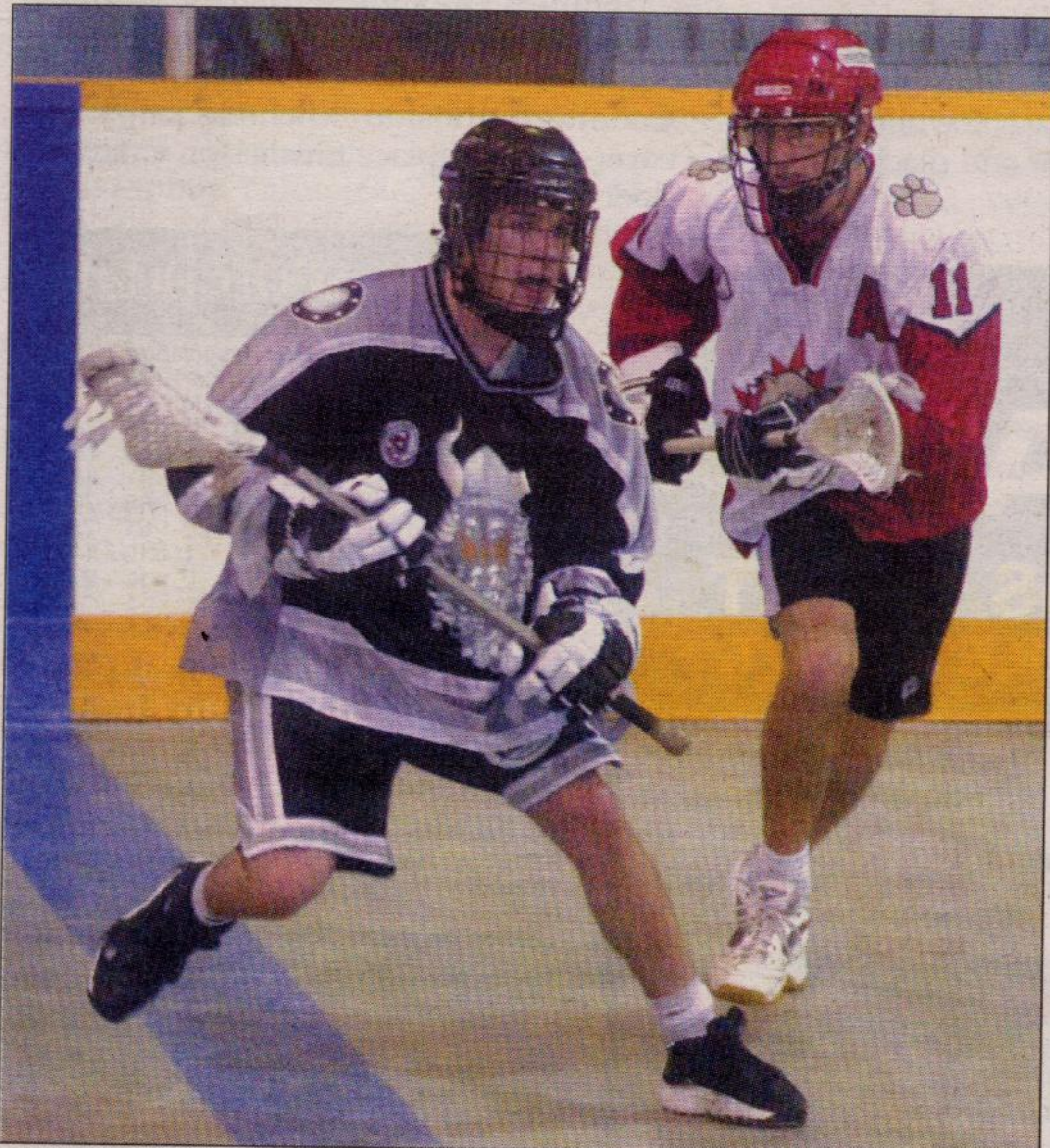


Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

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Halton Hills' Richard Haan chases down an Orangeville opponent in Thursday's Ontario Lacrosse Association Jr. B game. Haan had three goals to lead the Bulldogs to an 8-4 victory.
 Photo by Herb Garbutt

Seven proves lucky Bulldogs enjoying life at the top

The Halton Hills Bulldogs' bite is proving to be worse than its bark.

While the Bulldogs predicted great things for this season, few expected to charge out of the gate with a seven-game win streak. But with that momentum now behind them, the Bulldogs hope to keep rolling right into the playoffs.

"It's not a long season," said Bulldogs' coach Gerald Veltman. "It's not like a hockey team that has to keep going for eight months. It's a two-month, really aggressive, intense schedule and we've got the calibre and the attitude to do that."

The Bulldogs showed they are capable of doing a lot of damage in a short time with three wins in four days, which leaves them as the only undefeated team in the Ontario Lacrosse Association's Jr. B ranks. The Bulldogs followed

up Thursday's 8-4 win over Orangeville with a pair of road wins, 14-4 over Nepean and 9-6 over Gloucester.

The Bulldogs did show some effects of their busy schedule as they needed four goals in the final period, which began knotted at five, to win on Sunday. It was the depth of their team that pulled them through.

"We don't have a dominant line that other teams can shut down. All three lines are scoring," Veltman said. "I told the guys before the period, 'This is where the good teams prevail.' They pulled together and worked as a team and in that third period, all three lines contributed."

Scott Aitken, John Derochie and Daryl Veltman each had a pair of goals. In Nepean on Saturday, 11 different players contributed goals, led by Daryl Veltman with three goals and three assists and Mike Dube

with a pair of markers.

The challenge for the Bulldogs this week will be to not look too far down the road. Although they have a big rematch with their rivals, the Elora Mohawks, next week they must first get past the expansion Markham Ironheads.

"We have to have respect for all teams we play," Veltman said. "They're all gunning for us."

DOG BITES: Haan's hat-trick against Orangeville was his fifth straight game with at least three goals. He also scored Saturday and Sunday to extend his goal-scoring streak to seven games....The Bulldogs play Markham at 8 p.m. Thursday at the Alcott Arena....Jamie Sturgeon had a goal and two assists against Orangeville and also scored in both weekend games.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

Provincial picture remains cloudy after Rebels' softball tournament

The Rebels Softball Tournament was a chance for the province's best high school softball teams to shine. But now the answer as to who is the best is cloudier than ever.

Coming off a silver-medal performance in the first Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association (OFSAA) sanctioned softball tournament a week earlier, the Georgetown Rebels headed into their own tournament as one of the favorites. They did nothing to dispel that notion with an 11-3 win over Waterdown and a 3-1 victory over Parkside. However, a 3-1 loss to Hamilton's Highland, in which the Rebels twice left the bases loaded, complicated matters.

Highland had earlier lost 3-0 to Parkside, leaving both teams and the Rebels with identical 2-1 records. That left it up to a tie-breaker—runs against—to decide who would play for gold, who would play for bronze and whose day was over. As it turned out the Rebels, with seven runs against, were the team left out while Parkside (four) and

Highland (six) advanced.

But the Rebels weren't alone. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which defeated the Rebels for the gold the previous week, also found itself with its face pressed against the playoff window.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel finished tied with Peel powerhouse Mayfield for the final playoff spot. The tie-breaker gave the nod to Mayfield.

Notre Dame, who lost last year's Halton final to the Rebels, scored an exciting come-from-behind 4-3 victory over Mayfield to earn first place in its pool. It went on to win the championship over Parkside.

J.J. Edwards of the Georgetown District High School Rebels keeps her eye on the ball as she fields a grounder against Highland in Friday's tournament. Highland edged Georgetown 3-1 for the Rebels' only loss but it was enough to knock them out of the tournament.

Photo by Herb Garbutt



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