

# Sports & Leisure

Friday, November 5, 2004

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John Leckie breaks free from a tackle on his way to a 50-yard touchdown run that gave the Georgetown Rebels a 12-6 win over the Abbey Park Eagles. It was the Rebels' first football playoff victory in 15 years. They now advance to the Halton Division II semifinal on Wednesday. Photo by Herb Garbutt

## Jr. Rebels record first playoff win in 15 years

The Georgetown Rebels waited a long time but they finally hit playoff pay-dirt.

Five days after a convincing win over the Abbey Park Eagles in the final regular season game, the junior Rebels held off a determined Eagles team for a 12-6 victory Tuesday, the school's first football playoff victory in 15 years.

"It feels good. It's been a long time since we've had success like this," said John Leckie, who ran for two touchdowns, including a 50-yarder that broke a 6-6 tie in the final quarter.

The Rebels' 5-1 regular season allowed them to host their first playoff game in more than 20 years. But it proved to be a lot more difficult than last week's 41-20 win over Abbey Park.

"You really have to give them credit," said Rebel coach Randy Marinangeli. "They had two practices to make adjustments and they did. They took our pitch away from us. We ran those all day last week and scored 41 points. Today we got 12."

But the Rebels' defence came through and no play was bigger than a crucial fourth-down stop deep in their own end. With the score tied, the Eagles were enjoying their best drive of the day. Faced with a fourth-and-one on the Rebels' 14-yard line, the Eagles went for it but couldn't break through the Rebel line.

Georgetown got the ball back and moved the ball to midfield. On third down, Leckie swung to his right, broke one tackle and outsprinted the Eagles to the end zone. That gave the Rebels the lead with less than nine minutes to play.

"It was a great feeling. Once I got free, I knew I was gone," Leckie said.

The Eagles' best chance to score came on a punt return. The kick sailed over the kick returner's head but he scrambled back to scoop it up. He turned for the far sideline and with only a couple Rebels between him and the end zone, Corey Harrison managed to haul him down near midfield.

The Eagles then went to a passing game, which was ineffective, and their fate was sealed when Randy Marinangeli Jr. blocked an Abbey Park punt deep in the Eagles' end. After running a couple of plays, the Rebels were able to run out the clock.

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## Norval's Vetro named to provincial camp

Holden Vetro of Norval has been chosen for the provincial selection camp for the Danone Nations Cup.

Vetro impressed the coaches at a regional soccer skills evaluation camp that drew close to 200 players. Vetro was one of only 10 chosen to the provincial selection camp that will be held in Toronto in February. At that camp four players will be selected for a national team to compete in the Danone Nations Cup, an 32-team international tournament in Paris, France.

Fifty-players— 10 from each of the five regional camps— will be vying for the four spots in February.

Vetro played for the North Mississauga Under-11 Panthers this past season, helping the team go undefeated and win the South Region Soccer League Premier Division championship.



HOLDEN VETRO

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