

SPORTS & LEISURE



'Dogs continue to howl

EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

The most productive offence in the entire Ontario Lacrosse Association Jr. B league continues to roll along as the Halton Hills Bulldogs picked up two more victories this past week, improving their win streak to four games.

Averaging 12.2 goals per game, the Bulldogs posted a big 9-6 win over rival Oakville on Thursday and then thumped the struggling Mississauga Tomahawks 14-6 Friday, despite missing several players due to high school proms.

Halton Hills is now tied with Mimico for first place in the South East Division with identical 11-2-0 records, one game behind the Clarington Green Gaels for the top spot in the conference.

And it's another big week ahead for the 'Dogs as they'll host Mimico Thursday at 8 p.m. and then travel to the Mountaineers' home base Sunday night. Halton Hills will also take on the 9-2-0 Barrie Tornado Saturday at the Alcott Arena, with a revised start time of 8:30 p.m.

Other Eastern Conference teams such as Barrie and 9-3-0 Newmarket are also in the hunt for home floor advantage in the opening round of playoffs, which are set to start in three weeks.

"It's going to be a really good test for us," said head coach Blaine McCauley.

"The kids have worked hard in practice and paid the price. Now this is where it should start paying off. We're starting to put the pieces of the puzzle together and now we're into the heart of our schedule with the Oakvilles and the Mimicos. We can't be satisfied with our record because there's a lot more work to do."

The club did receive a personnel boost for Friday's contest at the Clarkson Arena as Ryan Haynes and Mike Burke made their debuts after completing studies at Trinity-Pawling Prep

School in New York. The 17-year-old Haynes who played for Toronto Jr. A Beaches last season scored four times in the rout, his cousin Chris Haynes had a hat trick, while the returning Burke recorded a four-point night.

Pat Saunders (4), Evan Whillans and Peter Laidlaw also scored for the visitors.

Saunders also scored five goals against Oakville here Thursday, and with seven regular-season games remaining, the 19-year-old is poised to smash team scoring records. He already has 44 goals and 80 points in 13 games, threatening to break franchise-best totals for goals (51, Richard Haan 2002) and points (93, Daryl Veltman 2002).

"You've got to give him kudos for what Pat's doing right now but he'd be the first to tell you that it's the right side that opens things up for the left side," added McCauley of the Arthur resident.

"It's the guys like Chad Cummings, (Evan Whillans) and Kody Lyons who are picking for him so he gets his shots. Our offence is very much a team effort and Pat is just burying his opportunities when he gets them."

Nic Grasby, Cummings, Daniel Patterson and Michael Licata rounded out the scoring against 9-3-0 Oakville.

NOTES: A couple of former Jr. B Bulldogs have been bright lights so far for the club's Jr. A affiliate in Brampton. J.J. Laforet leads the team with five goals and six assists in the first six games, while Cameron Flint, who just returned from an all-star season with Salisbury Prep School in Connecticut, scored twice and had two assists in his 2008 debut with the Excelsiors on Sunday, a 12-10 loss to Akwesasne...The John McCauley Memorial Tournament will take place in Brampton this weekend, featuring 70 teams from the paperweight age group up to the intermediate division.

Defender Derek Silva (2) of the Halton Hills Jr. B Bulldogs gets set to scoop up a loose ball with some support from teammate Chad Cummings (22) in an OLA matchup with the host Mississauga Tomahawks on Friday night. The Bulldogs built a 10-2 lead by the mid point of the contest and won 14-6 as leading scorer Pat Saunders and newcomer Ryan Haynes each scored four goals. Up next this week for the Bulldogs is a pair of games with Mimico and a home date with Barrie Saturday.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

High school roundup

Driedger off to OFSAA after cruising to win in 800 metres

Georgetown's Emily Driedger left no doubt about her qualification for this week's Ontario Federation of Secondary School Athletic Associations track and field championships after she won the junior girls' 800m race this past Friday at the South Regional in Hamilton.

Driedger crossed the line nearly two seconds ahead of the runner-up in a time of two minutes, 20.6 seconds, which was 10 seconds faster than her Golden Horseshoe meet qualifying time from the previous week.

The Grade 10 student also made the OFSAA grade for the open girls' 1,500m steeplechase by grabbing the fourth and final qualifying berth.

The South Regional took place at Mohawk College in Hamilton, the same location for the OFSAA finals, to be held Thursday to Saturday.

Driedger's Rebel teammate, Alex Jarvis, will compete at the provincials in two events as well, after missing last year's championships due to an ankle injury. She finished second in the midget girls' 3,000m and fourth in the 1,500m races at the South Regional.

Maddy Bannock of GDHS placed as the runner-up in the midget girls' triple



EMILY DRIEDGER

jump with a leap of 9.87m, just 20 centimetres off the lead.

Georgetown's Christ the King will also send three athletes to the OFSAA meet.

Brittney Mortimer finished up fourth in the senior girls' discus after a toss of 9.80m, while Jaguar Daniel Bar got through to the provincials with a fourth-place result in the midget boys' 100m hurdles in a time of 15.82 seconds.

Senior Megan Hynes tied for fourth in the senior girls' high jump at 1.50m.

Soccer

Christ the King's senior boys absorbed their first loss of 2008 on Monday in the Golden Horseshoe final, but their hopes of a Halton region title were still alive heading into Tuesday's semifinal match with White Oaks in Georgetown.

The Jaguars had a chance to qualify for the OFSAA AAAA championships to be held next week with a victory over undefeated Cardinal Newman on Monday, although the host Hamilton school had other plans, posting a 2-0 win.

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