

FAR FROM THE EVERYDAY

Local beach volleyballer, partner fourth in world

Continued pg. 19

Marko Kienast and Thilo Spath. The German pair was ranked third but Hall and Podstawka beat them 21-12, 22-20 to prevent them from even advancing from their pool. Hall and Podstawka also beat Croatia while losing to France to finish second in their pool.

Hall and Podstawka faced a tough draw to reach the medal round but prevailed by downing the eighth-seeded Americans 21-15, 23-25, 15-10 and the fourth seeded Spaniards 21-17, 21-15.

Hall and Podstawka teamed up for beach volleyball five years ago while they were teammates on Bronte Beach.

"Our biggest advantage is we know each other's game well," Hall said. "We

know how we like the ball set, we know each other's skills and the plays we like to do."

The pair were coming off a silver medal at nationals, a performance Hall said could have earned them gold if they hadn't played semifinals and finals back-to-back. While they played as many as six matches a day at nationals, they played no more than two a day at the worlds.

"You're fresh for each game," he said.
"No team has an advantage. It's just who has the better game."

Hall admitted being a little nervous in their first pool game, playing in front of a crowd of about 1,000 people. But he got over it by the time they reached the play-

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offs and moved to centre court where as many as 3,000 spectators took in the game.

It was on centre court they gave the eventual silver medalists, Michal Kubiack and Zbigniew Bartman of Poland, a tough match 21-17, 24-22 in the

Although their opponents may have had a size advantage, Hall said it is something they have grown used to by playing in men's leagues in Canada.

semifinals

"We were one of the smallest teams there but we're a scrappy team and we just don't let the ball hit the ground," he said. "Beach volleyball is a little more strategic. You have to be a little quicker."

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



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Reid Hall keeps his eye on the ball during the World Under-18 Beach Volleyball Championships in Termoli, Italy. Hall and partner Adam Podstawka finished fourth, Canada's best-ever finish at the event.

Photo by FIVB

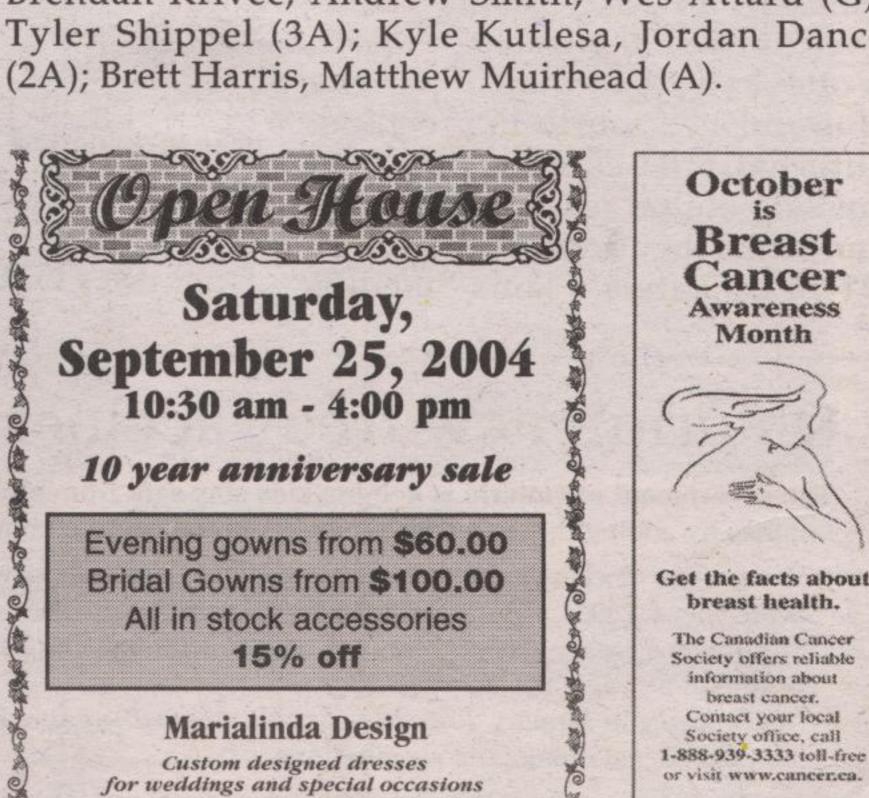
Peewee Raiders fall 1-0 to Stars in final

the Georgetown Peewee Raiders 1-0 to win the Flamborough Early Bird Tournament.

The Raiders posted a 1-1-1 record heading into the final twing Burlington, losing a one-goal deci-

the final, tying Burlington, losing a one-goal decision to Uxbridge and beating Stratford.

Georgetown 1, Burlington 1; Uxbridge 5, Georgetown 4; Georgetown 6, Stratford 3; Uxbridge 1, Georgetown 0: Derek Kessel (3G, 2A); Dustin Hanzelka (2G, 2A); Thomas Pottruff (1G, 2A); Tyler Nieuwendyk (1G, 1A); Dylan Auty, Brendan Krivec, Andrew Smith, Wes Attard (G); Tyler Shippel (3A); Kyle Kutlesa, Jordan Dance (2A); Brett Harris, Matthew Muirhead (A).



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