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Friday, April 20, 2001



Brad Marshall escapes the check of an Elora opponent in Wednesday's Ontario Lacrosse Association Jr. B exhibition game. The Bulldogs hung in tough against last year's finalists but were edged 8-7. The Bulldogs home opener is Sunday, April 29 at 6 p.m. at Memorial Arena.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

## Attitude will be 'a big factor' towards Bulldogs' success

There's something new behind the Halton Hills Bulldogs bench this season. Nothing.

For the first time since the Jr. B lacrosse team moved to town in 1995, they are entering the season with the same coach they had the year before. Gerald Veltman guided the Bulldogs to the Blair Trophy—the Ontario Lacrosse Association Jr. B Tier II title—in his first season behind the bench.

Though he was a rookie at the junior level, Veltman brought a wealth of lacrosse experience to the team. Veltman founded the Georgetown minor lacrosse program, which merged with Acton's to form the current Halton Hills minor system.

It was the desire to see the players who began in the minor system through to the end that interested Veltman in making the jump to the junior ranks. Now, some of those players are suiting up for the Bulldogs, including Mike Dube and Veltman's son, Daryl, who each scored twice in the 'Dogs 12-10 exhibition victory over Guelph on Sunday.

"We learned a lot last year," said Veltman, who is again joined behind the bench by assistant Craig Cowan. "That step from minor to junior is a big one. It's a different caliber and there are different strategies. You're also dealing with guys

15 to 21 years old and the attitudes are a lot different."

And the right attitude will go a long way in shaping this year's team.

"Attitude is a big factor," Veltman said as he pondered the team's final cuts. "We played our first exhibition game and even though we won, we played a very undisciplined game and took a lot of unnecessary penalties."

Guelph took advantage of those penalties to score six power play goals in the game. Halton Hills built a 10-4 lead in the second period but Guelph tallied four times with the man advantage as they cut the lead to 10-9.

Veltman doesn't want to see penalties costing the team victories, as they did several times last year. He wants to see them cut down dramatically on the 50 minutes they took on Sunday. They took just six minors on Wednesday and were narrowly edged 8-7 by the Elora Mohawks, last year's Tier I finalists. The Bulldogs got goals from seven different players, led by last year's Jr. B rookie of the year Ryan Busby, who had a goal and two assists.

The Bulldogs open the regular season Friday, April 27 in Brantford and play their home opener Sunday, April 29 against Elora at Memorial Arena. Game time is 6 p.m.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

## Pewee Twisters post 3-1 win to capture Oakville tourney

Leah Emmerton scored twice as the Halton Hills Pewee Twisters defeated Burlington 3-1 in the final of a tournament in Oakville.

Laura Thompson also scored for the Twisters while J.J. Edwards, Olivia Martyniuk, Kira Metselaar and Casey Ferguson drew assists. Melissa Laborie and Amy Delafranier turned in a strong game in net as they combined for the victory.

The Twisters edged Hamilton 3-2 in the semifinals. Metselaar, Ferguson and Emmerton each had a goal. Martyniuk, Emmerton, Jaime Velten, Thompson, Laura Brown and Edwards each had an assist.

The Twisters opened the tournament with a 1-1 tie with Burlington and a 3-2

victory over St. Catharines. Jennifer Malone scored twice and Velten and Emmerton had the other goals. Ferguson assisted on three of the four goals and Martyniuk set up a pair. Emmerton and Thompson each had one.

The Twisters were edged 2-0 by Bluewater in the final of their previous tournament in Brantford. Halton Hills had finished first in its division with a 5-3 win over Norfolk, a 7-0 shutout over Orangeville and a 3-0 loss to Hamilton.

Ferguson led the Twisters with six goals and an assist and Emmerton had three goals and four assists. Malone and Velten each had a goal and an assist. Trista Dimonti had a goal, Brown chipped in two assists and Metselaar had one.



Members of the Halton Hills Pewee Twisters celebrate after posting a 3-1 win over Burlington in the final of a tournament in Oakville recently. The Twisters had earlier fallen 2-0 to Bluewater in the final of the Brantford tournament.

Submitted photo

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