

'Dogs face showdown for second

Back-to-back games this week against their rivals from Oakville will likely determine whether the Halton Hills Jr. B Bulldogs can clinch their second consecutive Ontario Lacrosse Association South East Division title.

Despite an 8-4 loss to the rival Mimico Mountaineers in Etobicoke Sunday night—just the third defeat for the Bulldogs this season—the local squad looks to be in good position to earn second place in the Eastern Conference standings behind the 14-1 Clarington Green Gaels with four games remaining in the 2008 regular season.

The 13-3 'Dogs took two out of three contests over the weekend, including a 14-8 victory over 12-4 Mimico on Thursday and a 10-3 rout of Barrie Saturday evening in Georgetown.

Halton Hills is now 7-0-0 on its home floor this season, with three more games to play at the Alcott Arena, finishing up with last-place Mississauga and Mimico next week.

Also in the playoff picture is the 11-3 Oakville Buzz, who'll face the Bulldogs here tomorrow (Thursday) beginning at 8 p.m. The teams will meet up again Sunday at the Glen Abbey Recreation Centre at 7 p.m. and a sweep of the weekend set for either side would likely guarantee home-floor advantage for the first two rounds of the post-season.

In Sunday night's loss to Mimico, which featured the usual nastiness between the teams and their respective fans, the Mounties jumped out to a 4-0 lead early in the second period and preserved the win. Rookie Michael Licata (2), Pat Saunders and Mike Burke scored for the visitors.

Saunders became only the second Bulldog in team history to hit the 50-goal mark after potting four against the Barrie Tornado on Saturday night and the 18-year-old is now tied with Richard Haan at 51 for the franchise-best total.

Burke, Peter Laidlaw, Chad Cummings, Kyle Andrews, Matt Laidlaw and Mike Brown added

single markers.

On Thursday against Mimico, the Bulldogs scored eight times in the first period and cruised to the triumph, led by Burke's five goals. Ryan Haynes (4), Saunders (2), Evan Whillans (2) and Kody Lyons rounded out the scoring.

The OLA's Jr. B all-star game takes place Saturday in St. Catharines and two Bulldogs have been selected to play for Team East, who'll be coached by former Halton Hills bench boss Joe O'Halloran. Leading scorer Saunders and defender Mike Brown, who just returned to the lineup last week from an injury, will take part.

(Eamonn Maher can be reached at emaher@independentfreepress.com)

Bulldogs net bronze

Continued from pg. 16

Bronze medal—Halton Hills 13, Clarington 12

Team members are: Connor Anderson, Brennan Sullivan, Kyle Kutlesa, Ben Austriaco, Nicolas Pierog, Tyler Nieuwendyk, Blaine Schmidt, Brendan Ferrell, Ryan Huggins, Alex Bell, Chris Babic, Warren Brayne, Devon Cook, Chris Guerrette, Brandon Grant, head coach John Kutlesa, assistant coach/trainer Jim Dowell.

CORRECTION: In the May 30 *Independent & Free Press*, an article contained incorrect information regarding the Halton Hills midget A Bulldogs and their recent provincial boys' field lacrosse championship victory in Kitchener.

The team did not win a national championship two years ago in the bantam age group, as was published. The Halton Hills midget Bulldogs earned the 2006 Canadian title in Victoria, B.C.

The *Independent & Free Press* regrets the error.

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Thank you for making Acton Youth's Chance for Change a great success!

Several youth led and contributed to this project. Congratulations and thank you for your leadership!

Alannah Bowes, Hayley Gendron, Bekky Gibson, Sean Haefner, Sarah Martin, Matt Nascimento, Corbin Resch, Dallas Shewfelt, Tyara Woodridge

A very special thanks to the volunteers who helped on May 24. You were a big part of the day's success!

Sponsors

Thank you to all of our sponsors with particular consideration going to MapleLodge Farms Ltd. - They gave away over 1000 hot dogs!!

The Staff of Sobeys showed just how much this community cares about its youth by pooling their resources and supplying us with water.

McDonald's supplied drinks for the day.

Mister Softee/ MORWEL Confections Inc. and Scooters Snack Service gave a portion of their profits back to the community

Nancy Wilkes from Acton Optical reached out to us to help. She sponsored the photography contest.

Ruth Bowes at Royal LePage sponsored our event advertising.

Sobeys helped us to buy drinks for our volunteers.

Starlight Café sponsored our event advertising.

Youth Supporters

Acton High School Principal Bert O'Hearn and the school staff strongly supported our youth committee members.

McKenzie-Smith Bennett Public and St. Joseph Elementary Catholic School Principals Sharon French and Colin Simpson and the Grade 7 and 8 teachers supported our youth committee members and accommodated our classroom presentations.

Acton Free Press and The New Tanner wrote terrific stories and lent advertising support.

Ann Hamilton enthusiastically donated her artistic expertise at our art station. With her help, over 200 children and youth created an amazing art collage.

Jennifer Ross, a Youth Supporter Award winner, spent the day face painting and directing the Acton Improv Group performance.

POSSE and Kimm Kent sat with a group of youth on a cold winter night to brainstorm the event. Those initial discussions were an inspiring spark that set the stage for our success.

Partners

We were privileged to have the support of the following project partners.
 Halton Region, Halton Regional Police Service, Off The Wall - Links2Care, Our Kids Network, Recreation and Parks - Town of Halton Hills

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