

WILSON LOOKS TO KEEP WORLD TITLE IN CANADA

HERB GARBUTT
hgarbutt@metroland.com

Raegan Wilson's introduction to field lacrosse did not go exactly as you might expect.

"I tried it and I hated it," the 17-year-old said.

Wilson had been playing box lacrosse for years. A family friend who coached a Milton minor lacrosse team had convinced her brother to play.

After watching him play for a year, she decided to give the sport a shot too. She developed her skills playing box lacrosse, but at that first field lacrosse camp, most of the other players were just getting their first exposure to the

game.

She would fire a pass that would sail past the outstretched stick of the intended target.

So Wilson went back to box lacrosse and played until bantam, when the size difference between her and her opponents became a factor.

Not wanting to give up the game, she gave field lacrosse another chance.

She joined the Oakville Hawks, which had an established program and players with lacrosse backgrounds.

Having her passes end up in the pocket of a teammate made the game much more enjoyable and Wilson has thrived in the sport.

She made the provincial under-15 team and then helped Ontario claim the gold medal at the national under-17 championships two years ago.

Still, Wilson couldn't help but feel nervous earlier this month.

She was one of 70 players invited to the Canadian Lacrosse Association tryouts for the team that will defend the gold medal at the Women's Lacrosse Under-19 World Championships.

"There were a lot of girls who had a year of NCAA lacrosse or were going into their freshman year," the Hill Academy student said.

"The competition was



Wilson family photo

Raegan Wilson will play for Canada when it defends its title at the Women's Lacrosse Under-19 World Championships in Peterborough.

very elite. It was the best of the best."

Through the three

rounds of tryouts, the candidates were narrowed down to 26 for 19 spots.

The day the roster was to be announced, Wilson was walking around downtown Milton.

It was supposed to be announced at noon, but around 10 a.m., Wilson got a text, "Did you see the email?"

Wilson quickly checked, scanned the roster and found her name.

Now Wilson and her Canadian teammates will be charged with defending the gold medal Canada won four years ago when it edged the U.S. 9-8 for its first world championship. The U.S. will be looking to reclaim the title it had held since 1999, but the Canadians will have the crowd behind them, with the tournament being held in Peterborough.

"The previous under-19 team has been reaching out to us," Wilson said. "There's a lot of pressure on home soil, but we hope

to give everyone what they want."

After coaching Wilson for three years, Lexi Doherty believes Wilson will bring a lot to the Canadian team.

"She's very creative and able to think on the spot," the Lady Hawks coach said of the midfielder.

"On ground balls, she's the first one to them and she's very strong and quick."

Doherty said Wilson is also a vocal leader on the field and will have the benefit of playing alongside Lady Hawks midfield partner Annabel Child on the Canadian team.

The tournament will be held from Aug. 1 to 10.

MORE ONLINE

SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AT INSIDEHALTON.COM

Your Invitation to Worship

To Advertise in the Worship Directory
Please Call Fiona 289-293-0691



NEW LIFE CHURCH
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Join Us this Sunday Morning
9am & 10am

**THE POWER OF
GOD'S NAMES**



CYC

Children's & Youth Centre
Pastor Dan Rogge

824 Thompson Road South
905 878 3358 newlifemilton.com

I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE...

Remember the child's game, *I Spy With My Little Eye Something that Begins With...*? I would play that for hours with friends of all ages. The object of the game was to pick out something in the room and announce, *I Spy...*, and then say the first letter. Others would need to guess what you had picked out. A successful guess allowed that person to choose the next object, leading with the words, *I Spy...*

What are your eyes drawn to? What catches your focus?

I spy with my little eye something beginning with O.
Obstacle?
No, opportunity.

I spy with my little eye something beginning with P.
Problem?
No, potential.

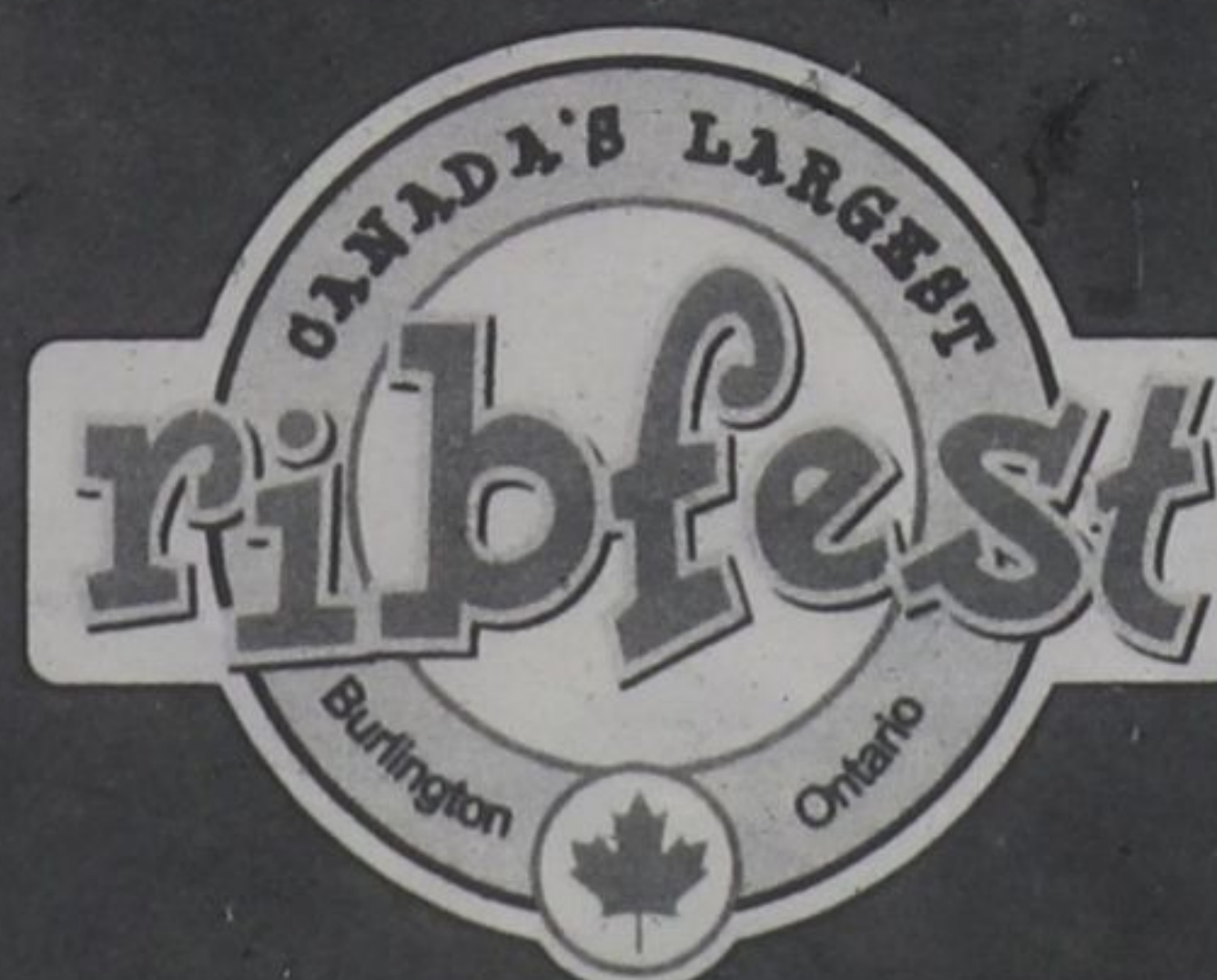
I spy with my little eye something beginning with C.
Complaint?
No, chance to do better.

Some people look at the world and all they see are a range of reasons not to do anything with their lives. Others look at the world and see immeasurable possibilities to do something amazing. Both groups are looking at the same world, but what we focus on is what we inevitably get.

What do you spy in the world around you? And how would your life change if you were more optimistic - if faith had more of a role in your daily experience?

Learn more. Visit a local place of worship this week. Meeting times and locations are published in the adjacent ads to help.

Submitted by Pastor Dan Rogge of Milton's New Life Church



**FOR THE WHOLE
FAMILY**

MUSIC | KIDS ZONE | FOOD TRUCKS | VENDORS

**LABOUR DAY WEEKEND
AUG 30 - SEPT 2**

A Fundraising Initiative of

Rotary

Burlington Lakeshore



CanadasLargestRibfest.com