

Milton players help 'Cats claw way to title

Make up huge part of Halton Hills' OMFL championship: coach

The Halton Hills Wildcats may have captured the inaugural Ontario Minor Football League (OMFL) junior varsity crown Sunday night, but couldn't have done so without their Milton contingent.

So says head coach Dan Ralph, who was quick to praise his 11 Milton-area players — all from Bishop Reding Secondary School — following a 21-14 championship decision over the Orangeville Outlaws at Toronto's Eugene Melnyk Field.

"The Milton guys were a big part of our success this year," said the Wildcats' skipper. "We only had 34 players overall, so you take away those 11 and we're done."

Seven Milton players started in the OMFL final, in which Georgetown's John Leckie capped a three-touchdown performance — his second in as many games — by delivering a 10-yard end zone run with under four minutes remaining.

Among the Milton starters, Elliot Slade offered a stabilizing presence on both sides of the line, while Chris Anania and Jake Hetherington stood out on the offensive line and at defensive back respectively.

Also starting among the locals were brothers Sami and Simon Akiki, Isaac Lim and Evan Pressy. Rounding out the Milton players were Mike DeVries, Ryan Windmoller, Kevin Gonzalves and Joel Herder.

Having dumped Orangeville 40-12 during the regular season, the second-place Wildcats — having gone 7-2 this year — were clear-cut favourites for the championship after the Outlaws upset the top-ranked Toronto Jr. Argos in semifinal play.

Halton Hills kept its composure after Orangeville erased two separate leads, with the second tying touchdown coming late in the third quarter.

In addition to having a heavy contingent on the Wildcats, Bishop Reding also had 10 players on the junior varsity Halton Invictas this season.

"That certainly bodes well for BR's football program," said Ralph.



The Wildcats hoist the OMFL trophy high after beating the Orangeville Outlaws Sunday night

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4	SOUTH SIDE	17	10	6	1	21
5	NEW LIFE "A"	15	9	6	0	18
6	NEW LIFE "B"	15	7	7	1	15
7	HOLY ROSARY	17	7	10	0	14
8	BOSTON	17	6	10	1	13
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