Lions football reaches two championship finals



By Jake Courtepatte

The York Region Lions will have not one, but two opportunities to bring home a provincial championship this summer. Both the Bantam and Varsity football programs earned a trip to the Ontario Varsity Football League (OVFL) finals last weekend after a pair of semifinal wins.

Reaching their very first OVFL championship, the varsity Lions booked their ticket in dramatic fashion with a 24 ? 23 win over the Toronto Thunder at St. Maximilian Kolve field on Saturday.

The top two teams in Ontario varsity football butted heads early in the first half, with neither team gaining much ground before an outpouring of offense after the break.

Ben Langlois, a St. Max grad and commit to play for the Queen's University Golden Gaels in the fall, threw for 227 yards in the game and one touchdown, while rushing for 23 yards.

Having lost just one game all season, the varsity Lions will face the Etobicoke Eagles in the championship game, who rolled over Oshawa in their semifinal.

The Bantams took to Warrior Field in Waterloo the same evening in a tight defensive matchup with the Waterloo Predators, coming out on top by a score of 12 ? 7.

Quarterback Scott Barnett was a force to be reckoned with in the air and on the ground, throwing and rushing for 120 yards in each discipline, averaging 24 yards a play.

They will face the Brampton Bulldogs in their championship match.