

OMHA payback dealt to novice Hurricanes

Welland exacts revenge in bronze-medal clash

Halton's AAA novices would have much preferred to finish last weekend's OMHA championships in victory than begin it with one.

Unable to write a favourable ending to the five-team showcase in Markham, the Hurricanes were upstaged 5-3 by the Welland Tigers in Sunday morning's battle for bronze. The fact that Halton had beaten them by an identical score just two earlier no doubt made the medal loss even more difficult to swallow.

Sporting five Milton-area players this season, the Hurricanes used their lone round-robin of the Tigers to reach

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the third-place showdown, and once there scored goals 36 seconds apart in the middle stanza to erase an early 2-0 deficit.

Unfortunately, Halton didn't have much left in the scoring well and was outdistanced by its payback-minded adversaries.

Chris Pelow — one of the local lads on this year's squad, which booked passage to the OMHAs with series wins over Niagara Falls and Brampton — was between the pipes for the second half of the bronze-medal clash, after solid showings in games two and four.

Fellow Miltonian Brett McInall fueled Halton's only win of the weekend, lighting the lamp twice in the initial tilt with Welland. Brother Zachary and blue-line counterparts Rylee Buckle and Ricky Bicchierai — also from town — combined for some solid defence to keep the team's goals-against average to a respectable 3.2.

While unable to come away with a medal, the Hurricanes certainly proved they belonged among the OMHA's innermost sanctum. In addition to their two-game split with the Tigers, they tied the host Waxers 3-3 and lost by just a single deposit to both the eventual champion Clarington Toros (3-2) and silver medalist Richmond Hill Stars (2-1).

Dyna-mite debut by juniors

The Dynamos' junior contingent delivered some impressive wrestling career debuts recently at the Hagersville Age Group Festival.

Following in his brothers' footsteps, Colin Moffat struck gold in the novice division, while bronze medals were secured by fellow newcomers Drew Campbell, Luke Campbell and Bogdan Faryna. Jake Roberts finished fourth.

Meanwhile in the older ranks, the Dynamos' national championship entries made the most of their final tune-up. Milton enjoyed a medal sweep in the 63-kilogram juvenile class, with Kevin Iwasa-Madge, Nick Ronan and Mac Fillman taking the top three spots.

Unfortunately an elbow injury while he had the lead on his school and club-mate cost Ronan the gold and could keep him out of the

nationals.

Jared Robb also took juvenile silver. Among the cadets, Bobby Fillman claimed his 10th gold of the season, while Duncan Moffat earned second-place honours.

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