

# SPORTS

## Dol fields many offers and chooses Virginia Cavaliers

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With several elite Division I field lacrosse schools in the U.S. looking to secure his signature, Georgetown's Theo Dol took a Cavalier approach to selecting where he'll study and play for the next four years.

Johns Hopkins, Princeton, Harvard, Michigan, Penn State and yes, the Georgetown in Washington, D.C. came calling, but the 6-foot-1, 195-pound Dol said the combination of an engaging coaching staff and a strong academic program were big factors in convincing him to choose the University of Virginia.

"Virginia's a nationally renowned school, in the top five public universities in the U.S., and they won the national championship in 2011," he said. "I felt with the other schools I considered, there were a couple of things that were left out, but with Virginia they had the all-around package."

An honour roll student at Avon Old Farms boarding school just outside Hartford, Connecticut, Dol, who wields the long pole as a close defender, will complete his three-year stay in the spring as one of the leaders of the varsity team's field squad. Given the depth of the perennially reloading Cavaliers, Dol figures that making a splash right away at Virginia will be difficult, but he's eager to see how he measures up.

"Freshman year will be hard because with these top schools, they just keep bringing in the best recruiting classes in the country. I think by the second or third year I can make a huge impact," said Theo (pronounced Tay-o).

"My lacrosse IQ is my biggest strength. You have to know where to be and know where to put your opponent. I'm not a flashy guy who goes out and takes away checks, I'm more of a stay-at-home defenceman, more of a facilitator who controls the 'D' and directs the 'D' in the middle of the field."

Dol is enrolled for two summer school

courses that begin in early July to help with the transition to a post-secondary school lifestyle.

Although he's signed up for the College of Arts & Sciences, Dol has yet to declare a major and will likely do so at the end of his freshman campaign or during his sophomore year.

Other than with Avon during the spring season, Dol has only played field at occasional tournaments with all-star teams from upstate New York and another from New England, choosing instead to suit up in boxla for his hometown Halton Hills Jr. B Bulldogs the past two summers.

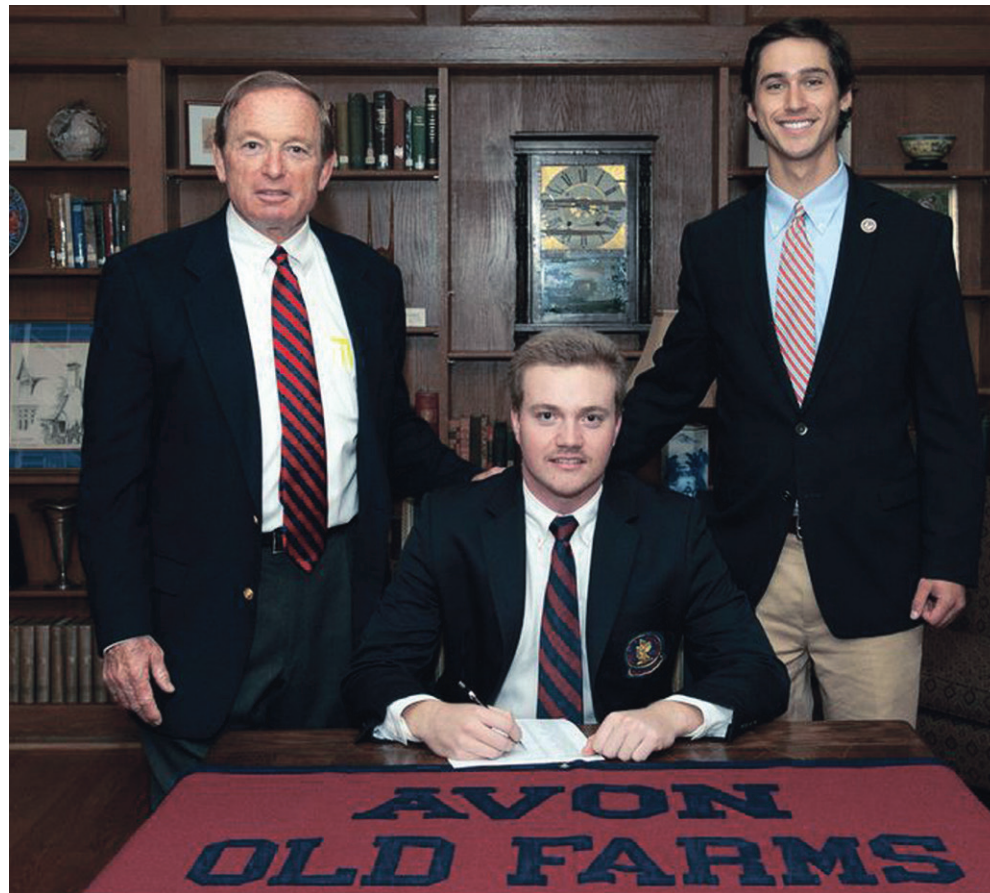
"Honestly, I like the box game better, probably like most Canadian guys because we grew up with it," said the Stewarttown Middle School graduate, who'll be one of three Canucks on the Cavalier roster.

"I love field lacrosse at the same time because it's given me lots of opportunities that I'm very thankful for. Field is much different. It's not as rough and tough as box and it's more of a gentleman's game down (in the U.S.), especially at prep school. You don't hit too much. You can get away with throwing the odd hack here or there, but they're pretty strict."

One of the perks of being a new recruit at a major U.S. college is receiving some red carpet treatment. Dol will be flown in to the Virginia campus in Charlottesville this weekend to play for the first time with the Cavaliers in a scrimmage against Navy and will attend the colossal Atlantic Coast Conference basketball matchup Saturday evening between 19-0 Virginia and the hated rival 17-2 Duke Blue Devils.

"I'm a really big basketball fan, almost as much as lacrosse, so going to this game should be something special."

"It's number two (Virginia) against number three team in the country and it's going to be an amazing way to spend my first official visit."



Local native Theo Dol signed his National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Virginia on a full field lacrosse scholarship beginning this fall. The Halton Hills Jr. B Bulldog recently Made the commitment while at the Connecticut prep school he attends, Avon Old Farms. Also in the photo are his Avon coaches Dr. Skip Flanagan (left) and Trevor Stern. Submitted photo

## Ex-'Dogs popular in MSL Draft

Major Series Lacrosse held its annual draft of junior-age graduates on Sunday in Whitby and five members of the 2010 Founders Cup national champion Halton Hills Jr. B Bulldogs were taken.

Brampton's Tyler Ferreira went first overall to his hometown Excelsiors, while Georgetown's Mike MacDonald, a Princeton University field star who sat out his final year of eligibility last summer with Halton Hills due to a hip injury, also went to the Excelsiors, third overall.

In the second round, Jordan Dance of Georgetown was chosen 10th overall by

Kitchener-Waterloo and outgoing Bulldog Jayson Crawford of Caledon had his name called 12th overall by the K-W Kodiaks, who also drafted local resident Seth Laidlaw in round four, 22nd overall.

**SKED RELEASED:** The Jr. B Bulldogs begin their 2015 regular season schedule on Saturday, April 25 with a road game against a new team in the Ontario loop's East Conference. The Brampton Jr. B Excelsiors have played in the West Conference since gaining entry to the OJBLL a couple of years ago. Halton Hills's home opener is on Saturday, May 2 versus Orillia.

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