

SPORTS & LEISURE

Midget 'Dogs steamroll way to national title

For the second time in three years, the Halton Hills Bulldogs have claimed the Canadian midget boys' field lacrosse championship after posting a 5-0 record at the national tournament this past weekend in Edmonton.

The Ontario representatives earned a trip to Alberta after winning the provincial final in May in Kitchener with a victory over Oshawa—a team that had previously beaten the Bulldogs twice in the regular season.

But Halton Hills had little trouble against the all-star teams it faced in Edmonton on the way to capturing the Alumni Cup, despite being the lone club squad entered in the tournament.

The only time the Bulldogs trailed in a game at the nationals was in the semifinals, when one of the two B.C. select sides took a brief 2-0 lead, only to be out-gunned 17-10.

"We anticipated it would get tougher as we went along because the B.C. teams were entirely made up of selected players, whereas we picked up just three players for the tournament," said Halton Hills coach Daryl Haynes, who was also in charge of the Bulldog team that won the Alumni Cup in 2006 in Victoria, B.C.

"The other teams are in the middle of their field season and we hadn't played together for three months, so it took a while for us to get better, too. Overall, defensively we were really good and the skill and scoring potential was there for us."



Team captains for the Halton Hills Bulldogs (from left) Stephen Kemp-Graham, Luke Laidlaw, Ryan Kelly and Paul Davison hoist the Alumni Cup after winning the

Attackman Mike MacDonald was named tournament MVP, while goaltender Ryan Kelly helped backstop the formidable Bulldog defensive end.

A number of Bulldogs are eligible to return for another

year of midget next year, although the OLA is changing its format from sending its provincial club champion to an all-star team that will select top players from across Ontario.

Preliminary round— Halton Hills 21, Manitoba 1; Halton Hills 16, Edmonton 2; Halton Hills 12, B.C. All-Stars #2 7

Semifinal— Halton Hills 17, B.C. All-Stars #1 10
Championship— Halton Hills 14, B.C. All-Stars #2 8

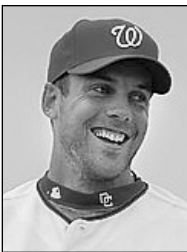
New arm injury sidelines Nats' Hill for the season

Injury-plagued righthanded hurler Shawn Hill of Georgetown won't pitch anymore this year for the Washington Nationals.

The major league baseball team announced recently that Hill is being shut down for the season after he experienced swelling in his right elbow during rehabilitation of his latest arm injury.

Hill had been on the disabled list since June 25. He was examined by team doctors in Washington Friday.

Nationals' General Manager Jim Bowden said this appears to be a new arm injury for Hill, who has battled injuries throughout his career.



SHAWN HILL

See MORE, pg. 15



Averaging 16 goals a game on offence and less than six against through their five games at the national championship tournament, the Halton Hills midget Bulldogs convincingly won the 2008 Alumni Cup trophy in Edmonton over the weekend. Team members (front, from left) are: Athletic therapist Stephanie Dumond, Jamie Dowell, Ryan Kelly, Dustin Hanzelka, Daniel Lintner. Second row: Coach Doug Marshall, Mike

Mawdsley, Leland de Langley, Jordan Dance, Dan Keane, Paul Davison, Daniel Marshall, Seth Laidlaw. Back row: Stephen Kemp-Graham, Bryan Slater, Ashton Waters, Justin Rasmussen, Brad Kri, Jake Harding, Jayson Crawford, Luke Laidlaw, Mike MacDonald, Tom Herren, coach Daryl Haynes. Absent: Assistant coach Ron Flint, Stephen Silas, Mike Sgarbossa, Mike Curtis, Steve Janes. Submitted photo

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