

SPORTS AND LEISURE

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Local pair honour
NHL referee

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Special pullout section

High school roundup

Bearcats' banner

season reaches end in Halton final

In a game with an outcome that looked more than a football score than a senior boys' hoops' contest, the Acton Bearcats had their hopes of a Halton Secondary School Athletic Association single-A title thwarted by Kings Christian College on Wednesday.

The Bearcats enjoyed their best season to date heading into the final, posting an 8-4 mark, which included a mild 58-53 upset over host Milton District on Tuesday in the semifinals.

But Kings Christian not only took its first-place 10-2 record into Wednesday's finale, it also brought its school population into the Sheridan College gym, making for a hostile environment for the Bearcats.

Acton was held scoreless in the first quarter, cut the lead to 11-8 at the half, then couldn't get a single point again in the third period before a spirited rally fell just short in the end, making the final 28-21.

"We had four shots at it. If we made a shot, it was a whole new game, but that's basketball," said Acton coach Spike Adams. "Our team is a fast-paced transition team, and we weren't able to do that. I think part of it was the size of the game— there was a big crowd there, TV, reporters, stuff they don't usually see all year. They were afraid of making mistakes."

Guard T.J. Fry led the Bearcats with 13 points. J.D. Hartnagle had 17 points in the victory over Milton.

KCC moves on to face Hamilton's AMC today (Friday) in the GHAC playdowns.

Volleyball

The Acton Bearcats nearly pulled off the biggest upset of the 2007-08 Halton senior girls' season, pushing the Georgetown Rebels to a thrilling third-and-deciding set Tuesday in the Halton semifinals.

Georgetown's seniors faced Oakville-Trafalgar late Thursday afternoon at Sheridan College for the senior girls' AAAA regional championship and the right to host the Golden Horseshoe provincial qualifier next Tuesday, while the Bearcats have already garnered a berth in Tuesday's GHAC single-A semifinals.

Both Acton and Georgetown finished the regular season with 7-1 records, but the host Rebels were in dominant form Tuesday, taking the first set 25-9. Acton chipped away in the second game, eventually rallying for a 25-23 victory, setting up a tense tiebreaker. The Bearcats used some excellent serving



Acton's T.J. Fry is given a rough ride by Kings Christian College big man Ray Spithoff during their Halton single-A senior boys' Halton championship contest Wednesday at Sheridan College. KCC, with its entire student body on hand in support, prevailed in the defensive struggle 28-21.

Photo by Liesa Kortmann

by Gabby Kosziwka to grab an 11-7 lead, before the Rebels recovered and prevailed 17-15 in set three, with Meghan Shantz clinching the win on a nice misdirection play at the net.

The junior Rebels swept St. Thomas Aquinas in

Oakville Tuesday in the Halton semis and were slated to face first-place Assumption Thursday at Sheridan College in a matchup of undefeated teams.

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Raiders will open Saturday

Just two days before the Georgetown Raiders are scheduled to begin their second-round OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League playoff series, they still didn't know who their opponent will be.

Third-place Hamilton hosted the feisty Milton IceHawks in the deciding game of their first-round battle last night (Thursday).

If Hamilton won, the Wings would face Georgetown starting Saturday at the Alcott Arena at 7:30 p.m. A Milton win would mean the Raiders would host the Brampton Capitals Saturday.

Hockey heroes here this weekend

Hockey stars from the past, present and future are slated to visit the Georgetown Market Place this weekend.

Toronto Maple Leaf forwards Nik Antropov and Alexei Ponikarovsky have been penciled in to visit the mall tonight (Friday) beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Eleven-time Stanley Cup winner and Hockey Hall of Famer Henri Richard from Montreal Canadiens' fame is also scheduled to sign autographs at 2 p.m. Saturday, while ex-Maple Leaf great Darryl Sittler will be at the newly-renovated Bank of Montreal in the Market Place from 12:30-2 p.m.

On Sunday, 2008 Team Canada World Junior Hockey Championship member P.K. Subban, of the Ontario Hockey League's Belleville Bulls, will sign autographs starting at 2 p.m. Subban was a second-round 2007 pick by Montreal.

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