

PULLOUT SECTION

Sports & Leisure

Friday, November 19, 1999

Halton volleyball championship

Rebels top Redmen for title, both look ahead to OFSAA

The Georgetown District High School Rebels may have defeated the Acton High School Redmen for Halton bragging rights but both teams have their attention squarely focused on a bigger goal.

The Rebels won Tuesday's Halton Secondary School Athletic Association senior boys volleyball final 25-23, 25-11 but for them, the victory was just a stepping stone. They played yesterday (Thursday) for the right to advance to the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association (OFSAA) AAA championship. Meanwhile, Acton already secured its spot in the OFSAA A tournament by beating Brampton Christian Academy three games to one on Wednesday.

Acton finished the season 8-1, second only to the undefeated Rebels. But the Redmen showed they were not content to settle for runner-up status. They stormed out of the gate, taking a 17-11 in the opening game. However, Georgetown managed to turn the game around, chipping away at the lead and eventually winning by two.

"We started a little slow. We knew they were good but they still surprised us," said Georgetown's Taylor Hall. "We missed a few hits but we pulled together and never really panicked."

"We ran some big plays right at the beginning and put them back on their heels but then they started clicking and

kind of shut us down," said Acton's Jeff Birrell.

Georgetown carried the momentum into the second game and came up with a 25-11 victory to clinch the title. Rebel middle Jon Dubyk said their league game against Acton helped them in the final.

"We knew a little bit more about them this time," he said. "We tried to keep it away from the inside more than we did before."

As the Rebels prepared for the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference (GHAC) title game against Hamilton's St. Thomas Moore, they were confident but knew they had to come out stronger.

"We've been working up to this year for a long time," said Hall. "We just have to play our game. We've got a couple players that we didn't have before. We can only lose to ourselves."

Although Acton came away without the victory, they did earn a lot of respect.

"I was very impressed. They were very well prepared," said Rebel coach Jonas Kaciulis. "They should have a really good shot at a medal at OFSAA."

Acton ensured it would be at OFSAA by winning Wednesday's qualifier. This time it was Acton that started slowly. Brampton Christian Academy won the opening game. Acton evened the match by taking the second game but then fell behind 19-12 in the pivotal third game.



Members of the Halton champion senior boys volleyball team (front) Chris Campbell, (middle, from left) Kyle Hall, Scott Allison, Jon Dubyk (back, from left) Sean MacArthur, Tom Cook, John Sterritt, Taylor Hall, Brent McClung and coach Jonas Kaciulis.

"They were a good defensive team and we're more of an offensive force and they frustrated us a little," Birrell said. "We weren't really clicking."

The determined Redmen squad fought back, though, and ended up winning a thriller 28-26.

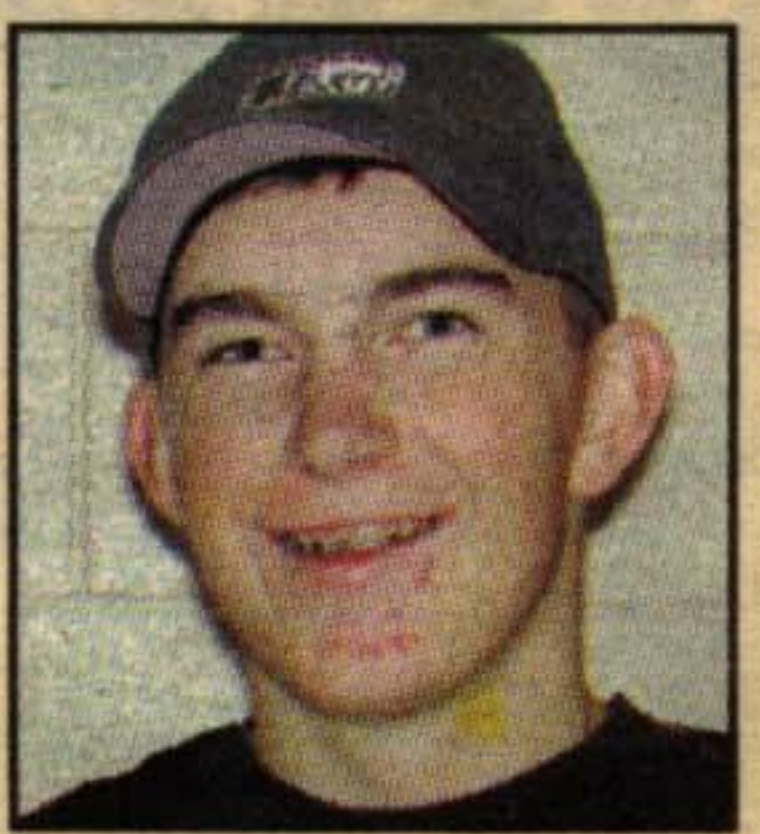
"That was a big turning point," Birrell said. "They were ahead the whole game. It did a lot for us and took a lot out of them. It was nice to feel how Georgetown felt when they played against us."

See REDMEN, S&L pg. 6

Athletes of the Week



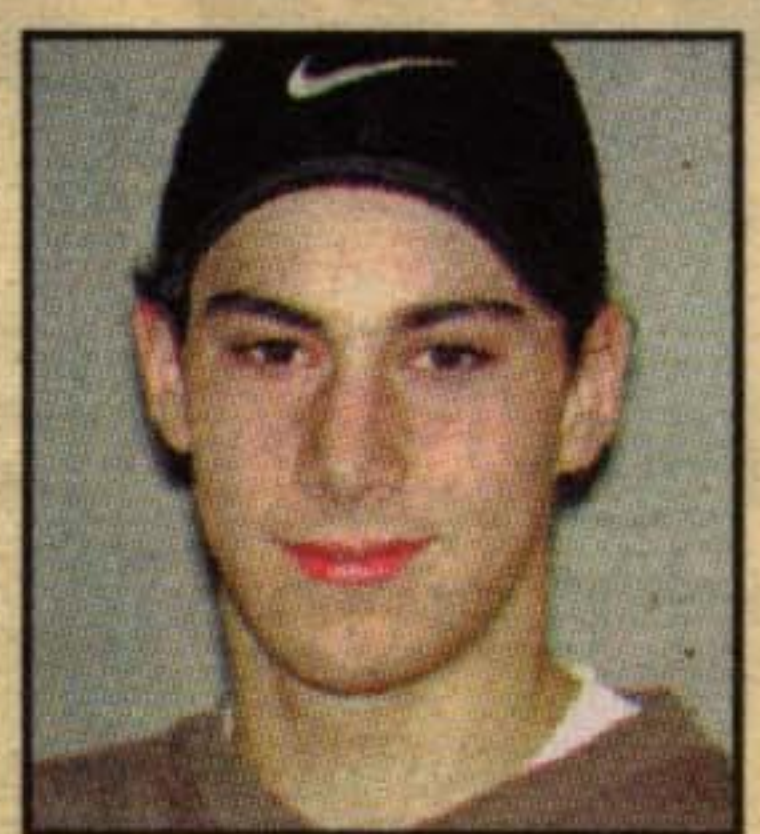
REBECCA AUSTIN



PAUL LEMISKI



KRISTA NICHOLLS



TIM MANSFIELD

Acton High School Athletes of the Week are Rebecca Austin and Paul Lemiski. Austin, a forward on the senior Redmen basketball team was chosen for being the top scorer in a game against Notre Dame. Lemiski, a setter on the

junior Redmen volleyball team, was cited for his strong play against M.M. Robinson.

Georgetown District High School Athletes of the Week are Tim Mansfield and Krista Nicholls. Mansfield was chosen for

qualifying for OFSAA at the Halton cross-country meet at Kelso, finishing 11th of 75 in the junior division. Nicholls, a point guard on the senior Rebels basketball team was selected for scoring 12 points in tournament play in Brockville recently.

Atoms capture B championship

Denham Hardiman and Mark Walkington combined on a 4-0 shutout over Prince Edward County as the Atom II Raiders won the B championship at a tournament in Picton.

Andrew Farrugia scored twice in the final and Ryan Swain and Blake Morgan added singles. Ian Buist, Eric Nogueira and Zach Chenier drew assists.

In the previous game, Walkington blanked Desoronto 7-0. Georgetown opened the tournament by tying Belleville 2-2. Kyle Bolton and Swain scored and Brett Maltby had an assist.

In league play, Farrugia scored twice to pace the Raiders' 3-1 win over Milton. Andrew Cannell also scored and Lee Thompson had two assists. Matt Turner and Kyle Bolton also drew assists.

Juvenile Tanners: Jon Routledge had a goal and four assists to lead the Acton Tanners to a 5-2 win over Exeter. Jason Christopher scored twice and set up another while Marc Forbes also had three points, including a goal. Grant Russell also scored.

Christopher had another two-goal night in a 6-1 win over Fort Erie. Forbes had a goal and two assists. Also scoring were Kyle Artem, Chris Lee and Russell. Routledge had a pair of assists.

Minor Atom Raiders: Alex Bortolotto blanked Milton as the M&M Pro Sports Raiders improved their record to 7-2 on the season.

Matt Wittmann broke a scoreless tie in the third and Jeff Pierce See BANASCO, S&L pg.6

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