

Defence delivers as minor mosquito A's win COBA title

By Herb Garbutt
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

It could have gone so wrong.

Oakville minor mosquito A's manager Allen Elson had faith in his team, though. They had started indoor practices in February, worked on their defence and had made great strides throughout the season. Now it was time to put all that practice into action.

With the Central Ontario Baseball Association title on the line Sunday in Georgetown, the A's had watched a four-run lead in the bottom of the seventh and final inning shrink to two runs. Now their rivals, the Mississauga Tigers, had the tying runs on base at first and third with two out.

Everyone knew what was coming as the next batter stepped to the plate. The runner on first would break for second. Most times, teams will concede the stolen base. The A's would not.

As the runner took off for second, Jordan Gamble, a second baseman subbing for the team's two injured catchers, stepped out from behind the plate, caught the pitch and fired across the infield.

"You can look really bad making a call like that,"

Elson said. "The ball can end up in centre field and the runner ends up on third or scores. We knew we had a run to give, so instead of giving (the stolen base) to them, we pitched out. We have a solid team and we had the utmost confidence in our infield."

Shortstop Ethan Hammond caught the ball well ahead of the runner, who was forced to retreat. As Hammond and first baseman Carter Pauley ran down the would-be basestealer, the other Mississauga runner sprinted home. Finally, Hammond applied the tag for the final out, giving Oakville a 9-8 win and the COBA title.

The pitch out wasn't the first time the A's had shocked the Tigers. Mississauga had finished first in the league, losing just once in regular-season play. Oakville had finished second with an 18-4 mark but had lost both prior meetings with the Tigers.

Mississauga continued that dominance by blanking the A's 10-0 on Saturday in the COBA tournament. That left Oakville needing two wins against the Tigers to win the double-knockout tournament.

Oakville would force a one-game showdown by bouncing back from their earlier loss with a convincing 14-4 victory. That set up the one-game showdown for the COBA title.

"That wasn't in the plans to go that way," Elson said. "We had to take the back door and that was not an easy feat. They



TIGER TAMERS: The Oakville minor mosquito A's edged the Mississauga Tigers 9-8 to win the Central Ontario Baseball Association title. Team members are: (front, from left) Matthew Stone, Paul Costin, Evan McIntyre, Jordan Gamble, Luke Seidel, Ethan Hammond, (middle from left) Tanner Elson, Tyler Sagl, Carter Pauley, Luke Raczywolski, Andrew MacGrandle, and Eric Cerantola, (back, from left) coaches Drew Hammond, John Raczywolski, Allen Elson, Richard Gamble and Ryan Seidel.

had our number all season."

But the A's seem to have Mississauga's number when it matters most. Oakville knocked Mississauga out of last year's Ontario Baseball Association tournament. They may have to do it again this year as the Tigers also advance. The Mississauga Majors are hosting this year's OBA tournament Labour Day weekend.

Elson believes he has a well-rounded team that should compete at the tournament.

"We've got 12 equally-talented kids who can hit the ball," he said. "Defensively, they're very focused, which isn't always the case at this age. For the two hours they're on the diamond, baseball is their focus."



YOUTH

INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUES

Fall/Winter 2010-11

Born in:

- ◆ 05/06 Co-Ed Tuesday 5:30 – 7pm Kick offs
- ◆ 03/04 Boys Wednesday 5:30 – 7pm Kick offs
- ◆ 03/04 Girls Saturday 12 – 5pm Kick offs
- ◆ 01/02 Girls Saturday 12 – 5pm Kick offs
- ◆ 01/02 Boys Saturday 12 – 5pm Kick offs

Games are 2 x 20 minutes
Starts late Sept, 13 games guaranteed
Teammate requests accommodated
Team Jersey, shorts & socks included
Paid, qualified coaches

Leagues sanctioned by Peel Halton Soccer Association
Leagues operated by the Oakville Sports Centre Soccer Club

Register online at

BURLOAKSPORTSCENTRE.CA

or in-person at the Burloak Sports Centre
(952 Century Dr., Burlington, ON L7L 5P2)

905-631-0000 ext. 228 or gking@scdm.ca

Lewis, Canadian volleyball team to face Cuba

Oakville's Dan Lewis and Canada sits at 20th. The teams will also meet Aug. 26 in Ottawa and Aug. 28 in Quebec City.

Lewis, a libero on the national team, was named the best receiver at the Champions League Final Four, the tournament to determine the European pro volleyball championship.

The 34-year-old plays for ACH Volley from Bled, Slovenia, a team that is coached by Canadian national team coach Glenn Hoag. ACH Volley's fourth-place finish was the team's best ever in Champions League play.

The game is the first in a series of three matches between the two countries leading up to the world championships in September. Cuba is ranked eighth in the world while

McMonagle signs with Las Vegas of ECHL

Sean McMonagle of Oakville has signed with the Las Vegas Wranglers of the ECHL.

The 22-year-old defenceman played four seasons with the Brown University Bears where he had 16 goals and 25 assists in 113 games.

The 6-foot-1, 195-pound defenceman, who played junior with the Hamilton Red Wings and Oakville Blades, joined Las Vegas on a three-game tryout at the end of last season.



Oakville Vytis

Basketball Association





Boys and Girls Rep

BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

Ages 8 – 19

Join the tradition... Experienced coaches with National and International level Basketball experience.

5 PROVINCIAL MEDALISTS IN 2009!

Tryouts for 2010-11 season begin August 30th, 2010.

For tryout dates, times and locations

www.oakvillevytis.com

www. **AIRE ONE** .com
HEATING & COOLING INC.

Depend on the largest **YORK** Dealer in the Golden Horseshoe

AIRE ONE MADNESS SALE

High Efficiency FURNACE & CENTRAL AIR

ONLY \$3990*

SAME DAY INSTALLATIONS AVAILABLE

NO INTEREST NO PAYMENT FOR 6 MONTHS OAC

A/C or Furnace Diagnostic Service ONLY \$49

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 96% High Efficiency Two Stage Variable Speed Gas Furnace
- 15.75 SEER High Efficiency Central Air R410A Refrigerant

• 10 Years Factory Warranty
*After Government, Aire One and Manufacturer Rebates.
Must have existing Furnace and A/C.



Gas Furnace 96% EFF.
15.75 SEER Central A/C

SCRATCH & WIN

Take advantage of our SCRATCH & SAVE. A chance to win a furnace & central air.*
*See store for details.

*After Government, Aire One and Manufacturer Rebates. Must have existing Furnace and A/C
*Call now for details. Offer cannot be combined. OAC
Accessories excluded. Call us to see if you qualify.

LIMITED TIME OFFER While Supplies Last

OVER 60,000 SATISFIED CUSTOMERS

9 Locations To Serve You Better!

905-849-4998

www.aireone.com 1-888-827-2665

REDUCE



REUSE

recycle