, had two goals and two assists Friday in Georgetown's 7-1 win over the host Milton IceHawks and added another pair of markers with a helper Sunday afternoon in a 5-1 trouncing of the Rangers in North York.

Also finding net for the West Division-lead-

ing Raiders Friday were Austin Cho, Ashur Elliot, Jack Jacome, Andrew Court and Matthew Thom as they outshot the last-place IceHawks 48-26.

On Sunday, Josh Dickinson, Jacome and Ethan Wiseman rounded out the scoring.

It's a run of 12 straight wins for the 15-2-0-0 Raiders, who will play five of their next six games at the Alcott Arena, where they've posted a 7-0-0-0 record this season.

The 9-4-0-4 St. Michael's Buzzers visited Wednesday, followed by a clash with the 9-6-1-0 Burlington Cougars Saturday at 7:30 p.m.



COUNTDOWN TO THE
RAIDERS
NEXT HOME GAME

Saturday Oct 29th, 2016

7:30 pm at Mold-Masters Sports Plex

Georgetown Raiders
VS.
Burlington Cougars

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