

## Under 16 soccer

A professional team would never play two nights in a row, and so it is a lot to expect for Acton's brave Under-16 team, sponsored by Denny's Insurance. But two nights resulted in two of the team's better performances of the year.

The Monday game at Acton High School was against the HEADs (Hillsburgh-Erin) team that is third in the league. The game started cautiously, with both teams playing a midfield possession game. However, as the bugs started to come out, so the player movement improved, and the action started to move swiftly from end to end. As Acton's threats started to look more serious, HEADS responded in kind. A very lucky bounce of the ball was swooped upon by HEADS to take a 1-0 lead, the ball deceiving the Acton goalkeeper and somehow sneaking in just over his gloves. Then, the Acton section of the crowd was a lot more suprised than the visiting section when a penalty was awarded for handball, mercilessly converted for a 2-0 lead.

HEADs probably couldn't believe their luck that such an even game had rewarded them with a 2-0 lead, and Lady Luck deserted the Acton boys completely (she's done that to them a lot this season) as the bright yellow visitors took a 3-0 lead. Acton pressure then followed, with a post shuddering under a thunderous Mark Wells shot and some others going agonisingly close.

Eventually, a loose ball popped out of the penalty area and Brandon Dacosta needed no further invitation to open Acton's account. His rasping drive eluded the goalie: but even if the goalie had got to it, he would probably have been pulled into the net.

The stage was set for a stirring fightback, and it was almost unbelievable that no more goals were scored during the game. Both goal-keepers played well against determined attacks, but in the end, HEADs went home with three points, and Acton with their heads held high.

The next day, Acton made the trek to Edelweiss Park in Bolton for a late game under the lights against unbeaten league leaders, Bolton Argentina. As if the task was not enough, the team had to face Bolton with only ten players

(while the home team had the full 11 with three substitutes), Bolton had not played for a week, and three of the stalwart Denny's defencemen from the previous night were unavailable due to work commitments.

Denny's attacked from the beginning with precision that meant that a casual observer (of which there were none whatsoever, of course) would not know which team was lacking a player. They harried and threatened all over the field, with Jake Hnatiw covering the unfamiliar right-hand defensive zone with energy and panache. After about 20 goalless minutes, the reader can imagine the dismay when some odd bounces led to Bolton's first goal

Immediate pressure led to the Bolton defence panicking and hacking down Mark Wells, who took the resulting penalty himself to make it 1-1. A few minutes later, the Acton fans were joyous as the predatory Wells snapped home a second from close range to give the visitors a 2-1 lead. Could the lead hold up? Could Acton upset the league leaders?

Bolton seemed to wake up after this, and their shots became more deadly. When the teams regrouped at halftime, it was 7-2 for Bolton. The second half was closer, with the Acton highlights being some outstanding saves by Harry Checchia in goal, and Ben Jolly's precise to strike to take Acton's tally to three goals for the first time this season. An 11-3 final scoreline reflects a good second-half performance where Acton did not give up.

There was some unwelcome excitement towards the end where a Bolton player slipped and injured his knee, and in the melee that followed, Acton earned a penalty (which was not converted) and a Bolton player was sent off. A shame, as the rest of the game was played in good spirits.

## **Under 8 Soccer**

#### D. Varanelli - Team #1 Giant Tiger- Team #2

Assists & goals: Lindsay Yake, Jacob Dolimont, Owen Ferguson, Vanessa Torres, Mikaila Raine, Austin Ross, Devon D'orazio, Michael Gillas, Quinn Bean.

#### Sunny Motors - Team#3 Royal Lepage-Team# 4

Assists & goals: Matthew Dunn, Joey Reid, Travis Over, Melora Andrews, Nathan Dimech, Jacob Palliser, Kate Trichilo, Brian Secord, Joshua Soares, Jordan Mur-

#### W/A Embroidery -Team # 5 Lemiski Dentistry-Team #6

Assists & goals: Michael Chang, Sydney Durham, Noah St-Denis, Samantha Walker

#### Heritage Orthotics Team #13 Trendz Team # 14

Assists & goals: Haley Keir, Megan Davison, Kyle Macdonald, Tommy Renaud, Nathan Pines, Ryrden Butterfield, Jack Christie, Brianna McBurney

#### Outdoor Power Team#15 Rx Pharma Plus Team #16

Assists & goals: Ryan Wil-

son, Kalmen Balkind, Tannor Toste, Ben Gray, Justin Lee, Kenneth Herrington.

#### Acton Jiu-Jitsu Team#7 Maplelodge Farms -Team #8

Assists & goals: Matthew Dunne, Christopher Solda, Eric McCallum, Alec MacCallum, Miranda Timmerman, Jessica Pond, Emily Ashe, Dylan Vermeulen.

#### Brookville Vet Team#9 Sobeys - Team #10

Assists & goals: Colin Thomson, Michael Bartle.

Leathertown Lumber Team#11 Town & Country Windows Team #12

## Minor ball

#### HARDBALL - ROOKIE Herbal Magic 4-Georgetown's Stereo &TV

Herbal Magic's MVP's: Isaak Tonelli, Greg Marousis and Tommy Adkins. Stereo & TV MVP's: Cameron Burns, Owen Christie, Scott Miedema. The coaches of the Acton Herbal Magic team would like to thank all the players that played this exceptional game on Monday July 16. This was Herbal Magic's first win of the season.

#### Johnson & Assoc. 11-Daniel Varanelli 10

J&A MVP's: Jonathan Lynch, Davis Drover, and Robert Eastwood. Daniel Varanelli MVP's: Ty Martin, Michael Allain, and Brandon Holmes.

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### Girls Soccer

### Vermeulen adds two

Early in the match Acton put Georgetown3 down 1-0 on midfielder Alaina Mills determined effort to produce her first goal of the season. This was followed by Lauren Vermeulen's eighth goal of the season before Georgetown responded with it's only goal of the game.

Speedy striker Vermeulen then sealed the victory with her ninth to make the final 3-1 for Acton.

Their record now sits at seven wins with a single draw in eight games played. They are back in action this Thursday (July 26) at the high school where they host Hillsburgh-Erin2.

# SOCCER CAMP

www.athletesinaction.com

City: Acton

Location: Elizabeth Drive Field

Date: August 13-17 Time: 9am to 3pm

Age: 7 to 12

Register: www.realfaith.ca or 519 853 9757

Price: \$110.00

Our university and club players take campers through an intense week of skill development, fun competitions and exciting tournaments - making sure each camper gets the individual attention they require.

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