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At OBA championships

Peewee Eagles claim crown by drubbing Thorold 11-2

The Georgetown Major Peewee Eagles' two-year effort to improve their team was rewarded as they defeated Thorold 11-2 to capture the Ontario Baseball Association B championship.

The Eagles rallied from a 5-2 deficit in the final two innings to edge Tottenham 6-5 and earn a bye to the final. In the deciding game Shawn Cheyne kept the opposition in check while the bats gave him a 4-1 lead to work with. Ryan Dunlop displayed the Eagles determination as he stole home to increase the lead to 5-1. They never looked back on the way to an 11-2 win.

The Eagles had been doing much looking ahead since undertaking an off-season training program two years ago in order to be competitive against the larger centres they met in league play. The team began work on fundamentals, particularly pitching and throwing, in the high school gym. They also made regular trips to batting cages and brought in Sean Travers and Bill Byckowski to help the players develop their skills.

The Eagles' work began to show the following season with wins over front-running teams from Mississauga and Brampton.

Despite losing three key players for this season, the Eagles showed they weren't going to take a step back when they tied Kitchener, one of the province's top teams, in the pre-season. They carried

it through to the regular season and took back-to-back games from the Brampton Braves, another of Ontario's best squads.

The team hit a losing skid in June but regrouped to finish the season 11-11-2.

In the provincial tournament, the Eagles began with a 9-2 win over Leamington behind the pitching of Cheyne and Kevin Greer. Mike Cooper and Andrew Jones also lent key hits to the win.

Jones and Dave Roberge combined to toss a 10-0 shutout against Corunna in the next game. Max Halperin, Joshua Raycroft and Danny Desmond were the main offensive contributors.

Needing to beat the host Tottenham to advance to the final and avoid a semifinal match, the Eagles fell behind 5-2 through five innings. Taylor King held Tottenham scoreless over the final three innings, leaving it up to the offence. David Roberge drove in two runs in the sixth to cut the lead to one.

In the seventh, Cheyne led off with a double and Greer reached on an infield single. With both runners in scoring position, Dunlop laid a bunt down the first baseline that scored Cheyne to tie the game and moved Greer to third. That brought King to the plate with a chance to earn himself the victory and he delivered with an opposite-field base hit to score Greer for the winning run.

Bantam Eagles

Leamington held off the Georgetown



The Georgetown Major Peewee Eagles won the Ontario Baseball Association championship by downing Thorold 11-2. Team members are: (back, from left) head coach Tim King, coach Paul Roberge, Joshua Raycroft, Shawn Cheyne, Danny Desmond, manager Murray Greer, coach Mark Cheyne, (middle, from left) Michael Cooper, Andrew Jones, (back, from left) Ryan Dunlop, Dave Roberge, Kevin Greer, Taylor King. Missing was Max Halperin. Photo by Herb Garbutt

Bantam Eagles for a 8-6 win in the final of the Ontario Baseball Association B championships.

Leamington led the Eagles 8-3 in the seventh inning until Darrell Barry delivered a bases-loaded double that cut the lead to two. However, the hosts managed to end the rally and hold on for the win.

Barry and Gord Leslie each had eight RBIs in the tournament for the silver-medalist Eagles. David Hyde stole 15 bases and scored nine times and Sean Graham scored six runs.

The Eagles opened the tournament with a 10-6 loss to Merriton but bounced back to down Bradford 9-4. Anthony Carlo followed that with a complete game shutout in a 10-0 victory over Simcoe. That set up a rematch with Merriton. Eagle pitcher Andrew Vander Voet held the opposition to one run over five innings and Nicholas Clough pitched two shutout innings for the save as the Eagles won 3-1 to advance to the final.

Rookie Eagles

Thorold pulled out a narrow 8-5 victory over the Georgetown Rookie Eagles in the Ontario Baseball Association championship game.

The silver-medal winning Eagles won four straight games to advance to the final, including a 9-4 win over Thorold in the opening game of the tournament. That meant Thorold needed two victories to take the gold.

Thorold came out swinging and won

13-6 to force the deciding game.

After their opening victory over Thorold, the Eagles defeated Kingsville 9-4 and then rallied in the sixth inning to edge Amherstburg 12-10.

The Eagles came through with the decisive runs late in the game again in the semifinals. A seventh-inning rally gave them a 12-8 win over host Kingsville.

See photo page 26.

Mosquito Eagles

Tecumseh scored twice in the bottom of the seventh to edge the Georgetown Mosquito Eagles 12-11 in the semifinals of the provincial B championships in Simcoe.

With the score tied the Eagles almost escaped a bases loaded, none-out jam. The Eagles got two outs before Tecumseh scored the winning run on a walk on a full-count pitch.

Dustin Roskam had two hits, including a triple, scored three times and drove in two runs for the Eagles. Alex Bortolotto was 3-for-3 with two RBIs.

Tecumseh held the Eagles to just one hit in a 3-0 win in the opening game of the tournament. The Eagles came back to pound Caledonia 17-5. Brett Neumann and Roskam each drove in three runs and Mike Maiatico scored three times. Byron Hackett and Matthew Scott each scored twice.

The Eagles scored five runs in the first inning on their way to a 7-4 win over Grimsby. Scott and Thomas Wells each had two hits and two RBIs in the win, which earned Georgetown a spot in the semis.



The Georgetown Bantam Eagles claimed the silver medal at the Ontario Baseball Association championships. Team members are (back, from left) coach Dave Tales, manager Steve Graham, Joel Hamilton, Gord Leslie, Andrew Barfoot, Andrew Vander Voet, Willie Walker, Darrell Barry, Sean Graham, coach Mark Clough (front, from left) Colin Lukas, Matt Tales, Anthony Carlo, David Hyde, Nick Clough. Submitted photo

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