

In GBA Day of Champs action

Mosquito champions use the long ball

Home runs from Alex Desmond, Jared Carlo, Jadon Veldman and Justin Miil powered Graphic Impact Design Communications to a 21-15 win over TD Bank in the mosquito gold final at the Georgetown Baseball Association's Day of Champions on Saturday.

Kyle Simmons had three hits, including a pair of triples for Graphic Impact. TD Bank's A.J. Snow had three hits, including two doubles. Jason Keeley and Jonathan Haffner turned in strong pitching performances and Evan Ferguson played well as catcher.

Andrew Stone struck out five batters over two innings to help The Body Shop hold off Georgetown Toyota 8-7 for the silver medal. Michael Holloway doubled and scored the winning run and Body Shop teammate Ian Buist singled and doubled.

Junior T-Ball

T.C. Cookies' Sean Ratcliffe hit a grand slam and drove in six runs but Tim Horton's held on for a 26-24 victory to win the junior T-ball gold medal game.

Ratcliffe's teammate Michael Courvoisier also had a big game, with a homer and five RBIs while Mark Wilson homered, tripled and knocked in three runs.

Nicholas Rivard and Tyler Thompson each blasted a pair of homers to help Halton Credit Union edge Wabash Alloys 27-25 in the silver medal game. James Thompson also had a home run for the Credit Union.

Evan Kerr drove in seven runs to pace Johnson Associates to a 27-22 victory over CPI in the bronze medal game. Kerr had a home run and two doubles. Trevor Russell had three hits, including a homer and a triple, and collected six RBIs. Shawn Fisher also made a big contribution to the Johnson win with two doubles, a single and 5 RBIs. CPI's Ryan Carr homered three times and Ethan Sargeant and Sam Makovnyk also turned in strong games.

Senior T-Ball

Andrew Haffner tripled and turned a double play as Armstrong Insurance slipped past Apple Auto



Michael Fisher gets caught looking at a strike during McDonald's 13-12 loss to Georgetown Toyota Saturday in the GBA Rookie bronze medal game.

Photo by Ted Brown

Glass 32-31 in the senior T-ball gold medal game.

Tyler Sanderson also tripled for Armstrong and Bradley Quinton had three hits. Keeping Apple in the game were Stanley Gaweda, who hit a grand slam, and Christopher Caruso, who had a triple and a double. Nicholas Aversa turned a double play for Apple.

Ben Elliott hit a triple, a double and chased home five runs to help Apple Auto Glass claim the silver with a 25-21 win over Dairy Queen. Corey Hutchinson belted a grand slam and Christopher Martlin played an outstanding defensive game. Zachary Pearson homered and doubled for Dairy Queen and Matthew Pelkey and Ryan Power also played well for DQ.

Rookie Ball

The Royal Canadian Legion #120 won a spirited game over Co-operators Insurance 17-13 to claim the Rookie Ball gold.

David Lyons and Adam McGourty each homered to help Wright Hand Packaging edge M&M Meats 10-9 for the silver medal. Cale Wooley also had a great game at the

plate for Wright. M&M's Patrick Martin hit two singles and knocked in two runs while Kurtis Armour had two hits. Lucas Taylor also had a great day at the plate.

Stephen Timar-Neill smacked a pair of homers to lead the Optimist Club to an 11-2 victory over Shoppers Drug Mart in the bronze medal game. Melanie Ross contributed to the win with a single and two great catches while Joey Ross tripled, singled and had 3 RBIs. Shoppers' Joseph Williams and Ben Merchant each had two hits and Daryl McNeilly played great defensively.

Georgetown Toyota edged McDonald's 13-12 for the bronze medal.

Pewee/Bantam

Jones Giants captured the pee-wee/bantam gold medal with a 10-6 victory over Rainbow Trophies. CIBC topped Beaver Lumber 8-5 for the silver medal.

The pitching of Joshua Vander Avoird and the defence of Scott Smith helped Beaver Lumber down Elliot Customs Brokers 9-7 for the bronze medal.

Raiders have great expectations

Could this be the year the Georgetown Raiders finally turn the corner? Oops, sorry—force of habit.

The Raiders not only turned the corner last year, they drove all the way around the block. That was a welcome change after years of driving their fans around the bend.

Coming off an impressive fifth-place, 27-win campaign (after winning only 28 games in the previous five years combined), the Raiders are not about to rest on their laurels. The goal of simply making the playoffs has been replaced by joining the elite three teams of the Provincial Junior A Hockey League's Western Conference.

Last year's success has already paid dividends. Raider general manager Jack Moon said the difference in the the recruitment process has been "like night and day."

"The main difference is last year I was making all the calls. This year they're calling me," the second-year GM said.

The Raiders held three workouts over the summer, giving them an opportunity to look at more than 250 players. Emerging from those skates were four forwards—Joe Tenute and Dane Daynard of the North York bantams, Chris Berry from St. Louis Jr. A and Tristan Fairbairn of the York Simcoe Express and brother of Raider defenceman Ryan Fairbairn.

The Raiders have also picked up players with junior experience. Doug Orr played the last two seasons with Wellington and the Raiders expect him to fill a spot on one of the first two lines. Orr is the nephew of Boston Bruin great Bobby Orr. They have also added goalie Dan LeClair, who held the number one job in Huntsville last season. He's challenging incumbents Dave Digironimo and Jeff Hladys.

The Raiders biggest asset last year was team speed and Moon said this year's team is even faster. That could make their offence even more potent as the provincial league experiments with eliminating the red line this season.

The Raiders open the exhibition season tonight (Friday) in Milton at 7:30 p.m.

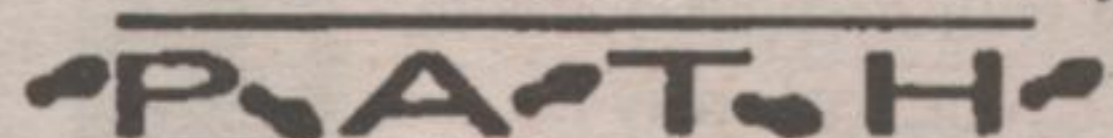


The Georgetown Raiders are hoping to give their fans another season to shout about this year.

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