



MICHELLE SIU / SPECIAL TO THE OAKVILLE BEAVER

DOUBLE TROUBLE: Sisters Colleen (left) and Kelly Hennessy both won gold and silver medals at last week's Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations track-and-field championships in London.

Oakville schools denied medals at rugby, soccer provincials

OT girls' rugby team reaches OFSAA bronze-medal game

Local teams were held off the podium at last week's Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) rugby and soccer championship tournaments.

The Oakville Trafalgar Red Devils girls' rugby team came the closest to a medal, reaching the bronze-medal game of the AAA/AAAA tournament in Toronto before falling 22-0 to Mayfield.

OT opened up the tournament with shutout victories over Scarborough Cardinal Newman (19-0) and Belleville Centennial (12-0), but its medal hopes died with a 6-3 loss to Ottawa Ashbury College and the defeat against top-seeded Caledon Mayfield.

The OT boys did not fare quite as well at their AAA/AAAA tournament in Durham. The Devils won their first game, 28-10 over Ottawa St. Peter's, but were then eliminated with a 32-14 loss to Uxbridge.

Appleby College also went 1-1 at its tournament, the A/AA competition in Guelph Lakes. The Blue Dogs shut out Waterford 20-0 in their first game before bowing out with a 43-0 loss to Peterborough Adam Scott.

Two soccer teams reach quarter-finals

In soccer, the Holy Trinity Titans girls and King's Christian Collegiate Cavaliers boys both reached the quarter-final round at their provincial tournaments before being eliminated.

Trinity rolled to a 3-0 record in the opening round at the girls' AAAA competition in Hamilton, downing Grand River 2-0, Pickering 3-1 and Waterdown 2-0. The Titans' podium dreams ended with a 2-1 loss to St. Anne, which went on to win bronze.

King's went 2-1 in the preliminary round at the boys' A tournament in Windsor, defeating London District 4-1 and Windsor Academie St. Cecile 6-1 while losing 1-0 to Carleton Place Notre Dame. The Cavs were knocked out with a 2-0 loss to Ottawa Ashbury College, the eventual bronze medalist.

The St. Thomas Aquinas Raiders boys' and girls' squads were each eliminated in pool play.

The Aquinas girls split their four pool play games at the AA tourney in Sarnia. Aquinas defeated Kenora Beaver Brae 5-1 and Mississauga St. Paul 1-0, losing 3-1 to Sault Ste. Marie St. Basil and 2-0 to Kemptville St. Michael.

The Raiders boys went 1-2-1 at their AA competition in Windsor. STA defeated Essex District 1-0, tied Toronto Archbishop Romero 2-2 and lost 2-1 to Barrie St. Joseph and 2-0 to Courtice Holy Trinity.

Sister act: Two OFSAA champs

Hennessy siblings both win gold, silver at provincial track meet

By Herb Garbutt
 OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

They swear they are not competitive. But when it's pointed out that Kelly, standing at the top of a hill, is as tall as big sister Colleen, suddenly the Hennessy sisters are standing on their tip toes, stretching for every inch they can muster.

"She doesn't like losing to me," Colleen Hennessy finally concedes, a fact Kelly doesn't deny.

Colleen, 17, may have two years and a couple of inches in height on Kelly. But at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) track-and-field meet in London, there was little to separate the sisters.

Running in the same long-distance events at the provincial high school championships, the siblings turned in times separated by less than half a second, each winning a gold and silver medal.

"What's remarkable is their character

and personality complements their athletic ability," said St. Thomas Aquinas track coach Conrad DiDiodato. "Their overall attitude to their school work, their commitment to the team, complements their actual performance. They're winners, more than in just an athletic sense."

Both are soft-spoken and humble. Aquinas teacher Jean Major recalls Colleen telling her that she wouldn't be in class for a week. It wasn't until Major asked why that Colleen told her she was going to be competing at the World Irish Dancing Championships.

It was Irish dance that led both Hennessys into running, helping them build stamina for dancing. Colleen started first and Kelly followed a year later. When they started to compete — and win — at elementary school meets, they decided to join a club and pursue running as well as dancing.

"Now it's flipped," says Colleen, who will attend the University of Toronto next year. "I dance to help my running."

"They're winners, more than in just an athletic sense."

By Aquinas track coach Conrad DiDiodato, talking about Kelly and Colleen Hennessy

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