

# SPORTS AND LEISURE

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Paranormal show  
coming to JET

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Unbeaten Rebels  
roll over Abbey Park

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Special pullout section

## GDHS grad Bingham inducted into WMU Athletic Hall of Fame

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Staff Writer

Upon being inducted into Western Michigan University's Athletic Hall of Fame earlier this month, Georgetown native Joanne Bingham was somewhat surprised to learn that many of the statistical records she established with the varsity women's volleyball team over 17 years ago still stand.

A member of the Canadian national team in 1989-90, the 6-foot-1 power hitter set the Broncos' benchmark of 611 kills during her senior season, which averages out to just over five per game.

There were also many individual accolades for Bingham during her four years at WMU, as she was named to the Mid-American Conference's First Team twice and earned the MAC Tournament MVP award in her junior year.

Yet, like some elite-level athletes who compete in team-first sports such as volleyball, the Georgetown District High School grad said that returning to the Kalamazoo, Michigan school for the induction ceremony also made her recall some disappointing moments in her on-court career.

"My old setter was there and it was nice to see a lot of the people who were involved in winning those MAC championships. That's all we did for four years. Went to classes and played volleyball, which was great," said the 40-year-old, who is now an Ontario Provincial Police Sergeant in Nipigon, located northeast of Thunder Bay.

"Unfortunately, some of the things that you most remember are some of the tougher defeats. But to have only lost one conference match in your university career says a lot about the teams we had."

Bingham represented Canada at the 1989 world championships in China and the Goodwill Games in Seattle, Washington, moving on to play professionally in France for a couple of years before taking up her policing career.

She noted that her athletic accomplishments couldn't have been possible without the support of her coach at GDHS, Grant Clatworthy, with whom she claimed an OFSAA AA title in 1986 for the Rebels, and her Scarborough Titans' club team coach, Bill Seto.

"I've always credited them with helping me develop into the player I became and with getting me the scholarship to Western Michigan," Bingham added.

"Without them I wouldn't have known what it took to be a player at a U.S. college or for our national team."

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



Georgetown's Joanne Bingham was recently inducted into Western Michigan University's Athletic Hall of Fame for her prolific four-year career with the Broncos that led to her selection to Canada's national women's volleyball team. Joining the star power-hitter for the ceremony in Kalamazoo, Michigan were her parents Marjorie and Bill of Georgetown.

Submitted photo

Perfect season denied but...

## Field Bulldogs lock up top spot in division

Denied in their bid for an undefeated season, the Halton Hills Bulldogs nonetheless finished up with a best-ever 9-1-0 record after a split of Ontario Lacrosse Association under-19 men's field contests in Wallaceburg on Sunday.

The Bulldogs were also able to clinch first place in Division II on the final weekend of the regular season and nearly made a remarkable comeback in their 9-7 loss to Centre Wellington in game one on Sunday.

Centre Wellington scored five times in the first quarter and added three more in the second to grab an 8-0 lead

by halftime. Peter Laidlaw (2), Justin Reid (2), Nic Grasby, Matt Lord and Nick Rose then scored for Halton Hills after the break to cut its opponents' lead to one, but Centre Wellington replied with a goal eight minutes from the final buzzer to earn the victory.

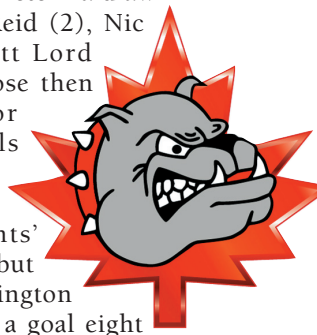
Needing a win in their second game of the day over 8-1-0 Kitchener/Water-

loo to secure first place, the 'Dogs came out charging, taking an early 4-0 advantage and eventually prevailing by a 9-5 score, thanks in part to four goals by Peter Laidlaw.

JJ Laforet, Grasby, Matt Laidlaw and Jack Matthews rounded out the offensive attack.

This weekend, the Bulldogs will vie for a provincial Division II championship at Mississauga's Hershey Centre fields with pool games Saturday against Newmarket at 9:30 a.m. and Burlington at 6:30 p.m.

The semifinals and final are set for Sunday.



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