

Coming
up

The Georgetown Raiders host the Stouffville Spirit on Wednesday, Jan. 4 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Alcott Arena in Jr. A hockey action.

National Lacrosse League campaign starts this week

Toronto Rock starts season with three locals on roster

By Eamonn Maher
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When the Toronto Rock takes the floor in Rochester, N.Y. Thursday night to begin its 2017 National Lacrosse League regular season against the Knighthawks, three Halton Hills natives are expected to be in the lineup.

Following the retirements of franchise legends Colin Doyle and Josh Sanderson, the Rock has welcomed an infusion of youth on the roster and one of the bright spots in training camp was Georgetown's Mike MacDonald.

We're breaking camp with five rookies on the active roster and three guys going into their second year in Mikey MacDonald, Dan Lintner and Turner Evans, said Rock head coach Matt Sawyer.

We took the best available guys and five of them are rookies. All three of our practice roster players are also rookies. We're looking to get better as a team for now and for the future, he added.

There's new guys and a lot of players returning. There is a different atmosphere any time you make this many changes. We have a good mix of skill and athleticism amongst our young players and we feel we have that same mix of skill and athleticism in our vet-

erans.

MacDonald, a 23-year-old forward and Princeton University field standout, signed as a free agent with the Rock in the summer and made an indelible impression in training camp, scoring twice in each of Toronto's three exhibition games.

The former Halton Hills Jr. B Bulldog has recovered from hip problems after getting drafted in the third round by New England last year, appearing in just two games with the Black Wolves before being released.

Entering his 16th NLL season, Acton native Sandy Chapman has spent all but three of those years with the Rock and is the team's longtime alternate captain.

The 5-foot-9, 190-pound defender turns 36 on Jan. 23 and has five NLL Championship Cups during his career, including four with Toronto.

Twenty-four-year-old Brad Kri, also a defenceman from Acton, is a faceoff specialist in his fourth NLL campaign after becoming a regular with the Rock last season.

The 6-foot-3, 220-pound former Bulldog who has won national championships at three levels—Founders Cup (Jr. B), Minto Cup (Jr. A) and Mann Cup (senior men's).

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MIKE
MACDONALD



Teams in the Halton Hills Minor Hockey Association's Initiation Program got to play their first games of the year Tuesday during the Bob Goldham Memorial House League Christmas Tournament at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex. Pictured above, Clive Mashinter (purple) battles with Caleb Baskin during their CHIP contest Tuesday. IP director Derrick Somers said it was satisfying to see some of the age 4-6 kids skating on their own and stickhandling after barely being able to stand up in September. The Bob Goldham Memorial Tournament involves every house league division in the organization and wraps up Friday with the championship games.

Photo by Eamonn Maher



COURT CHAMPS: Christ the King's Jaguars traveled to St. Catharines earlier this month and ended up meeting their Georgetown rivals in the championship match at the Edén High School senior girls' high school volleyball tournament, defeating the Rebels in three sets in the final. The Jags lost just two sets in winning the 14-team event. The team is coached by Meaghan O'Brien and Matt Wannamaker. Team members (from left) are: Brynneley Koene, Sydney Ireland, Lauren Harrison, Rachel Carson, Georgia Bogert, Angela Henein, Colleen Jarv, Sabrina Melo, and Claudia Trzcinski. Submitted photo



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