

SPORTS & LEISURE



Taylor Begg of Georgetown is ready to start up a new season of baton twirling with the re-established Starlight Destiny club in Halton Hills and has set a long-term goal of performing at the world championships in Belgium in 2009. *Photo by Eamonn Maher*

Begg's on with baton

Georgetown teen part of twirling club's revival

EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

After a few years of dormancy, the Starlight Destiny Baton Twirling Club has been revived in Halton Hills and one of its members has an impressive resume to toss around.

Taylor Begg, 15, has been training with the Brampton-based Starlight Destiny Baton Club under coach and local native Susan (Thibodeau) Franklyn, who competed herself out of the Georgetown club until age 25.

The enthusiastic Begg now doesn't have to travel to Brampton for the hours of practice each week as Franklyn has started up classes in Glen Williams, including a three-month basic introductory program. Seven years ago, Begg and mother Maureen were walking past a school gym in Brampton and that's all it took for the local teen to get hooked.

"We saw some people twirling and I was just amazed at what they could do," Begg stated. "Then my mom said, 'Oh, I used to do that,' and I was shocked. So when we got home we looked up in the phone book for the number, and now..."

Traveling to far-away competitions is something that the Grade 10

GDHS student loves about baton twirling and she's usually gone for a couple of weekends out of each month. This past summer, she won the NBTA Canadian championship in the individual 13-15 age group at Cambridge and teamed up with Brampton's Sarah Durocher to capture gold medals in the pairs/duet category.

She also went to the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., in July for one of the largest baton twirling competitions in the world, the American Youth On Parade. With her regular duet partner, Durocher, unable to attend the AYOP, Begg called on Nicole Boutin as a replacement. Despite little practice time together, the duo placed fifth out of the 40 duet routines with a drop-free round. Begg and Durocher finished no lower than first in any competition they've entered over the last year.

Begg, Starlight Destiny's Sportsmanship Trophy winner for 2005-06, is looking forward to competitions in Halifax Oct. 28-29 and the 2007 Twirl Mania event in Orlando, Fla. in February, which she attended last season.

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Raiders take two of three

First loss of season in Milton

Playing three games in less than 48 hours, the Georgetown Raiders suffered their first loss of the 2006-07 OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League campaign and likely learned a lesson about taking so-called weaker teams lightly.

And if they didn't take anything from Friday's 4-3 loss to a rebuilding Milton side, first-year Raiders' head coach Blaine McCauley will no doubt provide some positive reinforcement in practice this week.

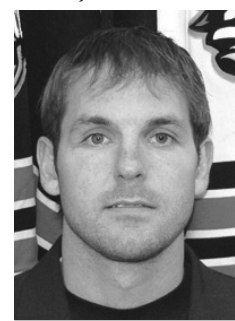
Georgetown rebounded from that defeat to beat guest Burlington 4-1 on Saturday and then edged the Markham Waxers 7-6 in Bowmanville in the OPJHL's Governors' Showcase game to improve to 6-1-0-0 this season. And while McCauley is pleased overall with what he's seen from his club so far, he feels there is plenty of room for improvement.

"No team can be taken for granted in this league and (the Milton loss) showed that you have to take it game by game, whether it's supposed bottom-feeders or supposed championship contenders," said McCauley. "We are happy with the start and the guys realize we have a lot of work to do as far as reaching our goals. You have to give a lot of credit to the players. It's a new system they've been introduced to and they're slowly learning it."

As they did in their home opener Sept. 9 versus Milton, the second-place Raiders dominated play and widely outchanced their opponents, yet the 3-7-0-1 IceHawks scored two

quick goals midway through the third period to break up a 2-2 tie. Rob Sgarbossa, Matt Carter and Wade Finegan tallied for Georgetown, which outshot Milton 40-19.

On Saturday night, the Raiders were prepared for a big, physical Burlington squad and by the end of the evening, some 200 penalty minutes were handed out in a convincing 4-1 victory for the home side in front of over 600



BLAINE McCAULEY

spectators. Goals by Sgarbossa, Jon Southgate, Jeremy Whelan and Adam DeJong gave the Raiders a comfortable enough lead before a series of six fights broke out late in the third period.

At the Showcase contest on Sunday, Georgetown built an early 3-0 advantage, but the South Conference's

5-1-0-0 Waxers showed their veteran firepower, grabbing a 6-5 lead two minutes into the final period. Whelan, with his sixth of the season, and defender Jon Quarrie restored the Georgetown lead for good shortly afterward. Kyle Schwende (2), Sgarbossa, Adam Campbell and DeJong rounded out the Raider scoring.

Coming up this weekend, the Raiders visit Bramalea on Friday and then host the Hamilton Red Wings at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex on Saturday beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Gridiron grudge match Thursday

High schools start up sports schedules

Bragging rights for senior football in Halton Hills will be on the line Thursday as the Georgetown Rebels host Christ the King's Jaguars in game two of the 2006-07 Halton Secondary School Athletic Association regular season.

The Division II matchup promises to be a tight battle after both teams won their opening games last week. Game time is 3:30 p.m.

The Rebels crushed the host Milton District Mustangs on Friday 38-0, as tailback John Leckie rushed for five touchdowns, all in the first half. A veteran Georgetown lineup took advantage of two botched Mustang punts in the first eight minutes to build a comfortable lead. Kicker Anthony Van Kooten was the special teams standout with some booming punts and a field goal early in the third quarter.

Christ the King tight end Steve Ples and quarterback Alex Dezan scored first-quarter touchdowns for the Jags in Oakville Thursday against St. Thomas Aquinas and held on for a 14-7 triumph. CTK defensive back Mark Bartolotto tackled an Aquinas player on the

Jaguars' one yard line just as time expired in the fourth quarter.

FIELD HOCKEY: The hectic schedule for the HSSAA season continued with two games each for Georgetown and Christ the King's senior girls on Monday.

The Rebels lost 1-0 to host E.C. Drury, then scored a 1-0 victory over Bishop Reding on a goal by Alex Holtom. The Jaguars dropped a 4-0 decision to Holy Trinity and settled for a scoreless draw with E.C. Drury.

Both local high schools were kept off the scoresheet in their regular season openers last week.

The Georgetown Rebels had a doubleheader with White Oaks in Oakville to start their campaign last week. A relatively young senior GDHS squad was down 3-0 at halftime but got stronger as the match went on, eventually losing 4-0. The junior Rebels played to a scoreless draw with White Oaks.

CTK's senior Jaguars were on the short end of a 4-0 score at St. Thomas Aquinas.



GEORGETOWN TOYOTA

GAME OF THE WEEK

GEORGETOWN JR. A RAIDERS
vs
HAMILTON RED WINGS

Saturday, September 30, 2006
7:30 pm

Mold-Masters SportsPlex (Alcott Arena)

GEORGETOWN JUNIOR "A"



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