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Eagles fly high at Big Bat tourney

By Mike Zrostek

A well-balanced attack by the Stanley Acme Track Midget Eagles enabled them to soar into the championship round at the Burlington Big Bat tournament against some tough opponents this past weekend.

The Eagles finished the tournament with a 4-1 record, losing in the championship game to top-ranked Brampton 3-1.

Georgetown out-hit Brampton 6-2 in the game but the breaks didn't go the Eagles way,

as Brampton scored thanks to a couple of walks, a hit bats man and a timely hit.

"I'm very proud of the boys, they played a great tournament," said manager

Boyd Hoddinott. "They played great defense and we got some great pitching and the hitting was there. The boys showed a lot of class compared to some of the other teams, I couldn't be happier," he said.

In the opener, the Eagles had to come back from a 6-2 deficit to win 9-8 as Jose Mora got the win and Don McLeod got the save.

Game two had the Eagles edge Marriot 5-4 as Paul

Hoddinott says the team is progressing faster than he thought.

Ingram was the winner with McLeod getting the save again. A big play preserved the win as the Eagles threw out the potentially tying run at the plate in the seventh inning.

Then the bats went to work and the Eagles merited Scarborough 11-0 as Don McLeod continued his pitching genius in the tournament with a 54 pitch two-hitter over the five inning shortened game. Game four had the Eagles

rip into Rexford 12-2 as Grahame Kennedy pitched a gem for the Eagles.

Offensively the Eagles were led by Doug Sheppard who had eight hits in the tournament, including two home runs. Joe Stephens had seven hits and Don McLeod, Brett DeSouza and Jim Katsileris each had six.

Hoddinott says the team is progressing faster than

he thought. "We've got our defense down and they're learning to play the game. I think they realize that they're representing Georgetown and that they're playing against top teams like Brampton who have 4,800 boys in their baseball system try out."

As far as league play goes, the Eagles stand fourth in their division and Hoddinott says it's time to get everybody slowly ready for the playoffs that start at the beginning of August.

"I'm going to try and get everybody into the games so the entire team will be ready and also try and get some more pitching. The guys we have now are pitching great but we need more than five guys going. We'll be facing teams who can throw about 10 guys at you so we would like some more."

Individually, Hoddinott says players like Grahame Kennedy "throwing very hard" and Doug Sheppard who is hitting .548 with a slugging percentage of .847 are playing very strong right now.

"(Jose) Mora, (Don) McLeod, (Paul) Ingram and (Grahame) Kennedy are pitching strong and the team as a whole are hitting .301 so hopefully it will keep up," said Hoddinott.

The Eagles next game will be Wednesday at Clarkson then Thursday at the Fairgrounds to take on Streetsville at 7:30.



Joe Penny was watching closely as Ben Sikkema tossed a horseshoe to the peg during the Georgetown Horseshoe Club's Monday singles night at the Georgetown Fairgrounds' horseshoe pits. For further information on the Georgetown Horseshoe Club, contact Jim Lahey, at 873-7520. photo by Simon Wilson/HHTW

Streetsville visits the Fairgrounds 7:30 p.m. this Thursday

Bantam Eagles surging

By Mike Zrostek

It was a big week for the Georgetown M & M Pro Sports Bantam Eagles as they improved their record to 6-5-1 on the regular season, and went undefeated in three games.

The Eagles are gaining momentum thanks to some big games from some key players and some stellar defense.

Steve Gibbons, who is 6-for-9 in the past three games, launched a two-run triple against Oakville on Canada Day helping the Eagles to a 6-5 win. Matt Edwards followed with an RBI single which gave the Eagles a three run cushion.

A bases loaded error by the Eagles tied the game before the teams exchanged runs. That led to the dramatics, as Ken Braithwaite ran through coach Steve Kucherawy's stop sign at third to score the eventual game winning run.

"In the past that kind of mistake killed us, but Kenny Knew he could make it and lucky for him he did," said Kucherawy.

Braithwaite then came on to strikeout four of the next six batters to preserve the win for starter Martie McKinnon.

Monday the Eagles showed they could play with the top teams as they tied Burlington 3-3. Martie McKinnon's 2-for-3 effort at the plate as well as scoring two runs and pitching a strong game on the mound helped the cause.

Jamie Briggs delivered a big two-out single to left driving in a run and some heads up base running by Todd Bussell also helped the Eagles against the tough Burlington squad.

Lucas Wood and Steve Gibbons were stand-outs in the game against Clarkson Tuesday at the Fairgrounds as the Eagles won 6-2.

Wood pitched a gem going 6 2/3 innings, striking out eight and throwing about 100 pitches, while Gibbons continued his assault at the plate going 3-for-3 with two doubles and a single, scoring a run and driving in two.

"Lucas and Steve killed Clarkson tonight. That was the best outing on the mound I've seen yet and Ron and I feel we now are ready to play our kind of quality baseball. The defense has been sound (making only two errors in the past three games) and credit can be given to everyone," said Kucherawy.

The Eagles were in Brampton Thursday and play a double-header Saturday (today) at the Fairgrounds against Cawthra and Waterdown with the first game at 1:30 p.m.

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