

# SPORTS & LEISURE

**Georgetown Agricultural Society  
2013 Annual General Meeting**  
Saturday, January 26, 2013 - 10 am  
Georgetown Alliance Church  
290 Main St. S., Georgetown  
Join the team of volunteers who are coming together  
for the planning of the 167<sup>th</sup> Georgetown Fall Fair.  
New members and volunteers are welcome.  
For more information call 905-873-6157 www.georgetownfallfair.ca

## In junior pairs figure skating Bell and Sylvester post national win

By **STEVE LEBLANC**  
*Metroland Media Group*

All competitive athletes need an extra dose of motivation every once in a while.

For Hayleigh Bell, that came in awfully timely fashion last week at the Hershey Centre.

Just moments before taking to the ice with junior pairs partner Alistair Sylvester of Stratford for their free (long) program at the Canadian Tire National Figure Skating Championships, she experienced newfound resolve—courtesy of the biggest threat to her gold-medal bid.

“They’re a new team this year and were around the same points as us all season,” said the 16-year-old Acton-area resident, referring to rival Natasha Purich of Alberta and Quebec’s Sebastian Arcieri, who beat Bell and Sylvester’s then personal-best mark with an 89.12-point performance.

“They skated right before us and after hearing their score, I wanted a strong finish even more.”

That’s exactly what the top-ranked team—and last year’s Canadian novice champs—delivered.

Drawing on the experience gained from international events last year and nailing a recently-incorporated triple twist early in their routine, Bell and Sylvester shattered their previous best score with a 92.87 effort to claim overall junior national supremacy with a near-nine point mar-

gin of victory over Purich and Arcieri.

This gave the Central Ontario representatives a second straight season sweep in Skate Canada competition.

Said Bell, “We were pretty confident going in (to nationals), but landing that triple twist perfectly definitely gave us an added boost. We figured if we were going to mess up anything, it would be that.”

Training out of Barrie, the now two-time national champs kicked off the week with a personal-best 47.73-point short program, and scored high GOE (Grade Of Execution) marks in both routines.

Pointing to stronger cohesion and a cleaner showing on their in-between-elements work as the reason for their improved scores, the Stewarttown Middle School graduate believes last summer’s international competition went a long way toward getting her and Sylvester ready for the jump to junior.

“Those events showed us what the top skaters in other countries had, and what we needed to get better at,” said the accomplished pairs skater, who learned Sunday she and Sylvester have been invited back to the junior worlds in Milan in late February. “This (junior national gold) is the best of any win so far because there was extra pressure this year. It feels really good.”

Pulling double duty last week, Bell placed 16th in the junior ladies’ division, with a combined score of 98.49.



Hayleigh Bell and Alistair Sylvester compete at the national figure skating championships at the Hershey Centre in Mississauga.

*Photo by Danielle Earl*



**COACHES’ CUP:** The second-annual Coaches’ Cup was contested at the Alcott Arena recently featuring teams from the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association, North Halton Girls’ Hockey Association and new this year, the Acton Minor Hockey Association. Approximately \$8,300 was raised during the evening’s festivities for the Halton Hills Arena Users’ Group. Pictured above, GMHA coaches James Cassels (14) and Sean Tonelli (3) storm the Acton Tanners’ net in front of goalie Andrew Reddman and Ken Kirkpatrick.

*Photo by Jon Borgstrom*

## Botten does the trick for Jr. A Raiders

After scoring just once in his first dozen games as a Georgetown Raider, centreman Alex Botten notched a hat trick Saturday night in a 6-2 victory over the Burlington Cougars at the Alcott Arena.

Winners of six of their past seven Ontario Junior Hockey League games, the 31-12-3 Raiders have jumped ahead of the Buffalo Jr. Sabres for top spot in the division and South/West Conference with a month to go in the regular season.

Robbie Murden scored his 20th of the campaign for Georgetown, with Jacob Bauchman and Anthony Marra adding singles. Keegan Wilson earned the win in goal and the home side outshot the Cougars 43-22.

It’s a quiet part of the schedule for the Raiders, who host the St. Michael’s Buzzers this Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in their lone remaining contest in the month of January, something head coach & GM Greg Walters noted was done by design.

“We did that on purpose to get our guys plenty of time to practise and prepare for the playoffs,” he said.

As well, six of their remaining nine games are on home ice, with a meeting against the Jr. Sabres on Feb. 4 in Buffalo.

**NOTES:** Rookie call-up defender Darren Raddysh picked up two assists for the Raiders in Saturday’s win...Local resident Jonathon Kreis, a 16-year-old blueliner, has played in six games for Burlington and was involved in a late third-period scrap with Raider Nick Perruccio, earning both one-game suspensions.

**GEORGETOWN**  
 **TOYOTA**

**GAME OF THE WEEK**

**GEORGETOWN JR. A**

**RAIDERS**

vs

**ST. MICHAELS**

**Saturday, January 26, 2013**

**7:30 pm**

**Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Alcott Arena)**

**GO  
RAIDERS  
GO!**

**GEORGETOWN JUNIOR “A”**



www.georgetownraidersjra.com